LABOUR GAZETTE

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

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

VOL. IV.-No. 3.

MARCH 1896.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY. *I.-GENERAL SUMMARY*.

Most important industries continue to show an improvement in the state of employment, both compared with last month and with February 1895, at which period, however, out-door work was much affected by the long frost.

In the 106 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 409,102, making returns, 15,343 (or 3.8 per cent.) are reported as unemployed at the end of February, compared with 4.5 per cent. in January, and with 7.9 per cent. in the 84 unions, with a membership of 385,594, from which returns were received for February 1895.

The following chart enables a comparison to be made with last year:—

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each month of 1895, and of each completed month of 1896.

[The thick line applies to 1896, the thin line to 1895.]

Per- centage of Unem- ployed	Jan	Feb	Мат	Apl	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Uct	Nov	Dec
10										CACULUM .		
9			1	10	- *	1	1					
8		X		-							2	
7			1				313					
6			-	-		-				-		10
5			_	1	1		/		~			1111
4		2	-	- 1		3		_		-		/
3		-	_	-	12.00	10	_		_			
2		-		-			-	1	_			1
1	1000		3	1	0-6		-		1		1	1340
			1		1	-	207	1		10	1000	

The proportions of unemployed in the 106 unions making returns may be classified as follows :---

	TT 1		omons.	members.	
	Under 3 per cent	S	57	256,943	
	3 and under 5 per cent.		20	67,387	
	5 and under 7 per cent.		15	25,578	
	7 and under 10 per cent.		5	49,308	
	10 per cent. and upwards		9	9,886	
-	low and in Waster Y	and the second		-	

Employment in Various Industries.—*Coal Mining.*— Employment continues good in nearly all districts. It shows hardly any change compared with the previous month, but is not quite up to the level of February 1895. The average number of days worked by 1,064 pits, at which 299,437 workpeople were employed, was 4'91 per week in February, as compared with 4'94 in January and 5'00 in February 1895. The proportion of unemployed miners in trade unions in Northumberland and Durham was 3'0 per cent. of the membership

of unemployed miners in trade unions in Northumberland and Durham was $2 \cdot 0$ per cent. of the membership at the end of the month, the corresponding percentages at the end of the previous month and of February 1895 being respectively 1.7 and $2 \cdot 6$.

being respectively 1.7 and 2.6. *Iron Mining.*—Employment in this industry again shows improvement. Very nearly full time was worked by most of the mines, the general average for February last at the 116 mines included in the returns being 5.85 days per week as compared with 5.70 in February 1895 and January 1896. The total number employed at these mines was 13,577, or 700 more than a year ago.

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EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-GENERAL SUMMARY.

blast and the number of men employed have increased both as compared with January and with a year ago. At the end of February the ironmasters making returns had 336 furnaces in blast, compared with 328 at the end of January and 304 at the corresponding date of last year. The number of workpeople employed at these furnaces was 21,424, or 331 more than in January and 1,508 more than a year ago. Employment in *Steel Works* is considerably better than

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a year ago, the number of workpeople employed in the 95 works from which returns have been received being now 30,396, or nearly 10 per cent. more than in February 1895. Returns from 76 Puddling Furnaces and Rolling Mills give the number employed as 15,835 in the last week of the month, an increase of nearly 3 per cent. compared with the corresponding period of last year.

In Tinplate Works employment is, on the whole, somewhat better than in January, but is worse than a year ago. The number of mills working in the 88 works included in the returns was 319 at the end of February

compared with 305 in January. The improvement in employment in the *Engineer*-ing and kindred trades has been well maintained, and the percentage of unemployed union members has fallen from 4.3 in January to 3.4 at the end of February, com-The Shipbuilding trades are also better employed, the

percentage of unemployed union members at the close of the month being 7.8, compared with 9.1 in January and 16.3 in February of last year (when work was affected by the severe weather).

Employment is good in the Building trades, the percentage of unemployed in unions making returns being only 2.5, compared with 3.7 in January. In February 1895, during the frost, the corresponding percentage was IO'I.

Employment in the Furnishing* trades has improved, the percentage of unemployed in unions making returns for February being 2.6 compared with 5.4 in January

and 8.7 in February 1895. Employment in the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades is slightly better than in January, but about the same as at this time last year. The percentage of unemployed union members is returned as 4.9, compared with 5.4 last month and 4.8 in February 1895. Employment in the Paper trade has also slightly improved, and the percentage of unemployed union members has fallen from 3.2 to 2.8.

Employment in the ready-made Clothing trade continues to improve. In the bespoke branch it is still only moderate, but with a tendency to improve.

In the Boot and Shoe trade employment at the principal centres is rather slack for the time of year, but in some districts an improvement is reported.

In the Leather trades employment is rather quiet, as is usual at this season. The percentage of unemployed in unions making returns is 6.2, compared with 5.4 in

January and 6.3 in February 1895. Cotton Spinners are somewhat slack in the Oldham district, but continue fully employed at Bolton. Other districts show little change. Employment for Cotton Weavers shows some improvement. Woollen and Worsted operatives are well employed in the principal centres, but there has been some slight falling off in employment in the worsted trade. In the *Hosiery* trade employ-ment is good, except where affected by disputes; and in the Silk trade shows very little change.

As regards the employment of women in the Textile trades, information respecting 475 mills, employing about 88,000 women and girls, shows little change, 88 per cent. being in mills giving full employment, compared with 87 per cent. among those for whom returns were received for January; 10 per cent. in mills giving only partial employment or running short time;

* The figures here given apply solely to the furnishing trades proper, which have been separated from miscellaneous woodworking trades with which they were formerly grouped.

In the Pig Iron industry the number of furnaces in while mills employing 2 per cent. were closed during the whole or part of the month. Employment in the cotton mills showed a slight improvement, while the woollen and worsted mills are not quite so fully employed as a month ago.

Dock and Riverside Labour .- In London the average number of dock labourers employed during February at the docks and principal wharves was 13,224, as com-

pared with 14,706 in January. During February Agricultural employment was generally regular with comparatively few exceptions. The weather throughout the month was very favourable for outdoor work.

Trade Disputes .- The number of disputes occurring in February was 78, as compared with 50 in January and 55 in February 1895. Most of the disputes were unimportant. In 71 of them 16,391 workpeople were involved, an average of 231 persons per dispute, as against 160 in the previous month. Twenty disputes took place in the mining industry, 16 in the building trades, 15 in the textile trades, 6 each in the clothing and metal trades, 5 in the engineering and shipbuilding trades and 10 in a miscellaneous group of industries. Ten old disputes, involving 891 workpeople, were settled during February and at the end of the month it was known that 24 new and 26 old disputes, involving about 9,000 workpeople, were still unsettled.

Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour.-Of the 27,000 workpeople affected by changes reported during February, 22,000 received increases, amounting on an average to about 1s. 3d. per week, and over 5,000 sustained decreases averaging about 2s. 9d. per week; the nett result of all the changes being an average increase of about 6d. per week for the total number of workpeople affected. The increases were mainly in the engineering and shipbuilding trades, over 13,000 work-people on the Clyde, Mersey, the North-East Coast, and at Belfast, Barrow, Edinburgh and Leith, and Dundee having received increases varying from 15. to 25. 3d. per week. In the building trades 2,837 workpeople received increases, including an advance of $\frac{1}{2}d$, per hour to over 2,500 joiners in the Glasgow district. The decreases reported affected 2,500 miners in Scotland, and 1,685 workpeople in the tinplate trade.

The 9 cases of changes in hours of labour reported affected 2,700 workpeople, including 1,900 whose hours were reduced, and 800 whose hours were lengthened.

Pauperism.—The number of persons relieved in 35 selected urban districts on one day in the second week of February was 344,335, being in the proportion of 222 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts in 1896. These figures indicate a great decrease in pauperism as compared with a year ago (the time of the prolonged frost), when the total was 406,326. The number in January last was 342,282.

Emigration .- British and Irish passengers from the United Kingdom to places out of Europe numbered 8,216 during February, as compared with 6,712 in the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 1,504.

II.-REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES. (a) IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN FEBRUARY.

The returns received from 116 iron mines, employing 13,577 workpeople, indicate an improvement employment, the average number of days worked in February last being 5.85 per week, as compared with 5.70 in February 1895 and January 1896. Over 73 per cent. of the workpeople were employed at mines working full time (24 days), as compared with 57 per cent. in February 1895 and 36.5 per cent. in January 1896. A comparison of the numbers employed shows that for every 1,000 persons employed a year ago, there are now 1,056, representing an aggregate increase of about 700. In Scotland alone the number employed was 995, or 248 more than in February 1895.

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EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

District.	No. of mines from which returns were	mines from of work- which people returns employed		Average number of days worked per week by the mine in 4 weeks ended			
	received.	at 22nd February.	22nd Feb. 1896.	23rd Feb. 1895.	25th Jan. 1896.		
Cumberland & Lancs. Other places in England	46 58	6,103 6,267	5'90	5'79	5.82		
Scotland	6	995	5'78 6'00	5'66 5'90	5.65 5.34		
Total	6	212	6.00	4'12	5.96		
1 otal	115	13,577	5.85	5.70	570		
(2) Percentage prop who were emp number of days			e, include king the	d in the undern	returns, nentioned		
Number of days v by mines.	vorked	February 1896.	Februa 1895		anuary 1896.		
4 days (full time) 2 and under 24 days		Per cent. 73' i 18'9	Per cer 57'4 30'9		er cent. 36 5 43 ^{.8}		

24 days (full time) 22 and under 24 days 20 ,, 22 ,, Under 20 days	 	Per cent. 73'i 18'9 3'3 4'5	Per cent. 57'4 30'9 4'3 7'4	Per cent. 36 5 43.8 14.0 5 7
Total	 	100.0	100.0	ICO O

(b) COAL MINING IN FEBRUARY.

Summary.-Returns received respecting 1,064 pits, at which 299,437 workpeople were employed on the last pay day in the four weeks ended 22nd February, show that on the whole employment was good in the coal mining industry in February, though not quite up to the level of a year ago. The decline, however, which is most marked in the Scottish figures, is to some extent only apparent, being partly due to a considerable addition to the returns received from a Scottish district where employment has been slack.

The average number of days worked per week by the collieries making returns in each division of the United Kingdom was as follows :-

District.	Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.	Jan. 1896.
England and Wales Scotland Ireland	4 ·92 4·84 4·58	4'69 5'12 5'55	4'96 4'68 4'16
United Kingdom	4.91	5.00	4.94

Employment in the second fortnight included in the returns (i.e., ending February 22nd) showed, on the whole, a slight improvement, the average number of days worked in the second fortnight being 4.95 per week as compared with 4.87 in the previous fortnight. For England and Wales the figures are 4.86 and 4.98, and

for Scotland 4.94 and 4.73. A classification of the workpeople, respecting whom particulars have been received, according to the number of days worked by the pits at which they were employed, gives the subjoined table, the corresponding percentages for January 1896 and February 1895 being added for comparison.

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

Number of days* on which Coal was hewn and	Februa	ry, 1896.	Corresponding percentages in—		
wound in four weeks.	No. of Percentage		February, 1895.	January, 1896.	
Under 4 days 4 and under 6 days 6 " " 8 " 8 " " 10 " 10 " " 12 "	85 135 1,743 2,740 5,929	.0 .0 .6 .9 2.0 .3.5	2.4	3.8	
2 ", ", I4 ", 4 ", ", I6 ", 6 ", ", I8 ", 8 ", ", 20 ",	15,827 23,559 39,236 45,115	5'3 7'9 13'1 15'1 41'4	38•3	4 0·9	
0 '' '' 22 '' 2 '' '' 24 '' 4 days (full time)	63,485 74,735 26,84 8	21'2 24'9 9'0} 55'1	59.3	<i>55 9</i> *	
Total	299,437	100.0	100.0	100.0	

The proportion of unemployed miners in trade unions. in Northumberland and Durham at the end of February was 2.0 per cent. of the membership, as compared with 1.7 per cent. in January and 2.6 in February 1895.

Comparison by Districts.-By classifying the districts. so as to show the improvement or falling off in the number of days worked as compared with a year agowe get the following table. In the first group, which includes 4 districts, with 110,292 workpeople, the average time worked by the pits has increased nearly third of a day per week, the improvement in Durham amounting to over half a day. In the Lothians the time worked was exactly the same as in February 1895, viz., 5.34 days per week, but in the other 11 districts, with 185,961 workpeople, the average number of days worked. per week was less, the figures for the two periods being respectively 4.62 and 4.93. The most serious falling off is in Cumberland, Notts and Leicester, and the small Irish district.

The table also gives the corresponding figures for January, but in no case does the difference amount to so much as half a day per week except in Cumberland, where the number of days worked has declined from 5.37 per week in January to 4.65 in February. Comparison of the Average Number of Days Worked by Collieries in February 1896 and 1895, and in January 1896.

(a) Districts in which Durham South Wales and Monmou North Wales West Scotland Fotal and averages for group (b) District in which Fe The Lothians (c) Districts in which

District.*

Notts and Leicester Ireland otal and averages for group

rand Total and Averages ... 299,437

Taking the district averages, and classifying them. ccording to the number of days worked at the pits in ebruary 1896, we get the following groups :-

5 days and upwards Over $4\frac{1}{2}$ but less the Over 4 but less than Less than 4 days p

Total

It thus appears that the proportion (55'1 per cent.) of the workpeople employed at pits working full or nearly full time is somewhat less than in the previous month or in the corresponding period of last year. It is also noticeable from the returns received that about 5,000 fewer men are now at work than a year ago in the collitries covered by the returns, only 983 workpeople being employed for every 1,000 employed a year ago.

	ployed in Feb. 1896 at the	Days v	vorked per	Week in
	Collieries included in the Table.	Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895	. Jan. 1856
h	February 18	96 exceed:	s Februar	y 1895.
	34,614 51,852 4,380 19,446 110,292	5'46 5'49 4'85 5'13 5'39	4'90 5'30 4'68 5'05 5'08	5'19 5'55 5'18 4'71 5'29
br	uary 1896 is	the same	as Febru	ary 1895.
	3,184	5'34	5'34	4 84
ret	oruary 1896	is less that	n Februar	ry 1895.
	17,314 38,530 36,941 31,824 23,899 6,861	4 ^{.84} 5 ^{.01} 4 ^{.73} 4 ^{.30} 4 ^{.49}	4 ^{.85} 5 ^{.10} 4 ^{.88} 4 ^{.48} 4 ^{.75}	4.82 4.68 4.97 4.18 4.81
	0,001 5,179 4,413 9,118 60 11,822	4 ^{.80} 4 ^{.67} 4 ^{.65} 3 ^{.91} 4 ^{.58} 4 ^{.21}	5'10 5'06 5'32 4'78 5'55 5'43 [†]	4 89, 5'03, 5'37 4'18 4'16 4'22†
	185,961	4'62	4'93	4'72

		Number employed.	Average Number of days worked per week.
per week		147,626	5'31
an 5 days		75,148	4.76
4 4 days		67,545	4'35
r week		9,118	3.91
		Contraction (Contraction)	a har an
•• •••	•••	299,437	4.91

4.91

5.00

4.94

* The districts are arranged according to the differences in the number of days orked in February 1896 and 1895. • This average relates to a much smaller number of workpeople than that for bruary 1896.

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EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

the same group also includes Lancashire and Cheshire, South Wales, and Monmouth, the Lothians, and West Scotland. The district in which less than four days a week were worked is Notts and Leicester, and the districts averaging over four but less than four and ahalf are Derby, Fife, and Northumberland. The average in the remaining 7 districts was between four and ahalf and five days per week.

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Exports of Coal.—The quantity of coal, coke, cinders, and fuel exported from the United Kingdom during February was 2,308,521 tons, against 2,789,938 tons in the previous month, and 1,891,586 tons in February 1895.

(c) PIG IRON INDUSTRY IN FEBRUARY.

DURING February the number of furnaces in blast and the number of workpeople employed have continued to increase.

Returns furnished by 109 ironmasters, owning about 90 per cent. of the furnaces in blast, show that at the close of the month they had 336 furnaces in blast, as compared with 304 at the end of February 1895. Of this increase of 32 furnaces England and Wales account for 30 and Scotland for 2. The only district in which a decrease is reported is Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire, where there is a decrease of 1. The number of workpeople employed at the 336 furnaces was 21,424, an increase over the corresponding figure for last year of 1,372 in England and Wales and 136 in Scotland.

As compared with January, the 109 ironmasters had 8 more furnaces in blast, 8 having been relit and 1 blown out in England and Wales, and I having been relit in Scotland. The number of workpeople employed increased by 303 in England and Wales, and by 28 in Scotland.

Comparison of the number of furnaces in blast at end of February 1896 with the number in blast at end of February 1895, and at end of January 1896, so far as included in the returns made

i post i posta a f			e compared ear ago.	Present time compared with a <i>month</i> ago.			
Districts.	Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1896.	Jan. 1896,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb. 1896.	
ENGLAND & WALES- Cleveland Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks Lincolnshire Midlands Glamorgan and Mon. Other districts	96 45 15 14 85 16 10	92 28 11 14 81 17 8	$ \begin{array}{c} +4 \\ +17 \\ +4 \\ \\ +4 \\ -1 \\ +2 \end{array} $	96 45 15 14 85 16 10	94 42 13 14 85 16 10	+2 +3 +2 	
Total England and Wales}	281	251	+30	281	274	+7	
SCOTLAND	55	53	+2	55	54	+1	
Total furnaces included in returns	336	304	+32	336	328	+8	

The following particulars respecting the pig iron industry in Cleveland are taken from the monthly circular issued by the Cleveland Ironmasters' Association :---

Production .- The amount of pig iron produced in February was 254,780 tons, against 269,195 tons in the previous month and 225,811 tons in February 1895.

Stocks .-- These amounted on February 29th to 351,854 tons, an increase of 19,657 tons as compared with January, and of 46,699 tons as compared with February 1895.

Shipments .- From Middlesbrough 69,264 tons of pig iron were shipped coastwise or foreign during the month, being 476 tons less than during January, and 20,432 tons more than during February

The quantity of pig iron shipped from all ports in the United Kingdom to foreign countries and British possessions was 52,669 tons in February 1896, as against 25,385 tons in February 1895 and 38,676 tons in February 1894.

Durham heads the list with 5.46 days per week, and (d) EMPLOYMENT AT STEEL AND TINPLATE. WORKS, PUDDLING FURNACES, AND ROLLING MILLS IN FEBRUARY.

According to the returns received, the number of workpeople engaged in the above industries at the end of February, at the works of the employers making returns, was 68,025, an increase of 2,658 as compared with a year ago. This increase was entirely at steelworks, the slight increase at ironworks being more than discounted by a decrease in the numbers employed at tinplate works.

Of these 68,025 workpeople, 30,396 were employed at 95 **Steelworks**, being 2,723 (or 10 per cent.) more than at the end of February 1895. All districts show an increase, the most noticeable being that in South Wales and Scotland.

The number of workpeople employed at the end of the month at the 76 **Iron Puddling Furnaces and** Rolling Mills included in the returns was 15,835, an increase of 442 as compared with the corresponding figure for last year. Nearly all this increase is in the Midlands and in Lancashire, Cheshire and Cumberland, the numbers in Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire being practically unchanged.

The number of hours worked per week at the different works was in most cases the same last month as a year ago.

Table showing the number of persons employed* in the undermentioned occupations at the end of February 1896 and 1895, respectively, by 189 employers making returns :--

and mining and	1.1.1.1	N	umber E	mployed		
Occupation.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		United Kingdom.	
Contrainen	Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.	Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.	Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.
Steel Making, Casting, Melt- ing, Rolling, and Forging	25,531	23,341	4,865	4,332	30,396	27,673
Iron Puddling and Rolling	12,152	11,792	3,683	3,601	15,835	15,393
Tinplate Manufacture	11,128	12,070		· . —	11,128	12,070
Other workpeople who can- not be separately classi- fied as above*	9,661	9,228	1,005	1,003	10,666	10,231
Totals	58,472	56,431	9,553	8,936	68,025	65,367

Returns received with regard to employment at 88 Tinplate Works in South Wales, Monmouthshire and neighbouring district show that at the end of February, 46 were giving full employment and 15 partial employment, the remaining 27 being idle. The number of mills working was 319, compared with 305 a month ago. The following table summarises the returns :-

Table showing number of tinplate works and mills in South Wales, Monmouth and Gloucestershire fully or partially employed, or wholly idle, at the end of February, so far as stated in the returns received by the Department

a star of material 24th	No. of	N	o of Mills.	CLAR O
- hallower and the second	Works.	Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment Works giving partial employment Works idle	46 15 27	260 59 —	33 131	260 92 131
Total to which returns relate	88	319	164	483
Total at the end of February	88	305	178	483

Returns from the owners of 51 of the above Tinplate Works give the number of workpeople employed at the end of February 1896 as 11,128, being 942 (or 7.8 per cent.) less than a year ago.

* The table does not include workpeople engaged in machining or other ering or constructive processes.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

(e) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN FEBRUARY. ENGLAND.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department on the basis of 180 returns from various parts of the country, including one from an Agricultural Labourers' Trade Union, reports as follows:-Generally speaking, em-ployment was regular in the month of February, and on the whole was rather more satisfactory than in the month of January. The weather during the month was very favourable for outdoor employment.

In the Northern Counties reports of irregularity of work were exceptional. In the Midland Counties very little want of work is said to exist except in the Shipston-on-Stour Union of Worcestershire. In the Eastern Counties the state of employment is on the whole satisfactory. Some slight irregularity of work is reported in 5 poor-law unions in Essex, in 6 in Suffolk, and in 4 in Cambridgeshire. The reports from Norfolk are favourable. In the *Home Counties* there was some want of employment in the Wantage Union of Berkshire and in 4 unions of Kent. In the Southern and Western Counties an unfavourable report comes from the Rye Union of Sussex, but with few exceptions work was generally regular in the Counties of Hampshire, Dorset, Wilts, Gloucester, Hereford, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall.

Seasonal changes in wages are reported in districts in Lancashire, Leicestershire, Northampton, Surrey and Hereford.

Northern Counties .- In Cumberland a few men are reported in irregular work in the Dalston Union, but regularity of employment is said to exist in the poor law Unions of Cockermouth, Penrith, and Wigton, and also in Westmoreland and North Lancashire, except at Pilling. In Durham a few extra men were in irregular work in the Chester-le-Street Union owing to farm work being so forward. A favourable report comes from the Darlington Union. Reports from Cheshire state that a few men were in irregular work in the Nantwich Union, and that employment was generally regular in the Tarvin Union. In Yorkshire favourable reports come from districts in the Unions of Easingwold, Great Ouseburn, Ripon, and Scarborough. A few men are in irregular work, farm work being forward.

Midland Counties .- Reports from the Chesterfield Union of Derbyshire and from the Bingham and Newark Unions of Nottinghamshire are favourable, but some irregularity of employment is said to exist in the Southwold Union; also in the Market Drayton Union of Shropshire a few men were in irregular work, but a favourable report comes from the Tenbury Union. In Warwickshire employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Coventry, Alcester, and Warwick; some slight irregularity is reported in the Unions of Stratford-on-Avon and Lutterworth. In Leicestershire favourable reports come from districts in the Unions of Melton Mowbray, Barrow-on-Soar, and Billesdon and Blaby. A few men are said to be in irregular work in the Oakham Union of Rutland. In Oxfordshire, employment is said to be fairly regular in the Unions of Abingdon, Banbury, Thame, Wallingford, and Witney. In the Shipston-on-Stour Union of Worcestershire a number of labourers are said to be irregularly employed, but a favourable report comes from the Pershore Union. In Northamptonshire favourable reports come from the poor-law Unions of Brackley, Hardingstone, Potterspury, and Kettering. Favourable reports come from *Huntingdonshire*, from the Unions of Huntingdon and St. Neots, and from *Bedfordshire* from the Unions of Bedford, Luton, and Leighton-Buzzard.

Eastern Counties.-In Essex reports state that work is generally regular in the poor-law Unions of Billericay, Dunmow, Halstead, Orsett, Ongar, and Tendring. Some slight irregularity of employment exists in the Unions of Colchester, Braintree, Hoo, Maldon, and Lexden and Winstree. In Suffolk regularity of employment is reported in the Unions of Plomesgate, Samford, and Mildenhall, some irregularity, not of a serious character, exists in the Unions of Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Risbridge, Thingoe, Sudbury, and Hoxne. With few exceptions the state of employment in Suffolk in February was more favourable than in the month of January. Reports from Norfolk state that work is generally regular in the Unions of Depwade, Downham, Loddon, and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, and Swaffham. In Cambridgeshire favourable reports come from the Unions of Ely, Peterborough and Wisbech. A few men were in irregular work in the Unions of Caxton, North Witchford, Royston, Whittlesea, and in a few parishes in the Chesterton Union. Reports from

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* It will be

Lincolnshire state that work was generally regular in the Unions of Grimsby, Louth, Sleaford, Spilsby, Lincoln and Brigg.

Home Counties.-In Berkshire some irregularity of work is reported in the Wantage Union. Regularity of employment is reported from Buckinghamshire in the poor-law Unions of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Newport Pagnell and Winslow. A favourable report comes from the Hitchin Union of Hertjordshire, but some irregularity of work is reported in the Hemel Hempstead Union. In Surrey in the Unions of Hambledon and Guildford some odd men are said to be in irregular work, but regular men are generally well employed. In Kent some irregularity of work is reported in the Unions of Bridge, Cranbrook, Faversham, Maidstone and Sevenoaks. Reports from the Unions of Hollingbourne and Milton are satisfactory.

Southern and Western Counties .-- Reports from Sussex state that employment was generally regular in the poor-law Unions of Chailey, Cuckfield, Battle, and Horsham. An unfavourable report comes from the Rye Union. Work is reported regular in the Kingsclere Union of Hampshire, and also in the Blandford, Bridport, and Wimborne Unions of Dorsetshire. Some slight irregularity existed in the Dorchester Union. In Wiltshire work is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Devizes, Highworth and Swindon, Pewsey, Westbury, and Wilton. Work is said to be rather scarce in the Warminster Union. Favourable reports come from Gloucestershire from the Unions of Cirencester, Gloucester, and Winchcombe, and in the Bromyard, Knighton, and Leominster Unions of Herefordshire. Some irregularity is reported from the Ledbury Union. In Somersetshire work is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Frome, Langport, Wells, Wellington, and Wincanton; and in Devonshire in the Unions of Barnstaple, Crediton, Great Tavistock, and Torrington. In Cornwall favourable reports come from the Unions of Bodmin, Redruth, and Truro.

(f) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN FEBRUARY. (Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

As might have been expected, in view of the increase in our foreign trade, the returns of men shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels from the principal ports of the United Kingdom again show an increase, the total for February last being 28,421, or 3,956 more than in the same month of 1895. Taking the two completed months of the present year the total is 62,276, against 54,364 in the corresponding period of 1895, an increase of 7,912. The supply of seamen is, however, generally reported as still equal to or in excess of the demand. The variations shown in the returns in the rates of wages of seamen and firemen are unimportant.

Particulars of such variations are given in the table of Changes of Wages on page 96.

Table showing the number* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreirs-poing vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in February 1896 and 1895 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the two months ended 29th and 28th February respectively in each of these years:-

incipal Ports.		Number	of Men, & February	c., shipped 1896.	Total number shipped in 2 months ended February		
		In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.	1896.	
Alexandra a		and the second second			-	1	
NGLAND.			ALL IN	1 121 3	B	- ALCOS	
Coast.	-6-6-		the man in the	A State State	A STATISTICS	A CARA	1 March 199
e Ports		54	2,393	2,447	1.995	5,699	4.267
derland			464	464	332	1.184	
dlesbrough		44	308	352	364	1,026	
1		42	628	670	575	2,096	
nsby		8	5	13	47	166	
l Channel	14.5					1 100	140
tol		1.23	070	070	0.05	L.C.A.S	
port, Mon.		56	272	272	205	560	452
liff+		479	1,055	1,111	850	2,481	2,037
nsea		246	4,402	4,881	4,203	11,039	9,227
		240	317	563	370	1,400	808
Ports.	200			STOP STOP	and a start	121213	1 Stands
rpool		293	8,288	8,581	7,740	17,667	16,983
lon		260	5,089	5,349	4,434	11,034	10,983
hampton			1,076	1,076	7.311	2,380	2,681
	100		PRESS BALLY :	to the second second	1,011	2,000	2,001
OTLAND.		The second states	a starting and	Sala Maria Bart	All and a straight	and a start of	「日本の
i, Kirkcal		34	404	438	306	1,076	864
Grangemou	ith	1992 B. (B) (1)	Principal and	Barris Contractor	000	1,010	004
gow		94	1,931	2,025	1.610	3,993	3.289
				-,	1,010	0,000	3,289
ELAND.	1-015	Stor Party	Tab	1 ST LE STALL	and the game		Enter State
in			42	42	22	74	100
st]	14	123	137	101	401	129
1902 1919	-				101	401	261
eb. 1896		1,624	26,797	28,421		62,276	
reb. 1895		1,146	23,319		24,465		
		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	20,019	approximation of the second	14 405	and the second se	54,364

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

THE LABOUR GAZETIE.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

(g) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN FEBRUARY.

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EMPLOYMENT for dock and wharfside labour was not so good in February as in the preceding month. The decrease is chiefly among labourers employed by dock companies, though the average numbers employed by shipowners in the docks, and at the wharves, were also lower than the corresponding averages for January. In the case of the wharves, the falling off was greatest on the south side.

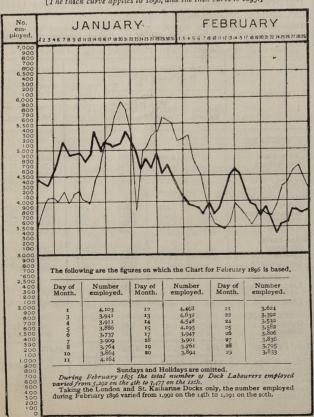
The average daily number of labourers employed in all the docks and at 110 of the principal wharves is estimated at 13,224 for the four weeks ending February 29th, compared with 14,706 for the preceding month, a decline of 1,482 (or over 10 per cent.). The second week shows the maximum and the third the minimum daily average. The greatest number at work on any one day is estimated at 14,638 on February 12th, and the lowest at 11,509 on the 22nd.

Detailed Figures.-(1) The following table shows the estimated *daily average* number of dock and wharf labourers employed in each week of the month :--

	Labourers	employed in	Docks.		Total Dock	
Period.	By Dock Companies or through Contractors By Shi		Total.	employed at 110Wharves making Returns.	and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.	
rst week of February 2nd ", ", 3rd ", ", 4th ", ",	6,016 6,641 5,572 5,341	1,885 1,748 1,414 2,034	7,901 8,389 6,986 7,375	5,782 5,769 5,472 5,221	13,683 14,158 12,458 12,596	
Average for 4 weeks ending Feb. 29th		1,770	7,663	5,561	13,224	
Average for 5 weeks ending Feb. 1st		1,796	8,903	5,803	14,706	

(2) The daily fluctuation in the number of dock labourers employed by the London and India Docks Joint Committee during January and February is shown on the chart below. The numbers in February varied from 4,632 on February 13th to 3,392 on the 22nd.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers employed by the John Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of January and February 1896. The corresponding curve tor January and February 1895 is also given for comparison. Dock Labourers employed by Shipowners direct, Stevedores, and Coal Porters are not included. [The thick curve applies to 1896, and the thin curve to 1895.]



An exact comparison with the state of employment a year ago can only be made in the case of labourers employed by the Dock Companies. It will be seen from the following figures that employment was better than last year in the middle of the month, but not so good at the beginning and end.

March 1896.

Period.	Labourers employed by Dock Companies directly or through Contractors.							
renot.	1896	£895.	Increase.	Decrease.				
Ist week of February 2nd , 3rd , 4th ,	6,016 6,641 5,572 5,341	6,512 5,578 5,464 6,430	1,063 108	496 1,089				
Average for 4 weeks	5,893	5,996	-	103				

Employment has been slack with deal porters and corn porters and lumpers. Coal porters, winchmen and backers have had fair employment. Ballast heavers have been well employed, lightermen moderately so, stevedores not so well as last month.

The fruit porters in Thames Street have had fair employment for the time of year. The daily average number employed was 359, as compared with an average of 366 in January.

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

According to returns from women correspondents employment for women in the cotton trade in February was slightly better than in January ; but in the woollen and worsted trades a decline is apparent with the result that employment in the textile trades as a whole shows little change. Information has been received with regard to the employment of women and girls in 475 cotton, woollen, worsted and silk mills. In the case of 324 mills the numbers employed are known approximately. If the same average number be assumed to be employed in the remaining 151 mills as in those for the same trade for which numbers are known, the information may be summarised as follows :-

State of Employment.	Number	Approximate Estimate of Women and Girls employed.				
Grate of Employment	Mills.	Number.	Percentage for Feb.	Percentage for Jan.		
Full time	430 25	78,183 7,111	88 8	87 7		
Short time	12 5)	1,914	2	3		
" on account of disputes " " bad trade " for reasons not specified	II	1,440	2	3		
Total	475	88,648	100	100		

Cotton Trade .- According to this estimate the number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton mills reported on was 70,738. Of these 87 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (compared with 84 per cent. in January); 9 per cent. in mills running full time but giving only partial employment ; 2 per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing 2 per cent. were closed during the whole or part of the month.

Woollen and Worsted Trade .- The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is estimated at 16,635. Of these 93 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (compared with 97 per cent. in January); 5 per cent. in mills running full time but giving only partial employment; and 2 per cent. in mills running short time.

Silk Trade .- The number of women and girls usually employed in the silk mills reported on is estimated at 1,275, all of whom were employed in mills working full time (showing no change as compared with January).

March 1896.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS .- LONDON AND NORTHERN COUNTIES.

III.-DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS. LONDON.

Employment in various Industries .- In London the state of employment generally has improved. Returns from 382 branches of 97 unions, with an aggregate membership of 68,886, show 2,155 (or 3'I per cent.) unemployed at the end of February, compared with 3'6 per cent. last month and 7'1 for February 1895.

The Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding trades remain steady, though the latter are scarcely so well employed. Reports from 107 branches of 23 unions show that 602 (or 2.9 per cent.) out of a membership of 20,859 were unemployed at the end of February, compared with 2.6 per cent. in January and 7.7 per cent. in February 1895.

On the whole the Building trades continue well employed. Reports from 181 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, and having a membership of 12,925, show that 282 (or 2.1 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of February, compared with 2.2 in January and 97 per cent. in February 1895, when the long frost was in progress. The millsawyers describe employment as good ; the carpenters and joiners and plasterers as fair; the bricklayers and painters and decorators as improving; the stonemasons as dull; the plumbers and stonecarvers as bad

The Furnishing trades are busy. Reports from 30 branches of 7 unions, with a membership of 4,450, show that 77 (or 1.7 per cent.) were unemployed, as against 6 2 per cent. last month and 8.3 in February 1895.

The Coopers are also busy. Two societies, with a membership of 930, having only 8 members unemployed (or less than I per cent.) compared with 2.6 per cent. last month.

The Coachbuilding trades have continued to improve. Reports from 10 branches of 7 unions, with a membership of 1,035, show that 26 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.3 per cent. in January.

The Printing and Bookbinding trades remain fairly steady. Returns from 19 unions, with a membership of 20,040, show that 874 (or 4.4 per cent) were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 4.8 per cent. in January and 4.0 per cent. in February 1895.

Clothing Trades .- Employment in the wholesale clothing trade has continued good, and overtime has been worked in some cases; the West-End tailoring trade has remained dull, but slightly improved towards the end of the month; the East-End bespoke trade is still quiet; the hatters are exceptionally well employed for the time of year; the capmakers are moderately employed; the fur skin dressers are busy; the furriers slack.

Boot and Shoe Trades .- The machine branch has continued to improve slightly; the high-class bespoke branch has been fairly good ; slipper-makers are still slack.

Glass and Pottery Trades .- Little alteration has taken place in these trades. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 1,459, show that 83 (or 5'7 per cent.) were unemployed compared with 5'3 per cent. last month and 4 9 per cent. in February 1895.

Workers in Fibre, Hair, &c .- These trades remain fairly well employed. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 931, show that 30 (or 3'2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3'5 per cent. last month.

The Gold and Silver trades continue busy. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 1,084, show that 11 (or 1 o per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.4 per cent. in January, and 3'3 per cent. in February 1895.

The *Tobacco* trades are scarcely so well employed as last month. Returns from 3 unions, with a membership of 2,115, show that 119 (or 5.6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of February, compared with 4.8 per cent. last month.

Shipping and Dock Labour .- Employment at docks and wharves was not so good in February as in January. The average daily number of dock labourers employed at the docks and at 110 of the principal wharves is estimated at 13,224 for February and at 14,706 for the previous month. Employment has been slack with deal porters, corn porters and lumpers; fair with coal porters, winchmen and backers; ballast heavers have been well employed; lightermen moderately; stevedores not so well as last month. Fruit porters have had fair employment for the time of year. Further details are given on page 70.

Disputes and Changes of Wages .- Seven comparatively small putes, affecting in the aggregate 194 persons, have been reported as occurring during the month. Particulars of these disputes will

working an average of only 7'1 days per fortnight. House coal pits have averaged 9'7 days. The number of miners in receipt of stoppage allowance is 108 (or 0.52 per cent.) as against 0.30 per cent. in January. Metal Mining .- Iron and lead mines are steadily employed. Quarrying .- In Weardale, quarrymen are fully employed. A whinstone quarry has been re-opened. At Stanhope and Frosterley two quarries are working 6 days, and one 5 days, per week. Gateshead and district continue to improve. Shipbuilding and Engineering .- On the Tyne .- Shipbuilding in the higher reaches of the river is fairly active. In the Shields district employment is not so good, a number of rivetters and caulkers being idle. The Elswick factory continues busy. Several marine and one or two electrical engineering firms are employing night shifts in their machinery departments. Work in repair shops and docks is slack. Out of 10,061 members of the above trades included in 48 returns, 1,075 (or 10.5 per cent.) are unemployed, as against 10.9 per cent. of the membership at the end of January. On the Wear.-At four shipyards employment has greatly improved; at seven others it is moderate, and at three yards continues bad. Engineers are better employed. Of the 4,012 members in 20 branches of the engineering and iron shipbuilding trades, 410 (or 10.2 per cent.) are idle, as against 12'2 per cent. of the membership for January. be found on pp. 90-2. A re-adjustment of piece rates involving | shewn in five returns is 2'8, with a membership of 941. The The percentage of unemployed moulders on the two rivers as

10,00

reductions in certain departments of dock work, was notified to come into operation on March 5th (see table on p. 94).

Labour Bureaux .-- The 4 labour bureaux furnishing returns for February 1896 and February 1895 registered 833 fresh applications from workpeople and 372 from employers during last month, as against 1,355 and 432 respectively in February 1895. The number of workpeople engaged by private employers was 218, compared with 214 in February 1895, whereas the number engaged by local authorities fell from 665 to 270.

Pauperism .- The number of persons relieved on the last day of the second week in February was 108,289. This was an increase of 383 as compared with the corresponding day in the previous month, and a decrease of 35,827 as compared with February 1895. Of the decrease, 61 per cent. was in outdoor relief in the Southern district. The following chart shows the seasonal variations in the volume of pauperism in London at the middle of each month for the years

[The thick curve represents 1896; the thin curve 1895; and the dotted curve 1894. 140.00 130.00 120.00 110,000 100.00 90,00 80.00 70.00 The following are t 60.00 ich the C 1806 50,000 109,516 106,493 102,550 97,177 95,146 94,536 93,868 95,582 95,113 97,141 101,755 104,418 1895. 112,935 144,116 130,699 105,115 99,693 97,453 96,908 98,694 98,278 100,649 104,597 106,716 107,906 40,00 30.000 20.00

The number of vagrants in London on one day of the second week in February was 1,183, as compared with 1,078 in February 1895. In West Ham the number of paupers on one day in the second week was 9,311 in February, 9,154 in January, and 14,667 in February 1895.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES. Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining .- Durham .- Pits producing gas coal continue to give average employment; 21 other colliers of various seams of coal, employing 21,062 men and boys have averaged 9.7 days per fortnight. At a few collieries temporary night shifts are worked. The number of unemployed miners is 1,500, or 2.6 per cent., as against 2'4 per cent. in January. Northumberland .- Steam coal pits are

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).-NORTHERN COUNTIES AND LANCASHIRE.

patternmakers and shipwrights are fully employed. Ninety-five per cent. of the plumbers (house and ship) are working regular time; the joiners have 1'4 per cent. unemployed ; the steel smelters, chargemen, gasmen and men at the plate and angle mills in the Consett and Newburn district have been fully employed; iron mills have worked four days per week and an extra set of shearmen have been employed.

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Dock and Riverside Labour .- Coal porters and shippers, trimmers and teemers report a falling off in employment on the Tyne and Wear. The Tyne wherrymen continue slack.

Building and Woodworking Trades .- The building trades on the Tyne are unsettled, owing to a dispute. The millsawyers and woodcutters have 3 per cent. unemployed. The coopers report no change.

Printing and kindred Trades .- Paper mill workers are moderately employed, five mills having worked eight shifts out of a possible 11 per week. The letterpress printers on the Tyne have 45, or 81 per cent., unemployed, as against 6.4 per cent. at the end of January. The bookbinders and machine rulers return 4 per cent. as unemployed.

Glass and Chemical Trades.-Glass bottle makers in all districts are working full time. The pressed glass makers are improving, but have still 10 per cent. idle. Two chemical factories are working half time in the " black ash " department. Whitelead works report no change.

Miscellaneous .- North Shields sailmakers are slack. Durham coke workers are busy. The catch of fish has been below the average. Outside labourers have been well employed .- J. Ratcliffe.

Middlesbrough, Stockton, and District.

Iron Mining .- The Cleveland miners are fairly well employed.

Iron and Steel Trades .- All the large steel works but one are well employed; the finished iron works are sharing to some extent in the improvement. Employment is good at the blast furnaces, and continues fair upon the whole at the foundries and bridge works.

Shipbuilding.-Employment at Middlesbrough continues brisk in all the yards, and a new yard has commenced work; it continues good at Stockton, and the improvement at Thornaby and Hartlepool has been maintained. Throughout the whole district the shipjoiners have less than one per cent., and the shipwrights none une nployed. The smiths and strikers are well employed.

Engineering .- Employment with the engineers has improved ; the percentages unemployed at Stockton, Hartlepool, and Middlesbrough being 1 1, 4 4, and 5 3 respectively, as compared with 2 6, 5.2, and 6.5 at the end of January. The moulders report employment as good at Stockton, fair at Middlesbrough, and moderate at Hartlepool, with percentages of unemployed of 5'3, 6, and 7 respectively. Smiths and strikers continue fairly employed, with few out of work, in the district.

Building Trades. - For the season of the year employment is good in all branches of these trades. Five branches of carpenters and joiners, with 879 members, return o 8 per cent. as unemployed.

Printing Trades.—The printers report employment as fairly busy at the Hartlepools, and moderate at Middlesbrough, Stockton and Thornaby.

Shipping and Dock Labour .- Dock labour is reported as good at Middlesbrough, moderate at the Hartlepools; riverside labour as good, though slacker in the last week of the month. Employment for sailors and firemen is reported as quiet at Middlesbrough and only moderate at Hartlepool.-A. Main.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.-Employment remains unsatisfactory. The spinners in Oldham, Rochdale, Mossley, Stalybridge, Ashton, and Stockport report 497, out of 9,238 union members, or 5'3 per cent., as on unemployed benefit, as compared with 4.8 per cent. at the end of January, in addition to others unemployed who have exhausted their benefit. Two mills in Stalybridge have restarted work. Employment is especially bad in Ashton. In Oldham the cardroom workers have 7 per cent. unemployed, as against 7 I per cent. of the membership at the end of January. The power-loom overlookers are all fully engaged, and report employment in the velvet weaving trade as good, and in calicoweaving as moderate. Employment in reeling is improving, and is good in twining and ring frame spinning.

Woollen Trade .- Woollen spinners and weavers in Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport report employment as good.

Engineering and Metal Trades. - The engineers have 4.7 per cent. unemployed, five branches reporting employment as bad and five as moderate; the boiler-makers report employment as improving; the ironfounders, spindle and flyer-makers, machine-makers, brass finishers, tinplate workers and gas-meter makers as good.

March 1896.

Building Trades .- The carpenters and joiners, bricklayers and painters report employment as moderate; the plumbers as slack; the plasterers as bad. These societies, with 761 members, report 6.3 per cent. as unemployed.

Miscellaneous.-Coal miners are better employed; cloggers, rope and twine makers, and reed and heald makers are fully employed, with much overtime in the latter trade.—T. Ashton.

Bolton and District.

General.-Twenty-six unions or branches of unions in Bolton and neighbourhood, with 11,227 members, report 3.6 per cent. as on unemployed benefit ; seven other branches, with 3,535 members, report 8.3 per cent. as unemployed.

Cotton Trade.-In Bolton all the spinning mills continue to run full time, and the spinners have only 57 members (or 1.3 per cent.) on unemployed benefit, as compared with 53 (or 1'2 per cent. of the membership) at the end of January. The cardroom operatives have II per cent. of the members unemployed; the weaving branch is fairly active. In Bury the spinners, cardroom workers and weavers report employment as improved. In Chorley the spinners report employment as improved; the weavers as not so good.

Engineering and Metal Trades .- In Bolton these trades continue busy, some firms being exceptionally active. Six branches of the engineers report $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as unemployed. In the machine making departments overtime is being worked ; steel smelting continues somewhat irregular; labourers in ironworks are moderately well employed. In Bury employment continues good. In Wigan the engineers are exceptionally busy; steel smelters and steel roller makers are fully employed; the finished ironworkers have improved and are working full time. In Chorley improvement is reported.

Building Trades.-Employment is fairly good in Bolton, Bury, and Wigan, but is slack in Chorley.

Coal Mining.-Sixteen branches in Bolton and district, with 4,345 members, report $6\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. as on unemployed benefit, the miners again averaging about $4\frac{1}{2}$ days per week. In Wigan employment is irregular, some pits being worked five days per week, others two or three days only.

Miscellaneous .- In Bolton the bleachers, finishers, and dyers have 2 2 per cent. on unemployed benefit; the carters and lurrymen less than I per cent.; the railway-workers 6.4 per cent. The bespoke tailors report 2 per cent. as unemployed .- R. Tootill.

Burnley, Accrington, and District.

Cotton Trade .- During the past month there has been a further improvement in employment in the weaving industry, more especially on goods of fine make and, taken all round, employment is more regular than has been the case for some time back, although in weaving centres such as Blackburn, Burnley and Preston large numbers of looms are still idle. Employment in the hardwaste trade continues good, overtime being worked, and the sateen trade shows further improvement. The loomers and drawers have fewer unemployed, consequent on the increased number of looms working. The spinners report little change, with 8'3 per cent. idle in Blackburn (all of whom have drawn their full out-ofwork pay, with the exception of seven, or less than one per cent.); 44, or 10.4 per cent., at Burnley (of whom 26, or 6.1 per cent., are receiving out-of-work pay); 2 per cent. at Preston are unemployed and receiving out-of-work pay; 46, or 193 per cent., at Darwen are unemployed, all of whom are receiving out-of-work pay; 1.2 per cent. at Accrington are unemployed and have drawn their full outof-work benefit.

Building Trades .- These trades continue good considering the season of the year.

Engineering and Iron Trades .- Moulders, fitters, turners, and erectors remain fully engaged; machine shops continue to work overtime

Clothing Trades .- Employment in the tailoring trade shows a slight improvement. Slipper-makers in Rossendale are well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.-Employment is fair with the letterpress printers, who have less than I per cent. unemployed; it continues good with paper-makers and paper-stainers.

Coal Mining .- There is little change in the coal-mining industry.

March 1806.

The drawers at one pit in the Burnley district have left work in Clothing Trades .- The bespoke tailors report employment as consequence of a grievance; 200 hewers have been thrown idle. moderate; the ready-made trade is quiet; the boot and shoe-Miscellaneous .- Employment is good with chemical workers, and makers report employment as dull. also with the felt carpet printers in the Rossendale district. Brick-Building Trades .- In Liverpool employment continues fairly good. makers are busy.-W. H. Wilkinson. At St. Helens and Widnes these trades are quiet.

Manchester and District.

Engineering and Metal Trades .- The improvement in these trades binders and machine-rulers as fair. continues. The engineers, steam engine makers, ironfounders, Shipping and Dock Labour .- Sailors and firemen report no improveboiler-makers, machine-workers, smiths and strikers, brassfounders, nent. Employment in the docks is reported as slack ; at the quays braziers and sheet metal workers making returns in Manchester and warehouses as quiet. The Mersey flatmen report employment and neighbourhood, out of 9,704 members report 280 (or 2.9 per cent.) as unemployed. At Warrington the wire drawers are as moderate; the Upper Mersey watermen and porters as irregular; the coalheavers as quiet; the quay and railway carters as dull. fully employed; wireweavers are not so brisk. Employment in Glass and Chemical Trades .- The plate and sheet glass industries other branches of the iron trade is moderate.

Building Trades.-The carpenters and joiners, masons and bricklayers in Manchester and Northwich, out of 3,304 members, have 51 (or 1.5 per cent.) unemployed. Employment shows little change in Manchester; in Northwich and Macclesfield it is reported as bad.

improved at Manchester, with 5.5 per cent. unemployed (as against 7 per cent. at the end of January), and with all mills running full time. Cotton-workers at Macclesfield are in full work; a closed mill at Bollington has been re-opened; cotton-weavers at Bollington are on short time. Silk-weaving both by hand and power remains fairly good. Fustian cutters continue busy, and dressers, dyers, and finishers report employment as moderate, except in the velvet and silk plush trade, which is busy. The bleachers, dyers, and finishers report employment as moderate, with about 2 per cent. unemployed.

Clothing Trades .- The bespoke tailors report employment as bad in Manchester; as moderate in Macclesfield and Warrington. Employment in the wholesale tailoring trade and in the ready-made mantle making trade is better. Capmaking and umbrellamaking are fairly good. Waterproof garment makers continue slack. Shirtmakers at Macclesfield are moderately busy. The boot and shoe operatives report employment as moderate; the hatters at Denton as quiet in the hard felt branch; fairly busy in the soft frame branch, with 1.9 per cent. unemployed altogether.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- The coachmakers, with 2'3 per cent. idle, and the cabinet-makers in Manchester and Warrington report employment as good, particularly in the railway shops; the coopers as fair; the upholsterers as moderate, with 11.9 per cent. unemployed.

Building Trades .- The masons, carpenters and joiners and millsawyers report employment as good ; the bricklayers as improving ; Printing and kindred Trades .- The letterpress printers, lithographic the builders' labourers as moderate; the plumbers and painters printers, and bookbinders, with 2,472 members, report 13.8 per cent. as bad. These six societies, with 2,094 members, have 7 3 per cent. as unemployed .- G. D. Kelley. unemployed, as against 7 1 per cent. at the end of January.

Barrow-in-Furness District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding .- Marine engineering continues fairly

Fishing Industry .- In Hull the fishermen report employment as busy in most departments with only two persons out of 950 unmoderate; the steam-trawling engineers and firemen as moderate, employed in the district. Shipbuilding is fair, with a few out of with 2 per cent. idle; the fishcurers have been fairly busy. In work. The other branches of engineers are also fairly busy. Grimsby, owing to the transfer of a business, about 300 fishermen, Iron and Steel Trades. - The iron trade continues good, with all 90 other workmen, and a number of women and girls have been hands employed. Steelworkers are fully employed in all departthrown out of work ments

Iron Mining .- Ironminers have been well employed. Building Trades.-All branches of these trades are fully employed

Shipping and Railways .- The shipping at the Barrow Docks continues dull; at other ports on the North-West coast it is good, as

trade coastwise is very fair. Railway traffic is still improving. Printing and kindred Trades .- Employment in these trades is only moderate. Miscellaneous .- Millers are busy; juteworkers moderate; paper

and pulp workers busy .- 7. D. Cowper.

Liverpool and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding .- The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders, with 1 per cent. unemployed, and the engineers, with 5 per cent., report employment as improved; the pattern-makers, iron and steel dressers, brassfounders, shipjoiners, and ship-painters as good ; the mast and block makers as moderate; the shipwrights as fair upon repair work.

Furnishing and Coachbuilding Trades.-Employment continues fair with cabinet-makers, upholsterers, and French polishers. Tramcar builders are well employed ; coachmakers and painters moderately

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (continued) .- LANCASHIRE (contd.) AND YORKSHIRE.

Textile Trades .- The cotton-spinners again report employment as

Printing and kindred Trades .- The letterpress printers report employment as fair; the lithographic printers as good; the book-

report no improvement. Bottle-makers are moderately employed. Chemical workers continue quiet.

Mining and Quarrying .- Coalminers are only moderately employed ; stone quarrymen are in request.

Miscellaneous .- Bakers and confectioners are quiet; the coopers report employment as fair; the packing-case and boxmakers as mproved; the saddlers as quiet. General labourers and excavators are moderately employed. -C. Rouse.

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade is bad, the number unemployed being estimated at 70 per cent. of the workers. At Middlewich employment in the salt trade has improved slightly; moulders report employment as dull; the chemical workers as normal. The building trades are reported as dull, with a few unemployed at Winsford and Middlewich. Fustian cutters report employment as good in both places.

VORKSHIPE

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering .- The engineers, ironfounders, smiths and strikers, iron and steel dressers and machine-workers, report employment as good; the shipwrights and brassfounders and finishers as fair. These seven societies, with 3,028 members, have 3.4 per cent. unemployed, as against 5 per cent. of their membership at the end of January. The boiler-makers report employment as moderate; the sailmakers as fair; the shipyard, boiler-making and engineering labourers as moderate, with 11.5 per cent. wholly, and 13.8 per cent. partially, unemployed. The railway works at Doncaster are busy, overtime being worked in several departments.

Shipping and Dock Labour .- The seamen and dock labourers report employment as bad.

Seed Crushing, Oil, and Colour Works .- Employment in these trades s reported as fair.

Miscellaneous Trades .- Six societies, with 668 members, report employment as moderate; four, with 171 members, as fairly good. W. G. Millington.

Leeds and District.

Metal Trades .-- In Leeds the engineers report employment as im proved, with 6'7 per cent. unemployed, as against 7'5 per cent. at the end of January. Employment at Kirkstall is good; at Wake-field moderate. The ironfounders, pattern-makers, boiler-makers, machine-workers, brassworkers and whitesmiths in Leeds, the ironfounders at Stanningley and the cranemakers at Rodley report employment as fairly satisfactory; stove-grate workers are busy.

Textile Trades .- The flax and linen workers, blanket-makers, woollen mule spinners, willeyers and fettlers are well employed in Leeds. At Yeadon employment has declined, with three mills running short time, but with few unemployed. At Wakefield and Stanningley mills continue fully employed.

Clothing Trades. - The ready-made clothing trade is now brisk, overtime being worked in most factories. Employment in bespoke tailoring is normal. Short time is being worked in most boot and shoe factories

March 1896.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (continued) .-- YORKSHIRE AND MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Building Trades .- The bricklayers and joiners report employment as fair; the masons as moderate; the plasterers as dull; the plumbers as slack. Employment at Wakefield and Stanningley is

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Mining .- In Leeds work has fallen off to about four days per week at most pits. At Wakefield some collieries are only working three days.

Leather Trades .- The tanners report employment as improved; the leather-shavers as moderate; the curriers as bad. These three societies have 4'4 per cent. unemployed.

Glass Bottle Trade .- In Leeds this trade is steadily improving. The improvement reported last month at Wakefield also continues.

Printing and kindred Trades .- The printers report employment as slack; the lithographers and bookbinders as fair. These three societies, with 893 members, have 7.1 per cent. unemployed.

Furniture and Woodworking Trades .- The cabinet-makers and brushmakers report employment as good; the coachmakers as moderate.-O. Connellan.

Bradford, Huddersfield, and District.

Worsted Trade.-Employment in Bradford is hardly as good as it was last month. Some woolsorters and woolcombers are unemployed. In Haworth, Halifax, and Huddersfield there is hardly any falling off, but wool combing is more irregular. There is not so much overtime in the worsted as in the woollen trade.

Woollen Trade .- Employment in and around Huddersfield is still Many firms are working overtime, and in some cases all fair. night, when the workpeople can be got to do it. More especially is this the case on the outskirts of the borough. The heavy woollen trade is about the same as last month, and is not quite so good as it was about Christmas.

Metal Trades.-The engineers in Bradford, Halifax, Keighley and Huddersfield, out of 2,158 members, report 52, or 2.4 per cent., as unemployed, as against 4.5 per cent. of the membership at the end of January. The ironfounders in Keighley and Huddersfield have I per cent. unemployed. Employment is exceptionally good in Halifax and Keighley.

Building Trades .- Employment is reported as good in most of the large towns.

Miscellaneous.-The dyers in Bradford report 40 men as unemployed, 250 on short time and 2,500 working overtime. The printers are reported as fairly well employed.—A. Gee.

Vorkshire Mining Districts (except Cleveland).

Coal Mining,-Employment among coal miners shows little change, much short time being worked. Cokemen are somewhat better employed. Several disputes have arisen which may result in stoppages. A colliery at Castleford was set down, but the men returned to work on effecting a compromise. Forty-two men are under notice at another pit at Castleford, and notices have been given by the men at two collieries at Leeds and Barnsley on account of alleged grievances.

Metal Trades.- Employment in the iron trade is a little better. The engineers report employment as bad; the ironfounders as moderate; the stove-grate workers as fairly good.

Glass Trades .- Four branches of the glass bottle makers and flintglass makers in Barnsley, Stairfoot, Swinton and Mexborough, with 907 members, report 88 (or 9.7 per cent.) as unemployed, as compared with 148 (or 16.4 per cent. of the membership) at the end of January, employment being good at Barnsley, moderate at Swinton and Mexborough, and good at Stairfoot, where another large furnace has commenced work.

Building Trades .- The builders' labourers with none idle, and the painters report employment as fair.

Railway Servants.-Two branches of railway servants, with 568 members, report employment as good.-7. Wadsworth.

Sheffield and District.

Iron and Steel Trades .- In Sheffield the engineers, ironfounders, boiler-makers, iron and steel dressers, and wiredrawers, with 1,778 members, report only 18, or 1 per cent., on unemployed benefit, and reports from all other branches of these trades are good. At Parkgate the ironworkers are better employed, and the steelworkers fairly so. At Rotherham men in the Siemens and Bessemer shops, and in the rolling mills and forges, are well employed. Engineers and tyre-makers are also busy. At Renishaw the blast furnaces are in full operation; pumpmakers are slack, and ironfounders only moderately employed. Bathmakers at Rotherham and Masbrough are fairly well employed, and the stove grate makers are busier.

Cutlery and Tools .- The pen and pocket blade forgers and grinders, the table blade and edge-tool grinders, filecutters, engineers' tool makers and saw handle makers with 2,673 members, report only 12 (or 0.4 per cent.) as unemployed. The pen and pocket cutlery workers, razor and edge-tool grinders, saw-grinders, and sawhandle makers, however, report much short time. Makers of spades, shovels, agricultural forks, horticultural implements, cycle parts, and nuts and bolts are busy; makers of mining tools are fairly employed. The sheep shear grinders and benders are better employed.

Other Metal Trades .- The silversmiths' stampers and finishers, with 673 members, report 13 (or 1.9 per cent.) as unemployed, but a considerable number are on short time. The plate, spoon and fork trade is also quiet; filers report $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. unemployed, and 20. per cent. on short time. Elctro-plate workers are moderately employed; brassworkers are well employed, especially at Rotherham.

Building Trades .- These trades are fairly well employed throughout the district. In Sheffield the carpenters and joiners and bricklayers with 617 members report 9, or 1.5 per cent., as idle.

Printing and kindred Trades.-The letterpress printers report employment as bad, with 11'1 per cent. unemployed; the litho-graphic printers as fair; the bookbinders as still good.

Miscellaneous .- The coachmakers and the railway carriage and wagon builders are better employed. Saddle and harness makers are quiet. Glass-bottle makers and potters are fairly well employed.-S. Uttley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

Engineering and kindred Trades .- The engineers, steam enginemakers, boiler-makers, pattern-makers, brass moulders and finishers, ironfounders, stove grate workers, stove and kitchen range fitters in Derby, Burton-on-Trent, Glossop, Long Eaton, Chesterfield and neighbourhood, out of 2,183 members, report employment as good, with 35 (or 1.6 per cent) unemployed, as against 42 (or 2 per cent. of the membership) at the end of January.

Iron Trades .- These trades continue to improve. In Dronfield edge tool makers. shovel and spindle makers, grinders and sickle makers, are well employed.

Coal Mining .- Returns of employment from twenty collieries, employing 7,000 persons, show an average of 4.2 days per week in

Quarrying.-In Wirksworth stone quarrying is reported as fair; in other districts as moderate.

Building Trades.-Fifteen branches of these trades, with 1,08 members, return 49, or 4.5 per cent., as unemployed. Employment is moderate, except with painters.

Textile Trades.-Employment in the lace trade in Long Eaton and Borrowash is reported as improving; the cotton trade in Belper and Borrowash as fair. The hosiery workers in Belper report. employment as declining, the dyers as moderate. The wool, silk and merino manufacturers in Lea continue well employed. The elastic web-weavers in Derby report employment as moderate; the surgicalbandage makers as fair.

Clothing Trades.-Employment remains dull with boot and shoe operatives; fair with tailors and dress and mantle-makers.

Printing and kindred Trades .- The letterpress and lithographic printers, the bookbinders and machine-rulers, with 326 members, report 1.8 per cent. as unemployed.

Wood-working and Coach-building Trades .- The railway carriageand wagon builders in Derby are improving, five days per week being worked. The coachbuilders in private shops continue moderately employed. The cabinetmakers, the sawyers, and wood-working machinists, report employment as fair.

C. White-Deacon.

Nottingham and District.

General.-Societies with 8,548 members report 372 (or 4:4 per cent.) on unemployed benefit, as against 315 (or 3.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Lace Trade .-- The operative lacemakers, warp lacemakers, warpers. and curtain readers, with 3,910 members, return 245 (or 6.3 per cent.) as on unemployed benefit, as against 220 (or 5'3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January; and 19 per cent. are reported as unemployed but not on benefit. The women lacemakers report employment as moderate.

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EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (continued) .- MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Hosiery Trade .- The dispute in the hosiery trade has affected em-Potteries District. ployment, especially in the circular branch. Framework knitters Pottery Trades .- The hollow-ware pressers report employment as are fairly well employed, with about 50 out through the dispute. slightly better, with fewer unemployed, and an average of about 5 days' work per week; the sanitary pressers are working 4 days per week, wool branch is brisk. The hand frame branch is much busier, with no unemployed. The flat-pressers have fewer on the out of work fund. The women gilders and decorators, with I per cent. unemployed, and the printers and transferrers report improvement but with some short time. The throwers and turners in the general trade are better employed, but are slack in the electric departments. The mouldmakers, designers and modellers report employment as moderate; the packers and cratemakers as good; the ovenmen Engineering and Iron Trades .- Fourteen branches of engineers, and saggar-makers as improved, but with many on short time. Iron and Steel Trades .- Small section ironworkers are busy; the sheet-rollers are moderately employed. The steel mills are running full time, and at the blast furnaces employment is good. The anchor chain makers are busy. No iron or steel workers are idle. Building Trades .- Nine branches of carpenters and joiners, brick-Engineering and Metal Trades .- The engineers, boiler-makers and moulders are busy at Stoke, and improving at Hanley and Burslem, with none unemployed. At Longport the brassfinishers are working only 36 hours per week, but brassmoulders are busy. At Crewe the engineers have I_2^1 per cent., and the boiler-makers less than Coal Mining .- Returns from 31 collieries, employing 16,000 men I per cent. unemployed; the moulders are working only $46\frac{1}{2}$ hours per week. At Stafford employment has declined. Agricultural ngineers at Uttoxeter are busier. The copper works at Froghall Printing Trades .- Three branches of letterpress and lithographic and Oakamoor are busy.

The shirt and pantaloon branch is good. Shetland shawl and and employment is good on the best class of goods at Sutton, Kirkbyin-Ashfield, and Nottingham The rib top branch is busy on fine goods, but slack on heavy and coarse goods. Female labour is fairly employed. Elastic bandage makers are busy, with no unemployed. There is a slight improvement at Mansfield and Arnold in power machine branch and also in hand-frame branch at Carlton. ironfounders, tool machinists, irondressers, carriage straighteners, bobbin and carriage-makers, with 1,892 members in Nottingham, Newark, Mansfield, and Beeston, report 48 (or 2.5 per cent.) as on unemployed benefit, as against 1.7 per cent. at the end of January. layers, bricklayers' labourers, masons, plumbers, and sawyers, with 2,293 members in Nottingham report 45 (or 2 per cent.) as on unemployed benefit, as against 27 (or 1.2 per cent. of the membership) at the end of January. The painters report an improvement. working underground, show an average of 172 days worked during

the month.

printers, with 453 members, report 34 (or 7'5 per cent.) as on unemployed benefit, as against 8 per cent. at the end of January.

Clothing Trades .- The boot and shoe operatives report employment as slack. The tailors report much partial employment Mantlemakers and machinists on factory work are fairly busy.

Railway Workers.- Employment is reported as good at Colwick, Nottingham, and Mansfield ; as quiet at Newark and Worksop.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Industry .- Employment is only moderate at Leicester, Northampton, Kettering, Finedon, Hinckley, Melton, Rothwell and Rushden. It is slacker at Desborough and Wellingborough. Operatives in the tanning and currying trades are not so fully engaged, and some are unemployed.

Clothing Trades .- Employment continues generally good in the wholesale clothing trade but slack in the bespoke branch. It is good with silk hatters, and fairly good in the felt and cap departments. Milliners and dressmakers are busier.

Hosiery, Yarn and Spinning Trades .- Workpeople continue fairly engaged in the plain, circular rib, and shirt and pant departments, but employment is slacker in the Cotton's patent and half-hose branches, especially at Loughborough. In the yarn and wool spinning trades employment is plentiful all round. Dyers and trimmers are working full time, and wool-sorters are better engaged.

Elastic Web Trade.-The workpeople employed in the manufacture

Engineering and kindred Trades. - The engineers and constructive of cords, braids, garter, belt and fancy goods are in regular work, machinists are fairly busy, with less than 2 per cent. unemployed. but those in the shoe-webbing branch are slacker. The ironfounders in West Bromwich and Wolverhampton report Engineering, Iron and Cycle Trades .- Employment is reported as a decline. Moulders are making full time ; bridge and girder congood with locomotive and general engineers and machine builders, structors and tank and boiler-makers continue fully employed ; iron shoe and hosiery machine makers, boiler-makers, and smiths; door and safe makers, tool makers, machinists, and cycle makers moderate with ironfounders and moulders, and slack with winders are busy. All branches at the railway sheds are making full time and electric lamp-makers. Many cycle makers are on overtime.

Hardware Trades .- The anchor makers, brass and copper workers, Mining and Quarrying .- Work continues slack at the South tinplate workers, edge-tool makers, lock-makers and bedstead Leicestershire coal pits. Ironstone miners are fully employed, but makers, report employment as good ; the chainmakers, galvanizers employment is reported as dull among stone quarrymen. and japanners as fair; the ironplate workers as dull; the fender Printing and Bookbinding Trades .- Letterpress printers are well and fire-iron makers as declining.

employed at Northampton, but are slack at Leicester. Work continues good with lithographic printers and bookbinders. Building Trades.- Employment is fair throughout the district,

except amongst plasterers and stonemasons

Furnishing and Coachbuilding Trades .- Employment is good with cabinet-makers, upholsterers and French polishers. The men in all branches of coachbuilding are regularly employed.

Railways .-- Workmen in the passenger, goods, and mineral departments are fully employed. Carriage and wagon-builders are busier. Roadmen and navvies are fully employed.

Miscellaneous .- Drainpipe, brick, tile, terra-cotta workers, and gas-stokers are busy. Work is plentiful with cigar-makers, boxmakers, carters, and saddlers, and moderate with brushmakers, basket-makers, wheelwrights and farriers .--- T. Smith.

W. L. Hardstaff.

Coal Mining .- The North Staffordshire miners, with 6,000 members, report 5 per cent. as unemployed.

Textile Trades .- At Leek the silk twisters and pickers report 3 per cent. out of work. At Congleton silk weavers remain slack; at Cheadle they are busy; throwsters, fustian cutters and tape weavers are busy.

Clothing Trades .- The tailors report employment as better in the Potteries and at Stafford ; as bad at Crewe. The shoemakers, with none idle, report employment as improved at Stafford.

Building Trades.-Employment is fair for the time of year in the Potteries, but is slack in other parts of the district. Stone quarrymen are well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades. - The letterpress printers in Stafford and the Potteries report 14 per cent. as unemployed.

Miscellaneous.-Railway servants generally are busy. The bakers are fairly well employed, with 4 per cent. idle.-I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades .- In South Staffordshire the puddlers and millmen continue fully employed. In East Worcestershire the steelmakers are all employed on full time. At Snedshill steel rollers are busy, and puddlers are better employed. At Wombridge the men have been better employed on wire rolling and sheets. The steel smelters at Wednesbury are now in full employment.

Coal Mining,-In the Black Country district (largely manufacturing coal) a number of men are reported to be unemployed. In the Cannock Chase district (household coal) there has been no improvement. At Hednesford only about 3 days a week are being worked; in South Shropshire 4 and 5 days a week.

Glass-making .- Employment in the flint glass trade in Dudley. Wordsley, and Brierley Hill continues fairly good; in the glass bottle trade at Brierley Hill it is dull.

Building Trades.- Employment in the building trades continues moderate. Brick-making is moderately brisk, and the fireclay workers of Brierley Hill and Stourbridge are reported as busy.

Wood - working and Furnishing Trades. - Cabinet - makers, upholsterers, and packingcask and casemakers are reported as rather slack. Wet cask coopers are fairly busy.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (continued) .- MID., EAST, AND SOUTH-WE'ST COUNTIES.

Clothing Trades .- Employment in the tailoring trade has been dull, and boot and shoemakers are only moderately employed.

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Printing Trades .- In West Bromwich the letterpress printers are well employed. In Wolverhampton there has been a slight improvement, 4 per cent. being unemployed. Bookbinders and machine-rulers have been quiet.

Miscellaneous Trades .- Oil, colour and varnish-makers in Wolverhampton, and chemical workers and tar distillers in West Bromwich, are reported as fairly well employed. Gas stokers are not so busy. Woolspinners and carpet-weavers at Kidderminster report employment as fairly good .- W. F. Mee.

Birmingham and District.

Engineering .- All branches report employment as good, and overtime is being made; ammunition work is busiest; engineers' pattern makers report employment as unusually good.

Brass and Copper Working .- In the brass trade employment is good on chandelier, electrolier, and gas-fitting work, and on cased and brazed tubes and brass hinges. General cabinet work is somewhat unsatisfactory. Employment is steady on plumbers' brassfoundery, photographic apparatus, mathematical and surgical instruments, metal-rolling, strip-casting, and annealing. Coppersmiths' work is fair.

Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electro-platers .- The jewellery trade has been busy. Silversmiths' work is moderate. Electro-plate work is rather quiet, many working short time.

Other Metal Trades .- Employment on bedstead work is reported as still good, but with none working overtime. Tinplate working is very good, the busiest departments being cycle lamps and gearcases. Wire-drawing is fair, but some are working short time. All divisions of the cycle trade are busy in Birmingham, Coventry and Redditch. The steel pen, cut nail, pin and rivet trades maintain a good average of employment.

Building Trades .- Five out of six branches of carpenters report employment as fair; the sixth as slack. Over the greater part of the district there are from 2 to 3 per cent. unemployed, but in Smethwick the proportion is higher. Stonemasons report employment as dull.

Other Trades in Birmingham .- The flint glass-making industry remains unaltered ; bevelling and silvering are good. Coachmakers are reported as busy, with many working overtime. The printers report employment as still moderate, with 60 unemployed. Buttonmaking continues normal ; vegetable ivory button work is reported as casual. Cabinet-making is still quiet. Gas workers report no alteration .- W. 7. Davis.

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and neighbouring District.

General.-Throughout the district, 35 societies with 2,569 members report employment as fair; 9 societies with 566 members as quiet; and 16 societies with 792 members as bad.

Engineering and Skipbuilding .- Employment in these trades is reported as bad in Thetford, moderate in Norwich. The shipwrights at Great Yarmouth report employment as dull. In other parts of the district employment is reported as fairly good.

Textile Trades .- At both Yarmouth and Norwich the silk and crape factories are running full time.

Clothing Trades .- In Norwich employment is fairly good, both with the hand-sewn and the machine trade boot and shoe operatives. The clothing factories are working full time. Bespoke tailors are dull.

Building Trades .- In Norwich employment is reported as steady with the carpenters and joiners; moderate with the plumbers and painters; fair with the bricklayers. In Great Yarmouth, Cromer and Lowestoft employment is fairly good. In Lynn and Cambridge it is dull.

Printing Trades .- At Norwich the letterpress printers report employment as dull; the lithographic printers as moderate. The bookbinders are fully employed.

Coachbuilding and Furnishing Trades .- Employment in these trades is good.

Miscellaneous .- Fishing at Yarmouth and Lowestoft has been dull, but is improving. Throughout the district maltsters are busy; ratway-workers are fairly well employed .--- G. Cleverley.

Suffolk, Essex, and District.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades .- The engineers report employment as moderate at Ipswich; good at Bury, Beccles, Colchester, Halstead, Earl's Colne and Chelmsford; fair at Leiston; tinue well employed.

bad at Wickham Market. At Ipswich the boiler-makers and shipwrights report employment as moderate; the moulders as dull.

Clothing Trades .- Employment in the boot and shoe trade is reported as improved at Ipswich, moderate at Colchester, and slack at Braintree. Employment in the wholesale tailoring trade is good at Ipswich, moderate at Colchester. The corset-makers report employment as good at Ipswich, and fair at Sudbury.

Textile Trades .- The matmakers at Lavenham, Long Melford and Braintree report employment as good; at Sudbury, Hadleigh and Glemsford as moderate. The horse-hair weavers report employment as good at Lavenham; fair at Long Melford. The silk and crape industries at Halstead, Earl's Colne, Braintree and Bocking are busy, and the silkweavers at Sudbury report employment as good.

Building Trades .- Employment in these trades is dull at Ipswich and Colchester; fairly good at Sudbury, Chelmsford, and Haverhill; bad at Bury St. Edmunds; moderate at Hadleigh; improving at Earl's Colne.

Printing and kindred Trades .- The letterpress printers report employment as moderate at Ipswich; fair at Bury St. Edmunds and Colchester; brisk at Beccles; the bookbinders as good at Ipswich.

Miscellaneous .- At Ipswich employment is good with the cigarmakers and gasworkers; dull with dock and general labourers. The improvement with the horticultural-workers has been maintained. At Colchester the leather trade continues brisk.

R. W. Mather.

March 1896.

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES. Bristol, Somerset, and Gloucestershire Districts.

Building Trades .- Out of 2,791 members engaged in these trades, 325 (or 11.6 per cent.) were unemployed, as against 265 (or 10 per cent. of the members of unions making returns) at the end of January. The plumbers report employment as bad; the plasterers as slack in Bristol, dull at Cheltenham, and fair at Gloucester; the carpenters and joiners as steady; the painters and decorators as improving; the brickmakers as fair; the bricklayers as depressed in Bristol and good at Gloucester and Swindon; the builders' labourers as slack at Bristol and fair at Gloucester.

Clothing Trades .- A general improvement is reported with most firms in the Bristol boot and shoe industry. In the Kingswood district employment continues slack. The ready-made garment makers report employment as steady; the silk hatters as dull; the shirt and collar makers as improving.

Textile Trades .- The Trowbridge mills continue on short time. At Westbury and Stroud, employment is reported as good. Cotton operatives in Bristol are busy.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- Five branches, with 417 members, report 5 as idle. The cabinet-makers, coopers and mill awyers report employment as fair ; the brushmakers as dull.

Printing Trades .- The letterpress printers at Bath, Bristol, Hereford and Gloucester, out of 597 members, report 35 (or 5'9 per cent.) as unemployed.

Coal Mining .- In the Forest of Dean the pits are reported as working on an average about four days per week; 340 men remain affected by a dispute at one of the collieries. The Bristol and Radstock districts report no change.

Engineering and allied Trades .- Out of 2,533 members from whom returns have been received, 53 (or 2 per cent.) were unemployed. Good reports come from all branches throughout the district, with the exception of boilermakers and shipwrights in Bristol.

Shipping and Dock Labour.-Dock employment in Bristol is reported as improved in the general cargo trade, and as brisk in the grain trade. Sailors and firemen report less activity than in January. At Gloucester and Bridgwater general slackness prevails.

Railway Workers .- The railway servants report employment as steady, with less than I per cent. idle.

General Labour .- The gasworkers and the builders' labourers, out of 875 members, report 290 (or 33 per cent.) as unemployed. 7. Curle.

Plymouth and South-Western District.

Mining, Quarrying, and Clay Industries.-The metal mining industry of Cornwall is in a most serious condition. Four mines have been closed during February. Some of the miners have obtained employment at the railway works now going on in the Camborne district. The number of unemployed miners at the present time is estimated at about 500, besides women and girls usually employed as surfacehands at the dressing-floors. The quarrymen and clayworkers conMarch 1806.

Engineering and Allied Trades .- Engineering continues good generally in the district. The Plymouth and Devonport branches, with about 900 members, are reported as fully employed with none idle. The ironfounders, brassfounders and finishers, and the boilermakers report employment as fairly good.

Clothing Trades .- The ready-made department of the tailoring trade remains busy. The bespoke department continues quiet The boot and shoe operatives generally throughout the district show a decline. The bespoke branch continues quiet.

Building Trades .- With a few exceptions the building trades throughout the district continue fair. Sixteen societies, with 1,992 members, report 1'2 per cent. on unemployed benefit and 2'4 per cent. as unemployed without benefit.

Dock Labour and Shipping .- The imports for the month are reported as favourable, and dock and quayside labour has continued fairly well employed. Seamen report no change.

Printing and kindred Trades .- The letterpress printers report employment as improved, with no unemployed; the lithographic printers as still quiet ; the bookbinders as fair.

Furniture and Woodworking Trades .- The cabinet-makers, upholsterers and furniture workers report employment as fair; the coachbuilders as improved.

Miscellaneous .- The wheelwrights and smiths report employment as improved; the bakers and brushmakers as slack; the gasworkers as fair. The fishing industry remains quiet.-J. Welland.

WALES.

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.-Except in the best steam coal collieries employment has fallen off. A long-standing dispute, involving nearly 1,000 workmen, has been settled, and nearly all who were unemployed have re-started work. In several collieries in Monmouthshire and West Glamorganshire colliers have not made more than 3 or 4 days per week.

Ship Repairing and Engineering. - The boiler-makers report employment as fair, with about 121 per cent. unemployed throughout the district; the shipwrights as moderate, with 15 per cent. unemployed in the ship repairing yards and none at Pembroke Docks; the shipjoiners as moderate. The engineers report employment as bad at every port in the district, 18 branches, with 2,718 members, report 178 (or 6.5 per cent.) unemployed, excluding those stopped through a dispute ; the moulders have been better employed about the seaports, but worse in the colliery and inland districts; labourers depending upon the ship repairing yards have been fairly well employed.

Building Trades .- Returns from 9 branches of the carpenters, with a membership of 1,083, show 34 (or 3'1 per cent.) unemployed. The masons, bricklayers, and plasterers report employment as moderate; the decorators and paperhangers as bad; the plumbers as fair. Builders' labourers have been well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.-The stereotypers, lithographic Steel and Iron Trades .- Reports from Blaenavon, Ebbw Vale, printers and typefounders report employment as good, the latter Cyfarthfa and Briton Ferry state that employment in the steel working full time again; the bookbinders, press and machine men trade is good; but Blaenavon and Ebbw Vale iron mills are and lithographic artists as fair; the compositors as improved. running very irregularly. Seven branches, with 2,087 members, report 2.6 per cent. as idle.

Dock Labour .- Employment at Barry, Cardiff, and Penarth has fallen off, and the coal shipments have been below the average. The import trade has been moderate. The corn porters, pitwood men, and iron and copper ore workers state they have had a very fair month. The timber trade has been dull. The dock hobblers have been slack.

Miscellaneous .- The patent fuel workers report employment as dull; the wagon-builders and repairers as fair; the compositors as moderate; the bookbinders as good.-T. Davies.

Another report from South Wales states that upwards of 2,000 workmen are still out in the South Wales coalfield in consequence of disputes with colliery proprietors.

The Tinplate Trade in South Wales and Monmouth .- Reports received with regard to the tinplate trade in South Wales and district indicate brassmoulders and pattern makers report employment as good, with fuller employment at the end of February than in the previous few idle; the tinplate workers as improved with $I\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. month, 319 mills in 88 works being reported at work at the idle; the horse-shoers as fair. Employment is good in Paisley end of February, as compared with 305 at the same works at the and Kilmarnock, fair in Greenock and Motherwell. end of January, an increase of 14 mills. Forty-six works, with Iron and Steel Trades .- Employment is good throughout the 260 mills, are reported to be fully at work; 15 works, with 92 district. mills, to be giving partial employment (59 out of 92 mills being Coal Mining .- Employment is reported as slightly improved, most at work); while 27 works, with 131 mills, are closed. The of the pits working 5 days per week, but disputes and stoppages increase in the number of mills at work is reported to be largely | have been frequent.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.) .- WALES & SCOTLAND.

owing to the acceptance by the workpeople of reductions in the piece rates of wages at a number of works. Only a small number are now on the 1874 list, the remainder working at reductions ranging from 10 to 25 per cent. Reductions of wages affecting 1,685 workpeople were reported during February. (See also pages 68 and 94.)

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

Coal Mining.—In Mid and East Lothian 20 per cent. of the miners have only worked three days per week the latter half of the month; the remainder have been fully employed. In West Lothian the majority have averaged 8 to 10 days per fortnight, but some only 7 davs.

Mineral Oil Trades .- Employment continues good in all branches. Of the workpeople employed at 25 shale mines in Mid and West Lothian, 74.2 per cent. were at mines which worked full time during the four weeks ended February 22nd. The number of men at work at these mines was 3,805, as against 3,477 in February 1895.

Engineering and Metal Trades .- Thirteen branches, with 2,907 members, report 2.5 per cent. as idle. The brassfounders, pattern makers, horse-shoers and tinsmiths and gas-meter makers report employment as good; the blacksmiths as good in Leith, fair in Edinburgh; the engineers and the range, stove and ornamental fitters as fair; the light and heavy moulders as good in the Falkirk district; the heavy moulders as fair in the Edinburgh district, and the light moulders as good.

Shipbuilding .- Employment in the ship yards in Leith shows little improvement. The boiler-makers and shipwrights, with 599 members, report 13.4 per cent. as idle.

Textile Trades .- In Mid-Lothian the carpet weavers report employment as good. In Dunfermline the linen industry continues quiet. In Hawick the woollen spinners are working short time, and weavers are often waiting for work. In the hosiery trade the hand-work departments are slack, but the machine-made departments are busy. In Galashiels some mills are running short time, and a number of workpeople are idle. In Selkirk spinners are fairly well employed, but weavers are quiet; the hosiery trade is fair; dyers are slack. In Leith the ropery workers are fully employed.

Building Trades.-The masons, bricklayers, joiners, plasterers and lathsplitters report employment as good; the plumbers as fair; the glaziers as quiet; the painters and the slaters as bad.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades .- The coopers and sawmill operatives report employment as good; the French polishers, apholsterers and cabinet makers as still dull; the coach-makers as improved. Eight branches, with 825 members, report 2.9 per cent. as unemployed.

Shipping and Dock Labour .- The sailors and firemen report employment as fair; coal porters are fairly well employed, dock labourers only moderately so.

Miscellaneous .-- The pipemakers and settmakers report employment as good; the tailors and shoemakers as improving; the skinners as fair; the bakers, saddlers, and glasscutters as quiet; the curriers as bad; general labourers are fairly busy.

7. Mallinson.

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding .- The engineers having resumed work, the shipwrights and shipjoiners report employment as exceptionally busy; the other branches are also well employed.

Engineering and Metal Trades .- The engineers report employment as good. The blacksmiths and ironmoulders report a considerable decrease in the numbers unemployed. The irondrillers, irondressers, range, stove, and ornamental fitters, spindle and flyer makers, wireweavers, scale beam makers, irongrinders,

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY-DISTRICT REPORTS.- SCOTLAND (continued | AND IRELAND.

Building Trades.-Employment is good in Glasgow, Govan, Dumbarton, and Paisley, not so good in Motherwell.

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Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- The coachmakers, woodturners, and lathers report employment as good; the cabinetmakers as improved; the upholsterers, coopers and sawmillers as dull; the woodcarvers as worse; the packing-box makers as declining.

Textile Trades.—The weaving industry is fairly busy in all branches; the power loom beamers and the dyers report employment as fairly good; the calendermen as busy; the warpers are only averaging 40 hours per week.

Clothing Trades .- The bespoke tailors report employment as improved; the clothiers' operatives as fairly good; the shoemakers as quiet ; the pump, boot and slipper makers as dull, but with none

Shipping and Dock Labour .- The sailors and firemen report employment as still slack ; the dock labourers as good ; the ship-riggers as better; the sailmakers as bad.

Printing and kindred Trades .- The letterpress printers, with 6 per cent. idle, and the lithographic printers, with 3 per cent. idle, report employment as improved ; the bookbinders, with 3 per cent. dle, as fair.

Miscellaneous .- The pottery workers report employment as fairly good on the whole; the glass and bottle makers as busy; the flint glass cutters as bad; the railway men, hackney carriage drivers and carters as good; the bakers as slack; the enginemen and firemen as good; the cranemen as improving. -A. \mathcal{F} . Hunter.

Dundee and District.

General.-Thirteen societies with 2,833 members report 8.8 per cent. as unemployed, 3.8 per cent. being on unemployed benefit.

Textile Trades .- In the jute branches spinners and manufacturers are fully employed, all looms working. Employment in the linen industry remains steady.

Coal Mining .- The slackness in the Fife coal trade continues, and short time is still the rule. The worst of the season seems to be past, and shipments showed considerable improvement towards the end of the month. Information received with regard to the number of days on which coal was hewn and wound at 28 collieries for the four weeks ending February 22nd shows an average of a little over four days per week.

Engineering and Shipbuilding .- The briskness in engine and machine making shops is still maintained, although in the marine department things are pretty much at a standstill. The engineers report employment as good; the ironmoulders as moderate; the blacksmiths as still quiet; the boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders as dull; the shipwrights as bad. These societies, with a total membership of 1,932, report 4.9 per cent. as on unemployed benefit, and 5.6 per cent. as unemployed without benefit. At Kirkcaldy engineers are well employed, and shipbuilding is brisk at Kinghorn

Building Trades .- The building trades on the whole remain fairly busy. The carpenters and joiners and painters, out of 516 members, report 6.5 per cent. as unemployed.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- Employment with cabinetmakers is still fair; carvers remain slack; upholsterers have slightly improved; sawmill and woodcutting machinemen are busy. The Montrose woodyards, which have been working only eight hours per day, are again running full time.

Printing and kindred Trades .- The letterpress printers report employment as fairly good, with 3.3 per cent. unemployed; the lithographic printers as fair; and the bookbinders as moderate.

Fishing Industry .- The herring fishing has very much improved in quantity, but prices have been low. The salmon fishing opened with fair success.

Dock and General Labour.-Employment at the docks has continued good. General labourers in the city have been moderately employed.

Miscellaneous .- The boot and shoe operatives are fairly busy Floorcloth and linoleum makers are well employed, and bleachfieldworkers fairly so.-P. Reid.

Aberdeen and District.

Quarrying .- The drillers, blockers, cranemen, settmakers and labourers report employment as good, with none idle; the monumental masons as improved; the granite-polishers as moderate. The hewers and builders are now working 51 hours a

these trades, with 1,997 members, report less than 1 per cent. as unemployed.

Fishing .-- In February the trawl boats landed 38,747 cwts., realising £21,986, and the line boats 15,656 cwt., realising £6,148, a large increase in quantity, but a decrease in value as compared with January.

March 1896.

Shipbuilding and Engineering .- The boilermakers, iron and steel shipbuilders, shipwrights, brassfounders, ironmoulders, tinplateworkers, and engineers, with 638 members, report 62, or 9'7 per cent., as unemployed. The boilermakers and shipwrights are slack; other branches are well employed.

Textile Trades .- Employment in the woollen, flax, and jute industries is reported as good; in the cotton trade as fair; with carpet weavers as bad; with rope and twine spinners and hemp dressers as good.

Clothing Trades .- The boot and shoe riveters and finishers report employment as moderate, the hand-sewn branch as good; the tailors as bad.

Printing and kindred Trades .- The letterpress printers report employment as good, but declining ; the bookbinders and machinerulers as good; the lithographic printers as fair; employment in paper mills is good.

Furniture and Woodworking Trades .- The cabinet-makers and chair-makers, sawmillers and woodcutting machinemen report employment as good; the wood-carvers and turners as fair; the upholsterers as bad.-W. Johnston.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades .- Six societies of carpenters and joiners, painters, sawyers, slaters and plumbers, with 2,399 members, report 232 (or 9.7 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 177 (or 7.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Metal Trades .- Three societies of engineers, whitesmiths and smiths, with 514 members, report 17 (or 3'3 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 11 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Clothing Trades.-Employment in the tailoring industry is reported as bad, with a large proportion idle. Employment with bootmakers is reported as good. The dressmakers and weavers are dull.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- The coachmakers and upholsterers, with 347 members, report 27 (or 7.8 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 21 (or 5.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Printing Trades .- Four societies of letterpress and lithographic printers, stereotypers and bookbinders and machine rulers, with 1,181 members, report 104 (or 8.8 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 85 (or 7.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Transport Labour .- The railway servants and coal and grain labourers report employment as good; the dock labourers as fair.

Miscellaneous.-The bakers report employment as good; the grocers' assistants as fair; the bacon curers as dull. General labourers are well employed.—J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

General .- The returns received from 57 trade and labour unions, with a membership of 18,951, show 822 (or 4.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 1,432 (or 8 o per cent. of the membership) at the end of January.

Shipbuilding and Engineering .- Of the 8,282 members of societies employed in these trades from which returns have been received, 390 (or 4.7 per cent) are reported as unemployed, as against 1,432 or 20.2 per cent. of the membership) at the end of January. The boilermakers and iron shipbuilders report employment as middling; the engineers as moderate; the general labourers and platers' helpers as improving; the brassfounders, carpenters and joiners, cranemen, enginemen, and firemen as fair; and the blacksmiths, ironfounders, furnishing trades, patternmakers, shipwrights, machine workers and drillers as good

Linen Trades .- Of the 4,149 members of societies in these industries, 145 (or 3.5 per cent.) are unemployed, as against 3.4 per cent. of the membership at the end of January. The flaxroughers report employment as bad; the flaxdressers as fair; the power loom tenters and yarndressers as improving; and the beetlers, hackle and gillmakers, linen-lappers, women workers, and spindle and flyer makers as good.

Building Trades.-Employment is fairly good. Nine branches of Clothing Trades.-Of 705 members engaged in these trades only

nine are said to be out of work. The boot and shoe operatives report employment as dull, and the tailors as improving.

IT has been thought desirable to collect together in a Building Trades .- Of the 2,684 members of unions in these trades who have supplied returns, 148 (or 5.5 per cent.) are reported as convenient table in the LABOUR GAZETTE from time to time a few of the principal ascertained average prices unemployed, as against 329 (or 12.1 per cent. of the membership) at of coal, iron, &c., in various districts, on which to a the end of January. The painters report employment as dull; the hodsmen and labourers and plasterers as fair; the carpenters and great extent changes in wages in these industries joiners as quiet ; and the plumbers and millsawyers and machinedepend. The prices stated are not market quotations men as good. at a given time, but averages determined over a given Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- Of the 697 union members period. In the case of the coal trade in South Wales, connected with these trades 36 (or 5.2 per cent.) are reported as unand the Midland and North of England manufactured employed, as against 60 (or 10'1 per cent. of the membership) at iron trade, the price is ascertained every two months the end of January. The upholsterers report employment as dull; from employers' books by accountants appointed by the the coachbuilders as improving; the French-polishers, brushemployers and men. It applies to the sales of the makers and cabinet-makers as fair; and the packing-case makers previous two months, and is used to adjust wages for as good. the next two months under sliding scales. In the Printing and Allied Trades .- Of the 828 members of unions in Northumberland coal trade the ascertainment is these industries 33 (or 4 per cent.) are unemployed, as against 45 similarly made by accountants every three months, (or 5'4 per cent. of the membership) at the end of January. The though no sliding scale is in operation. The figure for letterpress printers report employment as dull; the lithographic the Cumberland and district pig iron trade is the printers, bookbinders and machine-rulers as good. average selling price for three months of Cumberland Miscellaneous.-In this group of 9 societies, with a membership of pig iron in the Glasgow market, by which wages are governed under the sliding scale. The figure for Cleveland is the average price of No. 3 Cleveland pig iron for three months as ascertained, by accountants, from the books of eight selected firms, for the purpose of the engine drivers as good.-R. Sheldon. sliding scale.

1,696, 61 (or 3.6 per cent.) are out of work, as against 71 (or 4.2 per cent. of the membership) at the end of January. The sailmakers report employment as bad; the carters as quiet; the bakers, butchers, tinplate-workers and paviors as fair; the locomotive

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering .- The boilermakers' report employment as slack, with 8 per cent. unemployed; the engineers as bad in Cork, with 15 per cent. unemployed, and as moderate in Limerick and Waterford, with 9.6 and 3.8 per cent. unemployed respectively ; the ironmoulders as good ; the shipwrights, shipjoiners, riggers and sailmakers as bad throughout the district.

Building Trades .- Employment generally is fair in these trades throughout the district, except with the carpenters, who have 6 per cent. unemployed.

Printing and kindred Trades.-The letterpress printers, lithographers, and bookbinders report employment as steady. Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- The millsawyers and wood-

cutting machinists and cabinet-makers report employment as steady; the coachmakers and waggon-builders as dull ; the coopers as fair.

Miscellaneous .- The tailors and boot and shoe operatives report employment as dull; the feather and tweed operatives as good; the bacon curers as steady. Salmon fishing has been bad.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS. THE following table, compiled from information furnished by the Home Office, shows the number of cases of poisoning and anthrax reported to the Factory Department* as having occurred in factories or workshops during the month ended 29th February 1896, together with the totals for the previous month

	C. Sala Carlos		COLUMN .	F			ieii		
Diseases.	A	dults.		oung rsons.	Chi	ldıen	Total.	Total for	GERMAN INSURANCE IN 1895. Preliminary Figures for Accident, Old Age and Invalidity Insurance.*
Males. Females. Males Females. Males. Fe		Females		previous Month.	PROVISIONAL figures relating to the year 1805 more 1. In				
Lead poisoning	30	17	2	4 •	-	-	63	38	before the <i>Reichstag</i> on February 22nd, some of which are here given, in continuation of those which appeared
Phosphorus poisoning	-		-	-	$r \rightarrow q$	-	-	-	in last month's GAZETTE (page 50) :
Arsenical poisoning	I	-	-	-	_	-	1	1.1 <u>11</u> 200	I. ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
Anthrax	5		-	_	_	-	5	1	1892 1893 1894 1895
Total	36	17	2	4	-		59		
Total for pre- vious Month	22	17		1 - 1018	-	_	-	39	Fresh Accidents reported; No. No. No. No. " " entailing compensation 236,265 264,130 282,982 309,468 " " " which proved fatal 55,654 62,729 69,619 75,954
Statistics	of C	oal Proc	iuctio	n and C	onsum	ption	-A sta	atement	",",",",",",",",",",",",",",",",",",",

showing the production and consumption of coal in the principal countries of the world in each of the years 1883-94, has recently been published by the Board of Trade.⁺ The previous issue of this return for the years 1883-93 was noticed in detail in the LABOUR GAZETTE of February 1895, page 49. New features in the present report are tables showing for each country the amount of con-sumption of British coal, of coal the produce of other countries, and of coal produced in the country; and tables giving details of the pro-duction and consumption of coal in the principal British Colonies and in British East India. Of the colonies dealt with, New South Wales and Natal are the only two in which the exports of coal exceed the imports. Canada and New South Wales are the colonies con-suming the greatest amount of coal per head of population. * Under Section 29 of Factory and Wor shop Act of 1895. and consumption of coal in the principal The total amount spent in 1895 in compensation for accidents was £2,508,604, compared with £2,214,087 in 1894. 2. Old Age and Invalidity Insurance. The total number of persons in receipt of pensions in 1895 was as follows: - 217,600 for old age and 130,900 for invalidity. As, however, 800 pensions are counted under both of the above heads, the nett number of annuitants was 347,700, to whom a total sum of £2,105,000 was paid, compared with £1,732,381 in 1894. * Under Section 29 of Factory and Wor, shop Act of 1895. † Parliamentary Paper 462.—Sess. 2. – 1895. Price 5d.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

P. O'Shea

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

	Product and	Period over which prices	Dates from which last	Num- ber of work-	1	ascertaine price	ed selling
	District.	were ascer- tained at last audit.	audit affects wages.		According to last audit in	For previous period in 1895.	Accord- ing to last audit in 1894.
	Coa'. Northumberland : (Per ton at pit's mouth average for all classes of coal) South Wales and Monmouth : (Per ton f.o.b	Sep., Oct., Nov.	Jan. 1896	30,000	s. d. 5 5'07	s. d. 5 6 [.] 44	s. d. 6 5'63;
	average for cer- tain classes of coal) Iron. North of England : (Manufactured iron, rails, plates, bars and angles.	Nov.,Dec.	Feb.1,1896	100,000	$\begin{cases} 9 & 1\frac{3}{4} \\ to \\ 9 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$	9 $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 5	$ \begin{array}{cccc} 10 & 1\frac{3}{4} \\ to \\ 10 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{array} $
6		Nov.,Dcc.	Feb. 1896	6,000	96 3.69	94 11.71	96 10'0 9
	strips), per ton Cumberland and N. Lancashire :			20,000	115 3.08	112 7.26	14 4.1
	(Pig iron), per ton Cleveland :	Dec.		1,600	48 0'4	46 10	43 4
	(Pig iron), per ton	Dec,	an.1,1896	4,000	36 5.06	35 1.21	35 4 ° 93

* White Book No. 158. Reichstag, 9 Legislatur-Periode, IV. Session, 1895 96. + *i.e.*, persons reported as having sustained accidents.

LABOUR IN CONNECTICUT.

THE eleventh annual report of the Connecticut Bureau of Labour Statistics deals with poor relief, building and loan associations, condition of manufactures, strikes and lock-outs, manual training, and laws relating to labour, concluding with the first annual report of the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration.

Poor Law.-The section dealing with poor law gives the results of a special inquiry as to the number of persons assisted and the cost of relief in each district in each year, 1875 to 1894. The following short summary has been compiled from the figures :---

	Numb	er aided.	Expenditure.		
	1892.	1894.	1892.	1894.	
In Institutions Outside (Rent) Relief (Other)	6,852 7,179	7,7 ⁸ 7 9,942 {	£ 122,352 6,514 61,104	£ 121,962 8,297 76,952	
Total	14,031	17,729	189,970	207,211	

The number relieved in 1894 was 2.38 per cent. of the population, and the cost amounted to 5s. 6¹/₂d. per head of the population. The report calls attention to the corruption arising from the grant of relief in the shape of the payment of rent and recommends its abolition. As an example of the abuses arising under the system of out-relief it is mentioned that a coal dealer who delivered by mistake two tons of coal to a person in receipt of relief, instead of one ton as prescribed on the order, and afterwards called to remove the extra ton, was informed that it might remain, and it was paid for on the spot. Attention is also called to the great variations in the proportionate cost of relief in different districts, from 9d. in Andover to 8s. 10¹/₂d. in Naugatuck. A report is appended on the working of a plan in Detroit for the employment of the unemployed in cultivating vacant ground.

Wages and Employment.-Returns received from 1,000 establishments employing 112,002 persons on July 1st 1895, showed that during the preceding twelve months the following general wages changes had taken place:

The second se	Establish- ments.	Persons.	Average percent- age Change.
Wages reported to have been advanced (including restoration of former	139	22,814	8.2
rates) Wages reported to have been reduced Wages reported generally unchanged*	28 833	1,287 87,901	8·53
Total	1,000	112,002	-

The 1,000 establishments giving particulars also reported that on July 1st 1894 they employed 98,617, and on July 1st 1892, 115,139 persons.

Laws Relating to Labour.—Children's Labour.— Among the new laws of which the text is given is an Act dated May 9th 1895, raising the age at which children may be employed "in any mechanical, mercantile, or manufacturing establishment," from 13 to 14. Mediation and Arbitration.—The text of an Act is also

given, dated June 28th 1895, creating a State Board of Mediation and Arbitration. The Board is to consist of three members; one selected from each of the two chief political parties, and a member of a bona fide labour organisation of the State. The members are to be appointed by the Governor with consent of the Senate, and to hold office for two years. When the parties to a dispute submit it directly to the Board for settlement, promising to continue at work without a strike or lock-out until the dispute is decided by the Board, it is the duty of the Board to inquire into the case (with

* In some cases partial changes affecting part of those employed were reported, but these are ignored in the report.

power to administer oaths, subpœna witnesses, and call for papers), and within ten days to give a decision. Moreover, if it "come to the knowledge*" of the Board that a dispute is in existence or is threatened, it is their

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duty to go to the locality, communicate with the parties, and "endeavour by mediation to effect an amicable settlement," and, if they think fit, they may inquire into the cause of the dispute, for which purpose they have powers to subpœna witnesses and to call for papers.

The first report of the new Board covers only a few months (up to September 30th). On September 19th, having been notified of a wages dispute between iron-moulders and a company in New Britain, the Board met and offered its good offices, the result being a meeting between the parties and an amicable settlement.

MINING STATISTICS FOR 1894.[†]

THE Home Office issues thirteen separate reports for the various Mining Inspectors' districts besides certain mineral statistics, but hitherto there has been no general report bringing together the principal facts recorded in these volumes. This want has now been supplied, in accordance with the recommendation of a Departmental Committee. The first report, prepared by Dr. C. Le Neve Foster, has just been published, and relates to the year 1894. The tables contained in the report are accompanied by maps and diagrams, illustrating the distribution of the various minerals and the amount of production, etc., in a series of consecutive years. It also contains a section dealing with the mineral statistics of foreign countries. The following notice refers chiefly to coal mines, and deals especially with accidents.

Coal Production

For the purposes of the report the coal mining districts are divided into 9 coalfields. The following table has been put together with a view of showing the relative importance of these coalfields in 1894.

Coalfields.	No. of	Perso	ns emplo	yed.	Quantity of coal raised in	Quantity of mineral‡ raised per person below ground.	
Coameids.	Mines	Under ground.	On surface.	Total.	thousands of tons.		
A CARACTER AND A CARACTER		- 12			1,000 tons.	Tons.	
Scotland	525	73,257	15,363	88,620	21,481	304	
Northumberland and Durham	381	106,037	30,261	136,298	42,098	402	
Yorks, (W. Riding), Derby and Notts	664	126,171	31,363	157,534	41,737	324	
Lancashire and Cheshire	463	72,207	15,848	88,055	23,908	333	
Midlands	547	48,376	15,425	63,801	18,252	400	
Small detached (English) Coalfields	141	16,551	4,114	20,665	4,120	252	
North Wales	68	10,382	2,254	12,636	3,151	310	
South Wales and Mon- mouth	537	106,139	18,394	124,533	33,418	317	
Ireland	21	704	244	948	113	168	
Totals	3,347	559,824	133,266	693,090	188,278	342	

Fatal Accidents in Coal Mines.

During 1894, 1,107 deaths were reported as due to accidents in coal mines. The following table shows the distribution of these accidents amongst the 9 coalfields, together with the corresponding death rates.

Coalfields.	No. of	Deaths.	Death R accidents persons e	No. of deaths per million tons of	
	Below ground.	Above ground.	Below ground.	Above ground.	mineral‡ raised.
Cootland	121 126 92	18 19 18 8 13	1.283 1.141 .999 1.274 1.406	1.172 .628 .574 .505 .843	5.025 3.286 3.413 4.160 4.185
Small detached (English) (Gal- fields North Wales South Wales and Monmouth Ireland	23 457	5 3 25	1'027 2'215 4'306	1.311 1.320 —	5 ²⁸³ 8 ⁰⁷⁴ 14 ³¹²
Totals	. 998	109	1.783	.818	5.776

The Board has interpreted the term "knowledge" as "a notification from Annual General Report upon the Mineral Industry of the United Kingdom. C-7953-price 38, 4d.
 This quantity includes some ironstone, fire - clay, etc., produced in coal mines.

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The number of deaths from explosions in the South Wales coalfield, which amounted to 295, was exceptionally high, the deaths from this cause in all other coalfields amounting only to 21. In the following table the proportion of deaths due to various classes of accidents is given for each coalfield. It is noticeable that, except in South Wales and Monmouth, falls in the mine account for about half the deaths of the year. Although the detailed figures for 1895 are not yet compiled, the percentages for the whole kingdom for that year are added for purposes of comparison.

Table showing for the year 1894 the proportion per cent. of deaths in each coalfield due to the undermentioned causes :-

		Accidents underground.						
Co a lfields.	Explos'ns of fire damp or coal dust.	Falls in mines.	Acci- dents in shafts.	Other acci- dents below ground.	Total.	Acci- dents above ground.		
Scotland Northumberland & Durham Yorks (W. Riding), ZB* Derby and Notts Lancashire and Cheshire	4.5 2.2 2 I I.0	49 '1 46'4 59'7 65'0	17.0 5.7 7.6	13'4 32'1 18'1 15'0	84.0 86.4 87.5 92.0	16.1 13.6 12.5 8.0		
Midlands		44'4 50'0	12'3 9'1	16·1 18·2	83'9 77 ' 3	16'1 22'7		
North Wales SouthWales and Monmouth Ireland	61.2	50°0 21°4	7 .7 2.9	30.8 9.3 —	88.5 94.8 —	11'5 5'2 —		
General Average	28.5	39'2	7.0	15'4	90 I	9'9		
Average for 1895*	5'3	40'5	9'4	33'3	88.5	11.2		

Comparing the years 1894 and 1895 together, it will be noticed that there was a large falling off in the number of deaths due to explosions in the latter year. Indeed, the total number in 1895 amounted only to 55, a figure smaller than that recorded in any previous year, with the exception of 1888 and 1891, when the numbers were 49 and 51 respectively. This number varies considerably from year to year, the highest recorded being 651 in 1866.

The table below shows for successive periods of five years the average death rate from accidents of various classes per thousand persons employed in and about mines in the United Kingdom. In this table coal mines only are included for the years 1851 to 1860, but stratified ironstone mines are also included for the years 1861 to 1872, and for years subsequent to that date all mines are included. By far the greater proportion of fatal accidents, however, occur in coal mines, because, comparatively speaking, so few persons are employed in other kinds of mining in this country.

Table giving for each quinquennial period since 1851 particulars of the average death rate due to accidents of various kinds in mines :---

guilding		Deat	th rate from	accidents pe	r 1,000 perso:	ns.
Period.	E	Employe				
		Explosions of fire damp or coal dust.	Falls of ground.	Accidents in shafts.	Other accidents below ground.	above ground
1851-1855 1856-1860 1861-1865 1866-1870 1871-1875 1876-1880 1881-1885 1886-1890 1891-1894 ⁺		1'280 1'234 '618 1'158 '516 '811 '408 '312 '281	2'816 1'846 1 714 1'578 1'210 1'132 1'108 1'015 '806	1*296 *899 *668 *528 *437 *317 *263 *196 *194	556 648 790 730 572 449 532 517 434	1'012 '994 1'105 1'256 '899 '847 '848 '913 '814

It will be noticed that for two of these classes of accidents, viz., those caused by falls in the ground, and those taking place in shafts, the death rate has grown steadily less for each successive quinquennial period. The deaths from explosions, though subject to some fluctuations, also show on the whole a distinct tendency to decrease.

* Calculated from figures in an advance proof, subject to corrections. + Four years only.

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trolled by the workers.

The manufacturers refrained from expressing the views on these demands, which were, however, rejecte by the contractors or middlemen. A general strik began in Berlin on February 10th, after the workers' committee had offered to submit the case to the Industrial Court, and various unsuccessful efforts had been made by private individuals to effect a settlement. On the same day strikes were declared in Dresden, Erfurt, Halle, and Hamburg, and afterwards in Breslau, Stettin, and elsewhere. From 20,000 to 30,000 persons, almost wholly women, were affected in Berlin alone.

After preliminary conferences on February 12th before the Berlin Industrial Court, a compromise was arranged on February 19th by a Board of Conciliation representing manufacturers and contractors in the men's and children's clothing branch and the workers' committee. The manufacturers agreed to pay an increase of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and to fix a list of minimum rates under which each of the various articles of clothing should not be given out either to contractors or workers. The contractors agreed to pay the workers the full amount of the increase. Manufacturers agreed not to deal with contractors who violated the above conditions and vice rersa. The Conciliation Board was further to arrange a special minimum price list, either by conciliation or arbitration, and also for a committee for settling disputes arising therefrom, reforming the manner of giving out and taking back work and other matters. Wages were to be paid weekly and strikers to be re-admitted to work. The workers' demand for the erection of workshops was withdrawn.

On the same day an arrangement was come to outside the Industrial Court between representatives of the workers, manufacturers and contractors in the women's clothing branch in Berlin. Increases of 30, 20, 15 and 10 per cent. were to be given according as the rates of wages hitherto paid were 1s. 9d. or less, 4s. and over 1s. 9d., 8s. and over 4s., or more than 8s. respectively; both the contractors and the workers were to benefit by this increase. No contractor may work for a manufacturer not fulfilling these conditions and vice versâ. No contractor may employ a worker at lower rates and no worker may work for a contractor evading the above conditions. A committe of 15, consisting of equal numbers of manufacturers, contractors and workers is to be appointed for the settlement of future disputes, and no strikers are to be refused re-employment. The demand of the workers in this branch for the fixing of a minimum price list was met by the threat of a general lock-out. The above terms of settlement were accepted at a majority of meetings of workpeople held in Berlin. Partial concessions were, in the meantime, being

THE GREAT STRIKE IN THE TAILORING TRADE IN GERMANY.

IN January 1895, at a conference of workers in the tailoring trade held at Berlin, a list of demands was drawn up which formed the basis of an agitation lasting throughout the year. On January 21st 1896 the demands were laid before the employers in the chief

(1) Recognition of price lists; (2) erection of suitable workshops (3) appointment of a committee consisting of equal numbers of representatives of employers and workers for the settlement of disputes; (4 considerate treatment of workpeople by employers; (5) no delay in delivering or receiving the work, and compensation at the rate . 4.8d. per hour after the first hour of waiting; (6) payment of wages at least once a week; and (7) recognition of labour registries con-

obtained by workers on strike in the other centres of the tailoring trade in Germany. The organ of the Federation of German Tailors (Fachzeitung fur Schneider) of February 29th, reported the number of workers still on strike in Hamburg as 132, in Halle the dispute had ended with the concession of 15 per cent. increase in wages. In Dresden, increases of wages varying from to to 20 per cent. had been granted in the men's clothing branch and the strike declared at an end at all but one

* These particulars are mainly based on articles in "Soziale Praxis," by two persons concerned in the conciliation proceedings, before the Berlin Industrial Court.

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of the establishments of this branch. The dispute, however, continued in the women's clothing branch. On March 7th, the principal centre of the dispute was Stettin, where a combination had been formed by 26 out of 29 large manufacturing firms with the object of instituting a general lock-out.

STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS IN 1894.* Seventh Report of the Chief Labour Correspondent.

THE report on the strikes and lockouts of 1894 by the chief labour correspondent has been issued. Certain preliminary information on this subject was published in the LABOUR GAZETTE for May 1895 (page 144). The figures then published were, however, subject to revision in the light of later and more complete information.

Altogether 1,061 disputes were brought to the notice of the Department in 1894, compared with 782 in 1893. The number of persons affected, however, shows a great reduction, being only 324,245, as against 636,386 in the previous year, in which the great dispute in the coal trade took place.

Of the 1,061 disputes, 564 were due to wages questions of various kinds. The percentage of persons engaged in such wages disputes was 72'4, as against 89'2 in the previous year. The percentage of the persons engaged in wages disputes who achieved entire success in 1894

was only 13'3, as against 66'3 in 1893. Of those engaged in wages disputes 49'8 per cent. demanded an advance, and 46.5 per cent. resisted a reduction, the remainder being accounted for in various miscellaneous ways.

There were few disputes as to changes in hours of labour, but the number of disputes arising as to working arrangements involved 37,763 persons, as against 25,667 in 1893.

Of the workpeople involved in all the disputes of 1894, from whatever cause arising, only 22.1 per cent. (involved in 372 disputes) were successful, as against 62.9 per cent. in the previous year. 42.1 per cent. (in 389 disputes) were quite unsuccessful, and 34.2 per cent. (in 244 disputes) achieved a partial success.

The aggregate number of working days lost in the disputes of 1894 was 9,322,096, an average of 29.5 per individual concerned, as against 31,205,062, or an average of 49.7 per individual in 1893, and 17,248,376, or 49 1 per individual in 1892. Three-fourths of the time thus lost in 1894 was due to only 16 of the disputes, no less than 60 per cent. being accounted for by a single dispute in the Scottish coal trade.

The methods by which the disputes of 1894 were settled are thus shown :---

Method.	Total Disputes.	Disputes in which numbers of persons are known.	Total persons included in disputes in previous column.
Negotiation or conciliation between the	607	583	144,125
Mediation or conciliation by third partice	18	18	at the state of the state of the
A DITATION	32		8,399
Submission of workpeople	170	32 162	10,785
Replacement of hands	159	155	147,041 6,451
Closing of works		11	985
Withdrawal or disappearance of cause without agreement	13 6	6	1,323
Indefinite	56	30	5,133
Total	1,061	997	324,425

Thus 47 per cent. of the workpeople involved in the disputes dealt with in this table are included under the head of "submission" and "replacement of hands," which are the equivalents of total defeat ; while disputes involving over half the workpeople were settled by some form of arbitration, conciliation, or negotiation between the parties.

The report deals much more fully than those of previous years with the settlement of disputes by arbitration and conciliation, owing to the growing importance of this aspect of the labour question, but as an advance summary of this section appeared in the GAZETTE for October 1895 (page 305) further notice is now unnecessary.

* Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lock-outs of 1894 (C.-7901). Eyre & Spottiswood Price 28. 9d.

DIVIDENDS ON PURCHASES PAID BY CO-OPERATIVE DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES. RETURNS showing the rates of dividend paid to members on purchases have been received for the fourth quarter of 1895 from 825 co-operative distributive societies in the United Kingdom, with a total membership of 1,004,005, as compared with 494 societies, with a total membership of 808,096, making returns for the third quarter. The societies making returns are those doing the main bulk of co-operative retail trade, and the table appended may be taken as giving a fairly accurate view of the dividends paid to members by the whole of the distributive societies in the United Kingdom.

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The rates of dividend shown are those paid upon the main volume of trade. In a few cases societies paid a higher or lower dividend upon purchases from minor departments, such as butchery, drapery, &c.

With very few exceptions the societies paid a dividend to non-members at one half the rate paid to members.

Table showing the number and membersh p of Co-operative-Societies paying the undermenioned rates of dividend per $\pounds 1$ of purchases in fourth quarter of year 1895.

Rates of dividend per	Numbe	er of Socie	ties.	Members Societ making re in 4th qu	Cor- respond-	
£I of purchases.	Eng and and Wales	Scotland and Ireland.	Total	Number.	Per-	ing per- centage for 3rd quarter.
No dividend Sixpence and under Over6d but not exceeding is. , is od , , , is 6d. , 1 6 d , , 2 o , 2 0 , , 2 6 , 2 6 , , 3 0 , 3 0 , 3 6 , 3 6 , 4 0 , 4 0 , 4 0 , 5 0	11 8 28 54 117 95 147 117 50 12 1 1 1	I 2 3 3 3 3 3 5 9 48 20 14 - I	12 8 30 57 120 128 206 165 70 26 1 2	I,442 2,769 10,154 30,317 106,012 175,771 4'9,376 182,369 65,728 8,368 238 238 1,461	0'1 0'3 1'0 3'0 10'6 17'5 41'8 18'2 6'5 08 (0'2	0:2 0:0 0:6 3 2 12:2 19:9 56:7 18:3: 7:5 1:1 0 3:
Totals	641	184	825	1,004,005	100.0	100.0

The figures given in the above table show an average dividend of 2s. 7.85d. in the \pounds on purchases in the fourth quarter, and 2s. 7.39d. in the third quarter of the year.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT IN THE

YORKSHIRE PIECE DYEING TRADE. In the LABOUR GAZETTE for October 1894, p. 305, particulars were given of an agreement entered intofor one year between certain employers and two trade unions, which provided for the exclusive employment of members of the unions, and established a list of minimum prices, a sliding scale for wages and a wages board. Negotiations have been going on for several months with a view to the establishment of a modified agreement, which has now been arrived at. The principal changes in the agreement are (1) The abolition of the list of minimum prices and the sliding scale machinery, the new agreement only providing for standard lists of time rates of wages for (i.) Bradford, (ii.) Leeds and Halifax, (iii.) country districts. A firm paying less than these rates can, as under the old agreement, be required to give an advance, unless it. can show that its net profits have been less than 5 per cent. on turnover for the three preceding years, or that the advance would reduce the profits to less than 5 per cent. Further, no advance can be demanded from an employer under the new agreement "unless 75 per cent. of the trade in the same classification of wage districts are paying the wages demanded."

(2) The second change of importance is the arrangement by which fines may be levied. Employers starting men contrary to the terms of the agreement, or the men's societies, in the case of a man leaving his work. without the permission of his employer or of the wages board, will be fined $\pounds I$ for every man so started or leaving work. In general, any person failing to carry out the decisions of the wages board can be fined an amount to be fixed by the board. The sum of \pounds loo-is deposited by each side to the agreement, for the purpose of enabling these fines to be enforced.

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Among other new clauses, one may be mentioned forbidding the workmen's societies to enrol men not engaged in the trade without the consent of the wages board, and another providing that a workman employed (as an improver) at a lower rate than the standard rate, when put on to a better job, shall during the first six months have his wages raised by one-half the difference between his former wages and the standard rate, and have them raised to the standard rate within one year.

WAGES AND HOURS ON GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS IN HOLLAND IN 1894.* A REPORT on wages and hours of persons employed on Government contracts in Holland in 1894 has been issued by the Central Statistical Commission at the Hague. The statistics are based on quarterly returns from Government engineers and architects as to the numbers, wages and hours of labour of workers of different trades employed by Government contractors. Works carried out under a sub-contract, or under the piece or task-work systems, have been excluded from the statistics. Dredging works are dealt with separately, owing to the difference of conditions under which they are carried out.

The following is a statement of the average hourly rates of wages of the classes of workers most frequently employed on Government contracts, other than dredging works, during 1894, showing for each trade the number of "cases" + of employment on which the average is based --

Classes of Workers. (Adult Males.)	Average rates of hourly wages.	ploymen	No. of "cases" + of em- ployment on which average is based. 12:340 5:477 4:163 2:050 1:757 1:750 1:757 1:516 1:457 2:453		
Day Labourers Navvies, &c Porters Shipwrights Bankmakers (with wattles and mud) Repairers Stonecutters and basalt workers Turners, planers, workers at a bench, and ironworkers	d. 226 228 370 376 377 372 372 375 375 378 41				
The average rates of wages for tions are shown by the following	men employed statement :—	l in dredg	ging opera		
	Average Ra	ites of Wag engaged by	ges of Men		
Classes of Workers.	The hour.	The day.	The week.		
Stokers	2'9 n <u>-</u> <u>3'6</u>	2 7 2 10	17 7 17 8 18 8		
Engine Drivers, &c Foremen of various sorts Captains and men in charge of works The following table gives parti	3'0 4'3 4'0	2 9 3 6 2 10 5 4 he workin 1894 :—	24 2 24 8 25 0		
Engine Drivers, &c Foremen of various sorts Captains and men in charge of works	3'0 4'3 4'0	3 6 2 10 5 4 he workin 1894 :	24 2 24 8 25 0 ag hours o		
Engine Drivers, &c Foremen of various sorts Captains and men in charge of works The following table gives parti persons employed on Governmen	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	3 6 2 10 5 4 he workin 1894 :	24 2 24 8 25 0 ag hours o		
Engine Drivers, &c Foremen of various sorts Captains and men in charge of works The following table gives parti persons employed on Governmen Length of Working Day (Nett).	3'0 4'3 4'0 iculars as to t t contracts in 2 No. of "case working hou Dredging Worl	3 6 2 10 5 4 the workin 1894 :	24 2 24 8 25 0 ng hours o oyment at in Col I. er Works.		

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, and news-papers, &c., mostly dated January and February last.)

Canada.—This is the best season of the year for farm hands to prepare to go to Canada. A report from Winnipeg in Manitoba states that there is a fair demand in summer only for men in the building trades and for workers in stone; there is no demand in the metal trades except for tinsmiths; a fair demand for men in the furniture

* Bijdragen tot de statistiek van Nederland. Uitgegeven door de Centrale Commissie voor de statistiek. III. Overzicht, betreifende de Loonen en den Arbeidsduur bij Rijkswerken in 1894. The Hague, Van Weelden en Mingelen. + Every person returned as employed at a special rate of wages during the whole or part of a month is counted as a "case" of employment at that rate; so that, if a man had been employed continuously during the whole twelve months, receiving the same rate of wages during the whole of each month, this would count as *twelve* "cases" (opgaven).

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New South Wales. - The coal trade at some of the collieries south of Sydney is doing fairly well, but a number of men have been unable to obtain employment, some of whom have left for Western Australia. The amount of coal exported from these collieries in 1895 was more than that exported in 1894. There is still a considerable amount of unemployed labour in the colony. Five hundred navvies have been given work altering the curves of one of the lines of railway at a wage of 6s. a day. The applications for homesteads under the Act of last year are very numerous.

Victoria.--The development of coal mining in Victoria continues, and the mines now employ between 700 and 800 miners; the output in 1895 was 194,000 tons, being 22,500 tons more than in 1894. The gold mining also showed considerable advance in 1895, the yield in that year being nearly 20,000 ounces more than the yield in 1894; 30,000 miners are now employed, being 2,000 more than in 1894, and 6,500 more than in 1892. In spite, however, of the increased yields of coal and gold here is no demand for more labour from outside. South Australia.- The building trade showed a

and prospects for 1896 are also encouraging. Western Australia.-Some Italians are being settled in the south-west of the colony by a private colonization company; they will give special attention to the pro-duction of grapes, silk and grain. Western Australia has during the last year made a very remarkable advance in trade, revenue and population, and miners and others from all parts continue to arrive in large numbers. Miners are in good demand at Coolgardie, but there is

no opening for female servants, &c.

Tasmania.-The mining industry was busy during the last guarter of 1895, and the outputs of gold, silver, and coal were in each case greater than in the corresponding quarter of 1894; but the output of tin shows a slight decrease. There were also many more miners employed in 1895 than in 1894.

New Zealand.-At the beginning of this year the building trades were busy in most of the large towns and in nearly all parts of the Colony. The engineering, boot, clothing, and retail trades were doing well everywhere with few exceptions, and unskilled labourers were busy at road-making, bush-felling, and shearing. At Christchurch and Auckland especially and in the neighbouring districts employment had been increasing and was then brisk in most trades. Owing to the mining revival in 1895 the yield of gold in that year is estimated at 293,491 z., being 71,876 oz. more than in 1894, the increase being especially noticeable in the Auckland district.

Cape Colony .- It appears from a large number of official reports made in all parts of the Colony at the end of 1895, that during that year there was very little demand for mechanical labour, even in the larger and busier towns. At Port Elizabeth, however, though there was no opening for ordinary labourers, there was a fair demand for bricklayers, carpenters and painters, and a small one for stonecutters, engineers and plumbers. The wagon-making industries at Worcester, which a year or two ago gave considerable employment to wheel-

wrights, blacksmiths and others, are now at a standstill. The supply of carpenters and cabinet makers at Cape Town last January was more than sufficient. Consider-

trades, for tailors (hand workers), bookbinders, railway men, bakers, brewers, butchers, coopers and watchmakers ; a good demand for bootmakers (hand workers), milliners, dressmakers and general female servants; and no demand for miners, millhands or wharf labourers. There is no demand for mechanics or miners at St. John in New Brunswick, but the demand for farm hands is good. Arrivals at Battleford, N.W.T., "must be pre-At

pared to take any general work that offers." At Prince Albert, N.W.T., there is no demand, except for general female servants. A report from Toronto states, "There is a surplus of every kind of labour."

marked improvement in 1895 as compared with 1894, but there is no demand for more hands at present from this country in that or in any other trades.

Oueensland .- The iron trade decidedly improved last year, so that work was more plentiful than in 1894, able numbers of passengers from England and Australia still arrive at Cape Town every month, 2,700 having landed there in January as against 1,700 who left; many of them find it impossible to get employment. At Kimberley there are "few, if any, vacancies for mechanics or miners." Recruiting in England for the Cape Mounted Rifles has just been suspended.

Natal.—The railway returns for 1895 show a considerable increase of traffic as compared with those for 1894.

LABOUR ABROAD. FRANCE.*

State Grants for Old Age Pensions .- A scheme has been proposed by the Government for providing State contributions to Old Age and Invalidity Pensions granted under certain circumstances by Departments and Communes. From January 1897 the State will contribute f_{112S} , per annum towards every pension of from f_{416S} . to $\pounds 8$ granted by the Department or Commune, or by the two jointly, to any destitute person of French nationality incapable of earning a livelihood, and either aged 70 or upwards, or suffering from an incurable disease, provided that the number of pensions to which the State contribute shall not exceed in any Department 2 per 1,000 of population. For the first year the Government estimate the cost at \pounds 24,000, representing a contribution to

pensions for 15,000 old people. Census of Occupations.—The French Quinquennial Census will take place on March 29th. The schedules used will be divided into two parts, one of which refers to occupations. The questions as to occupation have been made more exact than formerly. Employers and employed are asked to specify the names and addresses of the firms to which they belong, or for which they work, respectively. These schedules will be examined by the Office du Travail.

GERMANY.

Labour Disputes .- An account of the great dispute in the readymade clothing trade in Germany will be found on page 81. According to the Correspondenzhlatt der General-Kommission der Gewerkschaften Deutschlands, 700 textile operatives in Cottbus went on strike on February 20th owing to the refusal of their demands for a working day of 11 hours, with a mid-day interval of an hour and a half, and the abolition of night work and Sunday work. By the 22nd of February the number of operatives on strike had largely risen, when the employers locked out a large number of other operatives. In Berlin a general strike of furniture polishers was begun on the 18th of February for a working week of 52 hours and wages of 27s. a week. These terms are reported to have been conceded at 180 workshops, employing 466 workers, while 170 men, belonging to 70 workshops, remained on strike.

Labour Colonies .- The following figures are based on tables published in the January and February numbers of the Arbeiter-Kolonie the monthly journal of the Deutscher Herbergsverein. + They refer to the three last months and to the whole of 1895. The figures relate to 26 labour colonies, which at the end of 1895 contained 3,179 beds. (A description of these colonies is given in the Report on "Methods and Agencies for dealing with the Unemployed." [C. 7,182, 1893] DD. 260-307.)

	a <u>n a ba</u> r an hair ainn. An h-gadharan an hair	October 1895,	November 1895.	December 1895,	Year 1895.
Number of Pe	ersons admitted	881	1,039	719	7,869
	" who left	486	472	419	7.832
" rema	ining in Colonies at end	2,170	2,723	3,024	
Causes of Lea	iving :-	2,270	4,743	3,024	3,024
To enter	Procured by Colony	79	99	67	1,039
situations	" " Colonists …	44	52	32	817
	(Expiration of 4 months' stay	4	5	34	
D:1	Bad conduct	44	36	70	254 600
Discharged	Colonist's request	245	198	70	
owing to	Unfitness for work	245 17		145	4,346
	Other courses		23	30	237
Ran away		28	31	56	. 306
Died		22	26	II	189
Died		3	2	I	14

SWITZERLAND.

Wages Movement of Railway Employees.—According to information supplied by the Swiss workmen's secretary and transmitted by Mr. Angst, H.M. Consul at Zürich,

* From information supplied by the courtesy of the Office du Travail.
 + Arbeiter-Kolonie. Dreizehnter Jahrgang. Nr. 1 and 2, Januar und Februar
 196. Schriftenniederlage der Anstalt Bethel bei Bielefeld.

on February 28th, the directors of the different railways, with the exception of the North-East, offered concessions to the employees on the wages question, but refused to discuss the question of a wages scale or of a revision of the conditions of employment. At a general meeting of employees on February 16th at Aarau, the concessions were rejected, and it was decided that if no arrangement was arrived at before February 29th, steps should be taken for organising a general strike. The whole management of the movement was then placed by the wages committees of the different railways into the hands of the central committee of the Union of the Employees of Swiss Railways, with which committee the various boards of directors had so far refused to treat.

March 1896.

According to information received through the Foreign Office from Mr. F. R. St. John, H.M. Minister at Berne, dated March 3rd, a compromise was concluded at Berne on the 1st of March at a meeting between representatives of nearly all the companies and delegates of the employed, the Chief of the Federal Railway Department presiding. The companies have conceded higher wages, averaging 25 per cent., but have refused what was known as the "pragmatic arrangement," according to which no functionary could have been dismissed except with the approval of a majority of a court of arbitration consisting of equal numbers of employers and employed.

Other Labour Disputes .- The Swiss workmen's secretary reports that a strike of quarrymen in Ticino for a working day of 10 hours in summer, 8 hours in winter, and 9 hours in spring and autumn has been settled on the basis of a 10-hours day. At Gelterkinden (Bâle) the silk ribbon weavers at a mill who struck to procure the dismissal of an unpopular manager have been successful.

BELGIUM.*

Minimum Wages on Public Contracts .- In 1895 the provincial government of East Flanders decided to confine contracts to employers paying to their workpeople the current wages of the district, such wages to be fixed annually by the local Council of Industry and Labour (see GAZETTE, November 1894, p. 350). Accordingly, during February the Ghent Council of Industry and Labour for the building trades attempted to fix a "minimum" list of wages, but the employers and workmen could not agree, and presented to the provincial government two different lists.

Two-loom Weaving at Verviers.- In response to queries addressed by the Federation of Weavers in the Vallev of la Vesdre, the local trade unions have refused to accept the new system of two-loom weaving which the employers desire to introdcce, following the example of the Yorkshire industry. In each union, however, there is a minority in favour of the new system, which is at present causing an important strike at Verviers.

Strikes in February .- Fifteen strikes, involving an aggregate of about 3,300 workpeople belonging to 16 establishments, were reported to the Office du Travail in February. Two of the strikes which terminated in February had lasted since the month of December, causing 1,120 persons, besides those on strike, to be deprived of work during that time. Eight strikes, i.e.more than half of all reported-were in the textile trades, the chief centre of agitation being Verviers. Next came the coal industry, with 5 strikes, which as regards numbers affected, were the most serious, and all but one of which ended during February. Six of the strikes arose out of demands for increased wages; 2 were against reductions of wages, I aimed at the fixing of a definite basis for calculating wages, with the right of the workers to control its application; 3 were due to differences regarding factory rules; to the dismissal of a worker, the remaining I being that of the textile operatives of Verviers, due to an attempt to introduce the two-loom system of weaving. Of 9 strikes terminated in February, 7 were unsuccessful, I successful and I partially so.

* From information supplied by the courtesy of the Office du Travail.

March 1896.

HOLLAND.

The following is based on information transmitted by Sir Horace Rumbold, H.M. Minister at the Hague, and furnished by Mr. Robinson, H.M. Consul at Amsterdam, under date of February 26th :----Employment in January and February.--The unusual

mildness of the weather has favourably affected employment in the building and cognate trades. There has been, apparently, no unusual distress among the labouring population, but the charitable organisations of Amsterdam are all said to be in want of funds. The Amsterdam Committee for providing work (see January GAZETTE, page 22), in spite of great exertions, appears not to meet with the approbation and support of the community at large, general opinion being apparently opposed to the principle adopted.

Labour Disputes.—The only strike of any importance has been one in a branch of the diamond industry, in which the operatives are dissatisfied with the newly established price list (see November GAZETTE, page 341). Employers are disposed to partial concession, but declare that the state of the market renders it quite impossible to go further.

Amsterdam Municipal Poor Relief in January.-The figures relating to poor relief published in the Monthly Statistical Bulletin of the municipality for January* show that 2,026 persons received outdoor relief in Amsterdam in that month, compared with 2,488 in the corresponding month in 1895. The number in the municipal poor-house and orphanages at the end of the month was 1,431, as compared with 1,426 for the previous month.

AUSTRIA.

Strike of Silesian and Moravian Colliers .- On March 5th the Handelsmuseum reported the outbreak of a strike of colliers in the Ostrau-Karwin coalfields, originating in the following demands made by the Karwin miners :--(1) Weekly payment of wages instead of monthly. (2) Increase of 25 per cent. in wages. (3) Revocation of recent notices of dismissals, cessation of arbitrary dismissals and discharge of two officials. No demands have been formulated by the Ostrau miners, who are said to have struck out of sympathy with those of Karwin. Over 20,000 miners were said to be on strike. On March 2nd a motion of urgency for the consideration of a bill for regulating the payment of miners' wages was introduced in the Reichsrath, and a report on the subject was ordered to be made within 48 hours. On March 5th, according to the Arbeiterzeitung, the strike extended to the mines supplying one of the chief ironworks in the district-at Witkowitz.

Statistics of Trade Unions, 1895 .- According to statistics collected by the Central Organisation of Workers' Associations (Gewerkschaften) in Austria, and published in its monthly organ, Die Gewerkschaft, there were 750 trade unions in Austria in 1895, the total membership of 730 of these being 88,816 on December 31st, 1895. The following table classifies these members by trades :-

Groups of Industries.	No. of Members of Trade Unions.	Groups of Industries (cont.).	No. of Members of Trade Unions.
Printing and Allied Trades Railway and Transport Services Metal Working Mining and Smelting Woodworking and Carving Stone and Earth Working Paper and Leather Trades	8,258 17,851 14,867 7,710 6,673 7,591 2,070 6,265	Clothing Trades Building Trades Chemical Trades Preparation of Food, &c. Commerce Other Industries Total	6,614 3,251 281 3,319 719 3,347 88,816

ITALY.

Co-operative Labour Societies in the Building Trades. +-An exhaustive inquiry into co-operation in Italy in 1894 has been undertaken by the Italian Government, the results of which are being published by the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce in Rome, in a series of volumes, each dealing with a special branch of co-operation. A volume which has just appeared deals with co-operative labour societies, consisting of daylabourers, masons, bricklavers, and others employed in building.

The growth of these societies has been specially favoured by an increase in building speculation and in the number of works undertaken by public authorities. This increased activity in the building

* Statistisch Maandbericht der Gemeente Amsterdam, 2e Jaargang, No 1. † Statistica delle Societá Cooperative. Societá Cooperative di Lavoro fra Braccianti, Muratori ed Affini, al 31 Dicembre 1894. Rome: Libreria Bccca price 1 lira (about 10d.).

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trades has led to the formation of a special class of workers recruited from the land, but unwilling to resume their old mode of life once they had experienced a change, while debarred from employment as urban operatives owing to their want of the necessary training. When the building activity was at its height, societies were formed by these workers for the purpose of undertaking contracts on their own account. Their growth was further stimulated by the Law of July 11th

1889, under which co-operative labour societies, if legally con-stituted, might obtain public contracts by limited auction or private treaty, without furnishing the usual security, if the contract did not exceed the value of $f_{4,000}$, and provided the value of labour formed the chief part of the total value of the contract. The report states that many contractors, with a view to profiting by these facilities, have secretly promoted and assumed the direction of labour societies, which were co-operative in name only, and in which the men were prevailed upon to content themselves with wages, while the director took the profits.

The following is a statement of the number of legally recognised co-operative labour societies existing in the building trades, the number of societies to which public contracts were given, and the number and value of such contracts in each year from 1889 to 1894.

ear.	Number of legally recognised Societies returned	No. of Societies which obtained	Number and Value of such Contracts.				
(1)	as existing at the end of the year. (2)	public contracts.	Numbe r .	Value. (5)			
1889 1890 1891 1892 1893 1894	64 217 335 396 475 522	14 63 48 58 69 59	27 155 117 101 163 126	£ 18,243 144,882 65,415 68,739 91,153 58,779			

The number of societies stated in col. 2 is said to be in excess of the actual number, as the source from which the figures are obtained does not record dissolutions which take place (as frequently happens) before the date fixed by the societies' rules. The number of societies actually existing at the end of 1894 is estimated to have been about 400.

Co-operation in 1895.—According to Credito e Cooperazione of February 15th, the number of fresh co-operative societies formed in Italy in 1895 was 340. Of these, 127 (including Ioz rural credit societies) were formed in the province of Venice, 52 in Lombardy, 46 in Piedmont, and 28 in Tuscany.

Of the 340 new societies, 166 were rural credit associations, with unlimited liability; 23 were people's banks or loan societies, with limited liability; 59 were co-operative supply associations; 33 societies of day-labourers, navvies, masons, bricklayers, &c.; 33 societies for production ; the remaining 26 being formed for various other purposes. During the same year 51 co-operative societies ceased to exist.

RUSSIA.

The Effect of Reduced Hours of Labour.-According to Soziale Praxis, the "Society for promoting Industry and Trade in Russia" has addressed questions to a number of employers, large and small, asking for their views on the subject of a legal restriction of working hours, and many of them have declared themselves favourable to such regulation, among them Dr. Stulchinsky, the manager of the paper mill at Dobrush in the province of Moghilev, where an experimental reduction of the working hours from 12 to 8 was made in May 1894 (see GAZETTE of September 1895, page 276).

The following is an extract from Dr. Stulchinsky's letter with regard to the working of this experiment during the past year and a-half :--- "I have been managing Prince Paskievitch's mill for 20 years. The nature of the business requires that the work be carried on day and night. Up to May 1894 the length of the shifts was 12 hours. Eighteen months ago I determined to try and reduce the hours of those working by the day to 9, and of those employed on shifts to 8. Instead of increased drinking by the workmen, the result has been that the only drink-shop in the place has had to give up business, its place being taken by a tea-shop, where only moderate quantities of spirits can be obtained. 'Saint Monday' is almost a thing of the past. The older people, as a rule, employ their leisure time in tilling their plot of land, which they formerly let on lease. The younger ones have taken to reading. An orchestral and vocal union has been established, of which 36 factory operatives are members. Between 400 and 500 operatives regularly attend lectures got up by the local priest. Such things were impossible under the old 12 hours' system; for there is only one recreation for exhausted workers, and that is spirit-drinking, which quickly stimulates their energies."

SCOTTISH MINERS' WAGES.

In addition to the reduction of the 6d. per day in the Airdrie, Slamannan and Bathgate districts, particulars of which are given in the wages table on page 94, the following reductions have been reported as having been determined at meetings held in March. Full details will be given in the next issue of the GAZETTE.

Lanarkshire and Ayrshire.-The Lanarkshire and Ayrshire coalmasters agreed to reduce the wages of the miners in their employ 6d. per day. The reduction came into operation on 9th March.

Fife and Clackmannan.-The following notice, dated 7th March, has been given by the members of the Fife and Clackmannan Coalowners' Association to their workmen.

"Fifteen days after this date the wages of miners and other underground workmen will be reduced 121 per cent. on rates current December 1888. The price of coal supplied to work-men will now be 4s. 7d. per ton at pit-head."

Other Counties.-Reductions are also reported from West Lothian, Renfrewshire and Stirlingshire.

FOREIGN TRADE FOR FEBRUARY.

Imports .- The total declared value of the imports during February was £35,476,736, or 26.1 per cent. more than the value for February 1895. The imports were greater than in any preceding February since 1891. For the first two months of the year the imports were 14 per cent. greater than last year, and also greater than for any year in the period 1891-1895.

The following table shows the declared value of the imports, grouped in large classes, for the months ended 29th February 1896 and 28th February 1895 :---

Class of Goods.	Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.	Increase.
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	£	£	£
Metals	14,296,684	10,970,1 95	3,326,489
Oils, Chemicals, Dyeing and Tanning	1,669,857	1,302,753	367,104
Substances	1,694,332	1,024,480	669,852
Raw Materials for Manufacture	10,064,219	8,626,187	1,438,032
Manufactured Articles	6,532,296	5,376,394	1,155,902
Miscellaneous	1,219,348	834,480	384,868
Totals	35,476,736	28,134,489	7,342,247

Nearly all classes of corn show increases, that of maize amounting to about 21 million cwts, the aggregate increase in value being f.1,160,712. The value of the imports of sugar increased by f.905,471. The imports of raw cotton decreased in amount by 889,031 cwts., and in value by £523,780; but the value of the imports of sheep and lamb's wool increased by £755,909. Among manufactured articles the principal increase was again in the value of silk manufactures, the increase in February amounting to $f_{318,466}$.

British and Irish Exports .- The total declared value of the exports during February was £19,683,456, or 23.2 per cent. more than the value for February 1895. They were also greater than in any preceding February since 1891. For the first two months of the year the exports were 19'3 per cent. greater than last year, and also greater than for any year in the period 1891-1895.

The following table shows the declared value of the exports, grouped in large classes, for the months ended 29th February 1806, and 28th February 1895 :---

Class of Goods.	Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.	Increase.
Articles of Food and Drink Raw Materials	£ 730,222 1,229,075 9,461,438 2,589,972	£ 598,412 1,090,528 8,060,324 1,811,973	£ 131,810 138,547 1,401,114 777.999
Machinery and Mill Work Miscellaneous	1,212,024 4,460,725	960,965 3,450,893	251,059 1,009,832
Totals	10 682 456	TE 052 005	

Among the textiles, cotton piece goods increased by $f_{776,502}$, and woollen and worsted tissues by £158,767. The exports of wrought and unwrought iron increased by $\pounds 433,331$, and of copper by £135,766 All classes of machinery and steam engines increased. Coal and patent fuel increased in amount by 416,935 tons, and in value by £ 103.654.

Re-Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.-The value of these for February was $\pounds 5,638,232$, or $\pounds 1,230,408$ more than the value for February 1805.

Tonnage of vessels entered and cleared .- The total tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom during February from Foreign Countries and British Possessions was 2,355,316 tons, or 571,124 tons more than in February 1895. The tonnage of vessels cleared was 2,695,477 tons, or 494,697 ons more than in February 1895. The tonnage of vessels entered Coastwise was 2,655,672 tons, an increase of 472,854 tons, and of vessels cleared 2,472,822 tons, an increase of 365 917 tons on the tonnage in February 1895.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

March 1806.

Cotton Statistics .- The imports of raw cotton during February 1895, were much less than in the corresponding month of 1895 and 1894, the decrease being more than accounted for by the decline in the imports of American cotton. Some slight increase is shown in the exports and in the quantities forwarded from ports to inland

February	189 6			Imports. Bales. 365,637		arded from P Inland Town Bales. 263,711		Exports. Bales 29,623
"	1895		••••	553,957		251,355	••••	25,914
·	1894		••••	468,175	•••	268,397	••••	29,783
Two mon								
Februar	y 1896			747,277		569,135		72,201
• • •	1895			1,289,661		563,058		71,145
. 11	1894			1,151,461		624,200		68,844
British	Corn	-The	foll	lowing are	the p	rices of B	ritish	wheat.

barley and oats in the last weeks of February 1896 and 1895 respectively :-

		Average price per Quarter in—										
	Feb.	1896.		Feb.	1895.		Incre	ease.		Decrease.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.		S.	d.		s. d.		
Vheat	 25	6		19	IO		5	8		1999 <u>- 11</u> 1999 -		
arley	 21	IO		21	9		0	I		12112-2010-0		
ats	 13	IO	••••	14	0		-	-		0 2		

Traffic Receipts.-The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways in the United Kingdom, for the four weeks ended February 29th, amounted to £5,286,716, an increase of £460,410, or 9.5 per cent., over the total for the corresponding period of 1895. The receipts from passenger traffic were $\pounds 1,996,767$, an increase of $\pounds 290,203$, while the receipts from goods and mineral traffic were £3,289,949, showing an increase of £170,207.

Fishery Statistics .- The total value of the fish (including shellfish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during February was £521,709, or 10 per cent. more than the value in February 1895. In England and Wales there was an increase amounting to \pounds 43,792, and in Scotland one of \pounds 3,826, but in Ireland the value owed a decrease of 160.

Bankruptcies .- The number of bankruptcies gazetted during February was 337, or three less than in the corresponding month of 1895; 57 less than in February 1894, and 58 less than in February 1893. The figures for the above mentioned months and for the first two months of each year are as follows :---

February	 	 1896. 337	10 C	1894. 404	1893. 395	
First two months	 			Contract of the second	804	

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration .- The total number of British and foreign passengers who left the United Kingdom in February for places out of Europe was 12,293, a number greater by 2,619 than that for February 1895. The passengers of British and Irish origin in-creased by 22 per cent., and the foreign passengers by 37 per cent.

British and Irish.-Of the above total, 8,216 were of British and Irish origin, as compared with 6,712 in February of last year. As regards places of destination, an increase was shown all round, and especially in the case of passengers to South Africa.

	Destinatio	on.		Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.
United States				 4,148	4,026
British North	America			 557	439
Australasia	•••	••••	•••	 834	615
South Africa	••••	•••	•••	 1,766	1,041
Other places			•••	 911	591
	Totals			8,216	6,712

Foreign.-The remainder of the 12,293 passengers, viz., 4,077, were foreigners and others whose nationality was not distinguished. This number shows an increase of 1,115 on the figure for February

Alien Immigration .- The total number of aliens who arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during February was 4,596, or 48.4 per cent. more than in February 895, when the total was 3,097. Those stated to be en route for America numbered 1,925, an increase of 318, while those not so stated umbered 2,671 (including 688 sailors), as compared with 1,490 including 520 sailors) during February 1895.

IN 1894.

Court of Session, February 20th and 21st.—The father of a miner sued a coalmaster for damages for the death of his son, who lost his life in defender's employment. Pursuer's case was that deceased had descended a shaft and was leaving the cage when it was INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES Part B of the report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies* had descended a shart and was leaving the cage when it was suddenly raised by the engineman without warning, and without any signal from the bottomer. In consequence, deceased fell down the shaft and was killed. It was averred that the engineman had allotted to him the winding and other arrangements in the shaft where the accident took place, and also in another shaft about the where distant and that the winder where the had to attend to has been issued during the month, and contains the returns from Industrial and Provident Societies in the United Kingdom for the year 1894. In view of the extension by the Act of 1893 of the purposes for which societies may be registered, the societies on where the accident took place, and also in another shaft about 40 yards distant, and that the system whereby he had to attend to two shafts simultaneously, and two separate sets of signals in operation so far apart was defective and in contravention of the requirements of general rule 24 of the Coal Mines Regulation Act 1887 For the defence it was stated that winding was carried on only in the shaft where the accident took place; that only pumping was carried on in the other shaft; that neither men nor coal had been raised or lowered in the other shaft since May 1894; and that when it was so used there was an engineered in each shaft. It was the register have now been classified into three groups: (a) "Societies for carrying on trades and industries," comprising, for the United Kingdom, 1,737 societies usually described as co-operative distributive, and productive societies; (b) "Societies for carrying on businesses," which includes 99 workmen's clubs, loan and banking societies, and other societies formed for various miscellaneous objects; and (c) "Land and Building societies," of which when it was so used there was an engineman in each shaft. It was denied that there had been a breach of the general and special there were 119, making a total of 1,955 Industrial and Provident Societies on the register at the end of 1894. rules in the working of the pit. Verdict for pursuer. Damages, The report also contains the lists of societies registered during

1894 and dissolved or removed from the register since the last return to Parliament, the lists for Scotland and Ireland being included in this report for the first time.

Ninety-one new societies were added to and 46 removed from the register during the year.

Of the 1,955 societies on the register 70 have failed to make returns for 1894. Of these 18 were registered during the year, and had not, therefore, completed a year's business, 26 were in liquidation and 5 were reported to have ceased to exist, and of the remaining 21 two only were in England and Wales and these had been convicted and fined.

LABOUR CASES IN FEBRUARY.

THE following are among the legal cases of the month specially affecting labour of which the Department has received information. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in local newspapers. The list is not intended to be in any way exhaustive of all such cases decided during the month. A general statistical account of prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts, the Mines Acts, and the Merchant Shipping Acts, will be found on page 88.

(I) EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

Liverpool County Court, February 17th.-A dock labourer claimed Liverpool County Court, February 17th.—A dock labourer claimed damages from a master stevedore for injuries received on a steam-ship having her cargo of grain discharged. Plaintiff, who was engaged for half a day, was being taken by defendant's timekeeper from the quay across the decks of the vessel. While passing over some hatches they were suddenly lifted up from underneath by a sling of grain bags which were being hoisted by machinery and the plaintiff was thrown into the hold, a distance of about 30 feet. It was contended by the defendants that accident occurred through plaintiff was thrown into the hold, a distance of about 30 feet. It was contended by the defendants that accident occurred through the negligence of the man in charge of the "guy" rope and also that the plaintiff ought not to have walked over the hatches. Two doctors called for the plaintiff stated that his injuries were of a somewhat serious character, while two called for the defence ex-pressed the opinion that the was practically nothing the matter with him. Verdict for plaintiff. Damages f_{30} .

Westminster County Court, February 17th and 18th.-A stage man Westminister County Court, February 17th and 18th.—A stage man claimed damages against the lessee of a theatre for injuries sus-tained from falling into a well hole or trap. The theatre had been lent for the performance on the day in question by the lessee to a clergyman for a charitable object. Plaintiff was engaged up aloft during the interval between the scenes. The stage carpenter called to him to come down, and he stepped back and fell through a well hole about 4 feet. It was urged that the well hole should have had some protection. The defendant contended that he and his staff were performing out of charity; that he was merely there as an actor, and that the gentleman to whom he had lent the theatre was practically the lessee and manager, as he took the profits and paid the workmen. Judgment for defendant.

Cardiff County Court, February 19th.—A labourer claimed damages from a builder and contractor for injuries received from a barrow falling upon his head whilst being hoisted to the top of a building. Plaintiff contended that the appliances for fastening the wheelbarrow were not safe, as the hook which caught the wheel had no twist in it were not safe, as the hook which caught the wheel had no twist in it and no spring. A builder who was called as a witness expressed the opinion that the chain had probably been forced out of shape by strain, and that its present defect was owing to this. The judge held that the plaintiff should have brought the defect in the machinery to the defendant's notice. Judgment was given for defendant, but the judge suggested that an offer previously made by defendant to plaintiff should be renewed, and an agreement was argued at in geogradment with this suggestion. arrived at in accordance with this suggestion

* Report of Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, Part B, Industrial and Provident Societies, 1894, 110 I., price 10d. + Under this heading are also included actions at Common Law for compen-sation for injuries to workpeople.

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Court of Session, February 21st .- A labourer claimed damages from his employer owing to the falling of a girder upon which he was standing while engaged in the erection of a building. Pursuer contended that the girder was not properly fastened. Defender replied that pursuer knew how the girder was placed, and that it was not necessary for him to stand upon it. Verdict for defender.

Sheriffs' Court, Greenock, February 24th -A man employed by a Sheriffs' Court, Greenock, February 24th.—A man employed by a firm of shipowners and stevedores brought an action against them for f_{172} , under the Employers' Liability Act, or alternatively for f_{500} at Common Law, for injuries received in their service owing to the breaking of a rope which pursuer alleged had not been inspected and tested. The Sheriff found defenders entitled to expenses of process. He found that the pursuer had no case at Common Law. The captain being a collaborateur with the pur-suer, the defenders were not at Common Law responsible to the pursuer for the captain's fould and the duty which was said to have suer, the defenders were not at Common Law responsible to the pursuer for the captain's fault, and the duty which was said to have been neglected—the testing and inspecting of a rope which broke— was one which they were quite entitled to delegate to him. It was not alleged that the defenders supplied a defective rope, or knew that it was worn out, or that they had appointed an incompetent person as captain. With reference to the case under the Employers' Liability Act, the Sheriff found that the pursuer's employment necessitated his going to sea whenever defenders chose to send the vessel out of the Forth or Clyde, and he considered it sufficient for the decision of the case that he was admittedly one of the crew subject to the captain's orders the crew subject to the captain's orders.

Court of Session. February 20th .--- The mother of a labourer sued a firm of shipbuilders for $f_{1,000}$ at Common Law, or f_{214} 10s. under the Employers' Liability Act, as damages for his death, caused by an accident when working in their shipbuilding yard. Deceased was engaged in hoisting a plate for a vessel by a hydraulic winch when it fell, and in consequence deceased received injuries from which he died. Pursuer alleged that the scaffolding was defective, and that the foreman should have seen the way clear. Defenders said that the oriental should have seen the way clear. Defenders said that there was contributory negligence, and that deceased was in the employ of another firm who had undertaken part of the plating of the vessel. Lord McLaren directed the jury to return a verdict for the defenders in respect that they not being the actual employers were not liable for the accident.

Recorder's Court, Dublin, February 27th.-A driver claimed £50 damages from defendants for injuries sustained while driving in their service a horse which was vicious and restive, and unfit for the work upon which it was engaged. For the defence it was alleged that plaintiff was under the influence of drink, and that there was contributory negligence. Evidence was called to prove that the horse was unsafe to drive. The Recorder found that the horse was not reasonably fitted for the work on which it was engaged, and that, notwithstanding the plaintiff was under the influence of drink, he was not the contributory author of the accident. But as the plaintiff was under the influence of drink the Recorder reduced the damages to f_{25} .

(2) EMPLOYERS AND WORKMEN ACT.

Deduction for Holidays. A folder claimed 2s. 2d. which was stopped out of her wages for holidays. She was engaged for two years from April 26th 1894. Her hours of work were from 8.30 a m. to 7 p.m. She worked up to 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve, and in answer to the registrar, she said she was not expected to work on Christmas Day, but 2s. 2d. was deducted from her wages. The registrar held that the agreement was to pay a weekly salary and that nothing could be deducted for holidays.—*City of London Court, February 7th.*

Rate of pay for Christmas Day.—Two dock labourers claimed from a firm of shipowners the sum of 2s. 6d. and 8s. respectively for wages. The plaintiffs, with other workmen, were sent to work on a ship at Birkenhead, on December 24th, and they contended that as the time they worked after midnight was Christmas Day, they were entitled to the same rate of pay as they would have received had they worked on a Sunday. Defendants' case was that there was no custom to pay a special rate on Christmas Day. The Judge held that plaintiffs had not proved a custom to pay an extra rate. Judgment for defendants.—Liverpool County Court, February

(3) FACTORY ACTS.

Employment in Workshop and Shop on same Day.—A milliner was fined \pounds_1 and 15s. costs for employing a woman on the same day in workshop and in shop for a total period exceeding the time per-mitted for employment in a workshop, in contravention of Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, s. 16.—Police Court, Birmingham, Bebwarn 28th February 28th

The Cleaning of Machinery by Children.-On June 26th 1895, a cotton manufacturer was summoned for allowing a child to clean machinery in motion. The magistrates dismissed the summons on the ground that as the part of the machinery which the child was cleaning was a fixed part of the machinery which the child was cleaning was a fixed part of the machine, and that as it was not not in motion the act did not apply (LABOUR GAZETTE, July 1895, page 216). The inspector applied to the magistrates to state a case, which came before the High Court of Justice on February 11th, when the court held that the magistrates must convict. The case again came before the magistrates must convict. The case again came before the magistrates, when the manufacturer was fined is.—*Police Court, Royton, Feb.* 26th.

(4) SHOP HOURS ACT.

Meaning of "in or about a shop."—This was a case stated by a metropolitan magistrate which raised the question of the by a metropolitan magistrate which raised the question of the interpretation of the words "in or about a shop," in section 3 (I) of the Shop Hours Act, 1892, 55 and 56 Vic. c. 62. The words of the section are "no young person shall be employed in or about a shop for a longer period than 74 hours, in-cluding meal times, in any one week." The preamble of the Act runs:—"Whereas the health of many young persons em-ployed in shops and warehouses is seriously injured by reason of the length of the period of employment." Section 9 con-tains the following definition:—"In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires. 'shop' means retail and wholesale shops otherwise requires, 'shop' means retail and wholesale shops, markets, stalls and warehouses in which assistants are employed for hire, and includes licensed public houses and refresh-ment rooms of any kind." The respondent was a newsagent who employed a lad whose duties were to fetch newspapers from Fleet Street, to deliver them at the houses of customers, to sell them and fold them up inside the shop, and to sweep out the shop and clean the windows and do up parcels. During a certain week in June the lad was occupied 841 hours at the work indicated and including the time during which he was taking and going to and returning from his meals. But if the period calculated was limited to the time during which he was at work in or about the premises then he was not employed "in or about the shop" for a longer period than 74 hours including meal times. The magistrate took the view that "in or about the shop" meant in or about the premises, and dismissed the case. The Court of Appeal held that the object of the Act was to prevent the employment of young persons for an undue length of time, and that if the exact words only of the Act were considered, the construction of the Act would be too limited, and would make it futile in many cases. The case was accordingly sent back to the magistrate.—Divisional Court, February 13th.

(5) FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' ACT.

Improper Division of Funds by Branch Court.—The trustees of a friendly society brought an action against the trustees and other officers of a branch court, asking for a declaration that the defendants were liable to forfeit to the High Court of the Order defendants were hable to forfeit to the High Court of the Order certain funds which had been divided, and to pay contributions, fines and levies due since May 1895. The branch court was registered under the Act of 1855, but the act which now governs such societies is that of 1875 with amendments. This provided for the registration of existing courts, but the branch court failed to take registration under the Act of 1875. This placed it under certain disabilities. Latterly the branch court declined both financially and numerically. The defendants conceived that because they were not registered under the Act of 1875 they were a separate they were not registered under the Act of 1875 they were a separate society, capable of dividing their funds without the consent of the order, and an intimation of their intention to divide was given to the executive council, who in their turn pointed out the illegality of the proceeding. Notwithstanding, the defendants divided the funds of the court, each member receiving a pro rata share. His Honour gave judgment in accordance with an agreement which had been drawn up, to the effect that the f_{200} which had been divided should be paid into the bank, that the branch court should have a new charter and be registered under the Act of 1875, and that it should continue to carry on its business as a registered branch of the Order.-Bradford County Conrt, February 11th.

(6) MISCELLANEOUS.

Damages against a Trade Union Secretary for loss of Employment.—A plumber sued the local Secretary of a Trade Union for f_{10} damages for procuring his dismissal from his employment. Evidence was adduced that pursuer had been working for about a fortnight at the rate of 7d. per hour instead of $8\frac{1}{2}$ per hour, the standard rate in the locality. Upon this coming to defender's knowledge, he, together with a representative of the trade union to which pursuer belonged interviewed the employer to induce him either to pay the standard rate or dismiss him. The employer agreed to dismiss him, but afterwards decided to pay the higher rate, and so informed the other workmen, who expressed themselves as satisfied; but after an interview with defender they declined to work with pursuer, who was thereupon sent for by his employer and dismissed. Judgment for pursuer for amount claimed.-Small Debt Court, Greenock, February 14th.

March 1896.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN FEBRUARY.

I.-Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.		Con- victions	Total Amount of Penalties.			A	of osts	nt
By Owners, Managers, &c.:	1. Car		£	s .	d.	£	s.	d.
Neglecting to Limewash	I	I		IO	0		13	0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery	8	8	24	10	0		16	0
Allowing Children to clean Machinery in motion, or to work between fixed and	I	I	ò	I	0		-	
traversing parts of a machine in motion	1. 1. 1. 1.	ALCONT !				N.P.S.	11 2	
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates	15	14	12	I	0	II	- 8	7
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment-	1.96 (9.5)	TANK! S			63	1,760,		
Before or after the legal hour	20	20		II	6		55	2
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals	7	7	3	11	0	8	5	0
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted	10	9	21	4	0	7	12	6
At night	3	3	I	IO	6		6	0
Employing children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c.	4	4	0	15	6	2	13	0
In factory or workshop and in shop on same day beyond total legal period	I	I	I	0	0	0	15	0
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—	C-APE							
Not keeping registers	12	12	9	5	3	4	5	7
Not affixing or properly filling up notices and abstracts	8	8	6	11	3		14	5
Not sending notices required by Act	4	4		14	6		8	
Obstructing an inspector in the execution of his duty	I	I	0	7	0	0	2	
Not supplying sufficient or correct par- ticulars	I			-				
By Workmen:-		Pringing						
Employment before or after the legal hour By Parents :	I	I		-		0	14	0
Allowing children to be illegally employed	I	I	0	5	0	0	15	
Total for February 1896	98	95	118	17	6	-63	14	6
Total for February 1895	176	167	99	16	6	81	4	6

II.-Under the Mines Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs imposed on Defendants.		
By Owners, Managers, &c.	1472-224	_			£ s. d		
By Workmen- Safety Lamps	9	9		an annai an ann	12 I O		
Timbering Lucifer Matches, &c Miscellaneous	и 6	I 6	-	-	I 8 6 7 12 7 8 13 0		
Total for February 1896	28	12 28	10 0 - 2 9 0 9 1 1 - 2 9 1		8 13 0 29 15 1		
Total for February 1895	46	41	1	2	45 19 0		

III.-Under the Quarries Act.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nil.

IV.-Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Convic- tions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.	
By Owners or Masters of Ships :	T	I I I	f_2 s. d.	£ s. d	
Carrying excessive deck cargoes	I	I	30 0 0	5 0	
Not providing lights	I	I	190	0 II	
Omitting to serve out lime juice to crew	5	5	7 0 0	4 16	
By Boarding-House Keepers: Demanding remuneration for ob- taining employment	I	I	0 10 0	Court Fee	
Total for February 1896	9	9	40 19 0	10 7 6	
Total for February 1895	12	12	54 10 0	17 17 2	

Y.-Under the Friendly Societies' Acts.

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Fine and Costs.
Failing to send Annual Returns	8	£8 8 0

March 1896.

DURING February the 11 labour bureaux furnishing THE number of persons relieved in 35 selected urban returns registered 2,589 fresh applicants for work, and 571 fresh applicants for workpeople. Work was found through the bureaux during the month for 2,130 workdistricts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of February was 344,335, being at the rate people, of which number 1,510 persons were engaged by of 222 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those private employers and 620 by local authorities. In districts in 1896. 1,506 cases, however, the engagements were stated to Compared with January, these figures are an increase of 2,053 in the number relieved, and of 1 in the rate per be of a temporary character only. Of the 2,841 workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of the 10,000. The only districts in which there is any month, 2,431 were men, 96 lads and boys, and 314 noticeable change are Bristol and Dublin, with increases women and girls. of 18 and 11 per 10,000, respectively.

Comparing the figures of the 8 bureaux which also furnished returns for February 1895, the large decrease of 1,675 in the number of fresh applicants is shown, the figures being 1,197 in 1896 and 2,872 in 1895. Work Done in February

And a " mary h	(I.)	Worl	k Done	in Feb	oruary.	Salas Carlos	A ME WELL	A Street
- Some of August	peop	Work- le on	App	f Fresh licants	No. o	of Workp Vork by l	eople for Bureaux	und
Name and Address of	<u></u>	ister.		ng Feb.	Pri	yate oyers.	Engage Loc Author	al
Labour Bureau.	of Feb. 1896.	At end of Feb. 1895.	Work	Em-		Feb. 1895.	Feb. 1896.	Feb. 1895.
St. Pancras	536	803	214	68	72	82 {	temp. 60 perm.	403
(Gt. College St.) Battersea	159	159	316	29	55	31	38	39
(Lavender Hill) Islington	562	969	218	230	59	68	163	223
(Barnsbury St.) St. Martin's	125	133	85	45	32	33		-
(TownHall,W.C.) Hackney	340		232		48	13	temp. 340	-
(Old Town Hall) Salvation Army*			1,072	20	temp. 1,106 perm.	}		
(272Whtchpl.Rd.) Y.W.C.A. (316 Regent St.)	126		88	86	(28 24	26		
Provincial. Salford	195	376	48	14	9	9	IO	49
(Town Hall) Ipswich	171	IIC	65	29	26	35	-	-
(Tower St.) Plymouth	113	469	87	45	47	70	-	+1,270
(Éast St.) Liverpool	146	285	164	5	4	3	-	9
(Municipal Bdgs.	. 2,841		2,58	9 571	1,510		620	
	1					The decision	L of Eak	
(II.) Previous Oc	upatio	ons of I	Applica	nts on J	Men.	sat ent	I OI FED	ruary
	3103 <u>281</u>	1	24710 1122		10002	1		
Name of Labour Bureau	a. ging ing M	g, En- S neer-	armen Stable- men, Horse- men, &c.	Clerks and Ware- house- men.	Porters and Messen- gers.	General Labour- ers.	Other Occu- pations	Tota Men
London. St. Pancras Battersea Islington		49 18 33	47 10 61	20 2 15	122 5 79	134 116 173 8	79 20	45 15 48
St. Martin's-in- Fields and Str. Hackney	and	9	10 20	6 3	22	05.70	8 66	6 34
Salvation Army Provincial.		38	55	72	19	137 81	103	36
Salford Ipswich Plymouth		47 11 8	21 40 7	13 1 12	6 10 14	76 41 53	30 42 14	19

Liverpool 434 Total Number Name of Labour Bureau. Lada Boys London. St. Pancras Fields and Strand Fields and our Hackney !... ... Salvation Army* Y.W.C.A. ... Provincial. Salford !... Ipswich Plymouth ! Total Number ... 96

* Particulars relating to men only have been furnished. + Of this number 1,090 were employed by Distress Committee and 180 by the Corporation. ‡ Women and Girls are not registered at Hackney, Salford and Plymouth.

WORK OF LABOUR BUREAUX IN FEBRUARY.

				- India	22	all have	13.00	2.11.2.1		121	1		
	Carmen Stable- men, Horse- men, &c.	an	d re- se-	Port an Mess ger	d sen-	Gene Labo er	our-	Oth Occ patio	u-		otal (en.		
and the second s	47 10 61 10	20	2	12: 7: 2:	5	13/ 11 17	6	79	;		451 151 481 63		
	20 55	7	3	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	12 19		7 I	66 103			340 368		
	21 40 7 20	I	1 2	II	6 0 4 1			4	30 42 14 23		42 14		193 145 108 131
10000	291	16	0	29	0	87	1	38	35	2	,431		
1100		Won	0.000		GI	rls.	122				nd al.		
W	Char- vomen, Daily Work, &c.	Ser- vants.	ma a Se	ess- kers ind emp- esses	Oth	ners.	Wo	otal men nd irls.	Fel 189		Feb. 1895.		
State of the state	43 8 44 11	3 2 17		2 52	and h	18 2 8	1	66 8 53 38	53 15 56 12	9	803 159 969 133		
	‡ * 9	*	1. 1.1.1	‡ * 80		‡ * 37	1	‡ * 126		10 58 26			
	‡ 12 ‡ 5	‡ 6 ‡			1 31 m	‡ 		18 18 ‡ 5		95 71 13 46	376 110 469 285		
-	132	28	1	89		65	1	314	2,8	41			
m	nen only	have	bee	en tur	mis	ned.							

PAUPERISM IN FEBRUARY.

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

Compared with February, 1895 (the period of severe frost), the number relieved in the selected districts shows the large decrease of 61,991, of which 88 per cent. is in outdoor pauperism. This improvement is equivalent to a decrease of 43 in the rate per 10,000, after allowing for the estimated increase in population during the past year. The largest falling off is in the South Metropolitan district where it amounts to 146 per 10,000 of population, of which 96 per cent. is in outdoor relief. The decrease for the whole of the Metropolis is 84 per 10,000.

West Ham and Stockton and Tees districts each show a decrease of 136 per 10,000; Bradford of 75; Newcastle of 60; Wolverhampton of 56; Bristol of 52, and Cork, Waterford and Limerick of 43. All the other districts show some decrease except in Scotland.

and the second second	Paupers week	on one of Febr	day in se uary 18 9	econd 96.	Paupers or spondin in previou	g date
Selected Urban Districts.	In- door.	Out- door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of Popula- tion.	Total Number.	Rate per 10,000 of Popula- tion.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
West District North District	11,129	2,620	13,749 23,880	176 228	16,075 31,053	208 300
Central District	14,507 7,660	9,373 3,638	11,298 17,806	433 240	12,262 20,393	475 277
East District South District	13,445 21,196	4,361 20,360	41,556	259	64,333	405
otal Metropolis	67,937	40,352	108,289	244	144,116	328
Vest Ham	1,866	7,445	9,311	220	14,667	356
ther Districts.		•	6	100	0 110	228
Newcastle District Stockton & Tees Distric	1,580 1,143	4,516 4,642	6,096 5,785	168 284	8,119 8,379	420
Bolton, Oldham, &c	3,367	4,642 8,531	11,898 9,256	165 244	12,489 9,166	175 245
Manchester District	0	7,452 6,787	15,343 18,588	181	17,538 19,065	209
Liverpool District Bradford District		8,509 3,337	18,588	208 123	19,065 6,968	215 198
		4,197	5,274	143	6,495 8,339	178
Halifax & Huddersfield Leeds District		6,165	7,972	191 212	8,339 4,415	203 224
Barnsley District Sheffield District	. 2,463	3,535 3,784	4,255 6,247	171	7,064	196
Hull District	. I,285	5,913	7,198 8,408	311 255	7,413 9,533	325 292
North Staffordshire Nottingham District	- 6	6,526 5,812	7,471	208	7 542	213
Leicester District	. 1,099	3,141	4,240	219 329	4,230 20,803	223 385
Wolverhampton Distric Birmingham District	t 3,260 4,125	14,658 2,415	17,918 6,540	124	7,281 13,627	139
Birmingham District . Bristol District	. 2,473	9,486	11,959	348	13,627 7,858	400 244
Cardiff & Swansea .	I,772	5,930	7,702		186,324	2 DI UIR
Total "Other Districts".	. 51,158	115,336	166,494			
SCOTLAND.* Glasgow District	3,526	14,529	18,055	219	17,720	218
Paisley & Greenock Dist.	617	2,428	3,045	197	3,078 6,829	200
Edinburgh & Leith Dist. Dundee & Dunfermline.	I,347 I,048	5,267 2,895	3.043	203	3,670	191
Aberdeen	518	2,540	3,000	233	3,018 1,319	232
Coatbridge & Airdrie . Total for the above Scot- tish Districts		1,227				_
tish Districts	} 7,369	28,894	36,263	3 208	35,634	207
IRELAND.† Dublin District	6,117	3,277	0.304	267	9,497	270
Belfast District Cork, Waterford &	3,535	349		123	4,217	
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District	} 4,547	5,460	10,00	7 416	11,145	5 459
Galway District	375	31	693	3 190	726	196
Total for the above Irish Districts	} 14,574	9,40	4 23,978	B 254	25,588	5 272
Total for above 35 dis- tricts in February	} 142,904	201,43	1 344,33	5 222	406,320	6 265
Total for previous month	. 143,237	199.04	5 342,28	2 221	352,594	4 230

* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board; 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.

TRADE DISPUTES IN FEBRUARY.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, returns from Employers and Trade Unions, and newspaper reports. Application for particulars is made to the Employers and Trade Unions affected in each dispute, and the information so obtained up to the time of going to press is used.) Number and Magnitude.—Seventy-eight fresh disputes occurred in February 1896, compared

with 50 in January and 55 in February 1895. In 71 of these disputes 16,391 workpeople were affected. Trades Affected.-In the building trades 16 disputes occurred, 15 of which affected 426 workpeople;

engineering and shipbuilding trades, 5 disputes with 809 workpeople; metal trades, 6 disputes, 4 of which affected 143 workpeople; mining, 20 disputes, 18 of which affected 11,239 workpeople; textile trades, 15 disputes, 13 of which affected 2,756 workpeople; clothing trades, 6 disputes with 485 workpeople; and in the miscellaneous group, 10 disputes with 533 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 78 new disputes 39 arose chiefly upon wages questions, 18 upon matters connected with working arrangements and material, 7 were due to dissatisfaction with action of fellow workpeople or the employment of non-unionists, 10 arose from sympathy with or in defence of fellow workpeople, and 4 were upon questions of alleged objectionable action of employers or officials.

Northern counties, 19 disputes, 17 affecting 7,377 workpeople; Midland counties, 18, 15 affecting 2,480 work-people; Eastern counties, 2, involving 11 workpeople; Western counties and Wales, 11, involving 2,728 workpeople; London, 7 disputes, affecting 194 workpeople; Scotland, 20, 18 affecting 3,555 workpeople; Ireland, 1, involving 46 workpeople.

Results.-Fifty new and 10 old disputes, 58 of which involved 12,421 workpeople, were settled during February. In 24 disputes, 23 of them involving 3,412 persons, the workpeople were successful; in 8 involving 4,458 persons, partially successful; in 26, involving 4,549 persons, unsuccessful; and in the 2 remaining cases the results must at present be classed as indefinite.

Disputes still unsettled.—Twenty-four new and 26 old disputes, 47 of which involved 8,811 workpeople, were known to be still unsettled at the end of February; 14 of these are in the building trades (12 involving 244 persons), I (218 persons) in the engineering trade, 3 (134 persons) in the metal trades, 10 (9 involving 5,384 persons) in the mining and quarrying industries, 8 (1,431 persons) in the textile trades, 6 (1,172 persons) in the clothing trades, and 8 (228 persons) in the miscellaneous group of industries.

Trade	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Es- tablish- ments.	Work- people.	Com- mence- ment.	Termi- nation.	
Building Trades.	New Arabi		11		Feb.	Feb.	1.0.00
Builders generally . Bricklayers and Labourer	Blyth		I	69 38	17 4	19 9	Non-union men left. Employer agreed to observe working
Datallanana	Newcastle-on- Tyne	Dispute as to whether cement floors to be laid by bricklayers or plasterers	8	56	7		rules. Still unsettled.
202 MAR 10 / 10 / 202	Norwich	For advance in wages to 61d. per hour, in lieu of 6d. per hour and three pints of beer per day	I	9	10	••••	Ditto.
Ditto (in brewery) .	Ditto	for advance in wages of 4s. 6d. per week (<i>i.e.</i> for payment at the rate of 6td. per hour instead	I	2	14		Ditto.
Stonemasons	Newcastle-on- Tyne	of 28s. per week of 60 hours) Men locked out in consequence of demarcation dispute between bricklayers and plasterers	I	70	12		Ditto.
Ditto	Edinburgh	To compel the contractor's son, who is working as a mason, to join the union	I	12	25	•••	Ditto.
Ditto	Leek		I	31	• •••	1.E	Ditto.
Joiners	. Forfar		2	20	10	11	Advance of ¹ d. per hour granted.
Ditto	. Blackpool	Men employed in one firm struck against the alleged unfair dismissal of a fellow workman, and the men in the other firms were locked out in order to compel the strikers to resume work			en e		Still unsettled.
Plasterers	. Near Plymouth	Refusal to pay the recognised district rate of wages for country work	I	2	18		Ditto.
Ditto	. Ditto	Refusal to allow walking time and against em- ployment of non-unionists	I	2	26		Ditto.
Plasterers and Labourer	Nottingham	To compel a labourer to pay a fine for working against the rules of his society	I	9	6	13	The labourer paid the fine.
Painters House Painters	. Inverness	For advance in wages of id. per hour (6id. to 7d.) Against employment of non-unionists	IO	41 20 dir. and 40	3 16	15 	Advance granted. Non-unionists dispensed with.
Builders' labourers	. Plymouth	For advance in wages of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour ($4\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5d.)	I	indir. 5	17		Workpeople replaced.
Engineering and Ship building Trades.		and the second linearized and the second	-	Des .		-44	
Engineers	The second second second	Against the employment of an alleged unqualified foreman	I	about 50	12	15	Men ordered in by union, and proot made of man's qualification.
Apprentice Engineers Lads (in engineering works)	g Leeds	annual increase of is, per week in wages	I	90 427	17 25	21 25	Discharged apprentice reinstated. Employer promised to remedy grie- vance.
Boilermakers' labourer Shipjoiners	Talil	For advance in wages of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour For an extra payment of 6d. per day when fitting up refrigerators, and for advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour for repairing old sheds	I	190 52	18 14	27 19	Work resumed without an advance. The increase demanded for refrigerator work granted, and the question of additional pay for repairing work de- ferred in order to ascertain the custom on the Clyde.
Metal Trades. Brass Moulders Brass Casters, Finishers, &c	Near Birming-	Against reduction of 6d. per cwt. (4s. 6d. to 4s.) Refusal of employer to pay the customary trade	I	3 22	5 14	II 	Reduction not enforced. Still unsettled.
Chainmakers	Tinton	bonus of 15 per cent. Against alleged stoppage of wages and attempted reduction	I	18	15	25	Men to receive full wages and prices.
Chainmakers (hammered)	Cradley Heath district	For advance of 10 per cent. in wages					No details of settlement.
Chainmakers (female) Finplate Workers (boys and youths)	Ditto Near Amman-	Ditto	 I				Ditto. Still unsettled.
Mining & Quarrying		A. F. M.	STR. A	See 19		10 7 5 1 10 1 1 1 1	
Coal Miners		Against withdrawal of allowances granted on account of difficulties in working	I	1944	I		Still unsettled.
Ditto	Argoed, Mon.	For payment of extra rates on account of thinkess of seam	I	бо	I		Ditto.
Ditto	Near South Shields	Rejection of umpire's award and refusal to work "bottom" coal at usual rates on account of alleged excessive amounts of shale and stone	I	1300	6	19	Question in dispute again referred to arbitration; 250 men fined 5s. each for breach of contract.
Ditto 🔐 🤐 I	South Shields	in the seam Miners came out on strike in sympathy with the men in previous dispute	I	1500	13	18	Work resumed on settlement of above dispute; 600 of the men summoned and fined 5s. each for absenting them-

selves from work.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN FEBRUARY 1896.

Ditto Ditto

Ditto Ditto

Coal Min

Ditto Ditto Ditto

Ditto Ditto

Ditto Ditto Hauliers

Drawers Pony Boy Youths

Text Cotton V Ditto

Ditto

Ditto

Warp Dr

Box Loo Woollen

Braid Wea Webbi Fustian

Jute Spin Jute Spin Ditto Plush W Silk dye

Cloth Dyers (h Boot an and fin Lasters (boot a Lasters

Lasters (boot Ditto

Mis Bakers Cigarett

Compos

Compo Engine Female

Emplo

Labour Labour

Engin Fitters Ironfor

Ironw Tinpla Te Drawi

March 1896.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN FEBRUARY 1896—(continued).

rade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Estab- lish- ments.	Work- people.	Com- mence- ment.	Termi- nation.	Result.
rs	Uddingston	Against reduction in wages of 4d. per ton on main coal, and 3d. per ton on Ell coal seams	I	140	Feb. 13	Feb. 17	Reduction accepted.
	Baillieston Hamilton	Against partial reduction of wages Against a reduction in rate per ton after expiry of contract in Ell seam	I	240 497 dir. 423	13 18	17 19	Ditto. Work resumed at the reduction.
:	Ditto Dysart	Strike in sympathy with above Against dismissal of certain miners on account of alleged excessive amount of small coal in	I	ind:r. 500	19 18	19 19	Resumed on settlement as above. Dispute amicably settled.
	Near Sheffield	hutches In sympathy with men on notice in another of	I	800	19		Still unsettled.
	Bedworth	company's pits For reinstatement of fellow workmen who were	I	310 dir. 90 indir.	20	21	Discharged men reinstated until March 11th, and overtime abolished.
	Near Castleford	discharged while others were working overtime Dispute as to tonnage rates and as to methods of getting the coal	I	About 1,200	21	22	Work resumed, and the questions in dispute to be submitted to arbitration.
	Benhar	Against a reduction in wages of 6d. per day	I	150	24	Mar. 2 Feb.	Reduction accepted.
	Blantyre	Against a reduction in wages of 6d. per ton on main coal, and 4d. per ton on splint and virgin coal	I	250	25	26	Work resumed on employers' terms.
	Bathgate Near Maryport	Against a reduction in wages of 6d. per day Against a reduction in wages	I	230 1,000	26 25	27	Reduction accepted. Still unsettled.
	Cymmer, Pontypridd	For reinstatement of a discharged haulier	I	55 dir 230 indir	25	25	Work resumed unconditionally.
	Burnley	For an advance in wages according to an alleged promise	I	30 dir. 200 indir	27		Still unsettled.
	Hamilton Bedworth	Against a reduction in wages For an advance in wages	I	 90	4	 5	No details of settlement. 46 received an advance of 2d. per day on 13th Feb., the others being promised advances on specific dates.
avers	Colne Stockport	Refusal to recognise union officials Alleged excessive fining	I	60 		8 about	Still unsettled. Employer agreed to return the fines im- posed.
	Preston	Objection to dismissal of a weaver and alleged underpaying	I	300	I3	nour) 18	Employer reinstated the dismissed weaver, and promised to rectify any underpaying
	Stockport	Alleged bad material and excessive fining	I	400 dir. 600 indir.	25	28	An advance of 5 per cent. to weavers for two weeks, and abolition of fining except for work wilfully spoilt.
sers (cotton)	Brierfield	Refusal to redress spoiled warps originally dressed outside the factory by non-unionists	I	12	13	26	Employer promised that men should not be asked to redress work done by non- unionists.
Weavers	Burley-in- Wharfedale	Against a reduction of 3d. per piece on certain classes of work	I	90	I	3	Reduction withdrawn.
eavers yers	Batley Manningham,	Objection to fining system	I	164	2I 17	22	Work resumed unconditionally. Work resumed on old conditions
ands and s (Elastic	Bradford Leicester	to be done For advance in wages to the rates generally paid in the town	I	200	I		pending further arrangements. Still unsettled.
Trade) eavers	Norden	For advance to the rate of wages obtaining in other districts	I	57 dir. 60 indir	6		Ditto.
ers, &c	Dundee	Change of manager	I	500 70	14 18	15 20	Work resumed unconditionally. Ditto.
ers	Ditto	Alleged bad material Dispute as to price to be paid for weaving a	I	20	18	20	Ditto. Still unsettled.
vers	Near Huddersfield Macclesfield	new class of goods For an advance in wages and a reduction in hours	11	13 210	7		Some of the firms are reported to have conceded the men's demands.
g Trades. iery) hoe riveters	Loughborough Leicester	The second is a subscription of the second states o	II	14 35	10		Still unsettled. Workpeople replaced.
hers nd finishers	Wolverhamp-	For payment of the standard rate of wages to	I	100 dir			Employer agreed to pay the youths the
shoe trade) ot and shoe)	Brynmawr	youths over twenty Disagreement as to the classification of certain	I	200 indi 50	r 18	3 Mar.	recognised rate of wages. Dispute to be submitted to arbitration.
nd finishers	Swindon	work Disagreement as to classification of work	I	40	24	2 Mar.	
l shoe)	Leicester	Against alleged tyranny of foreman by intro- ducingthe task system]	I	46	28		dispute. Still unsettled.
laneous.	London, E	Against the discharge of union men and the em-	I	9	22		Still unsettled.
nakers	Glasgow	ployment of non-unionists in their places For reinstatement of discharged fellow work- men, payment of wages on Saturday instead of Monday, recognition of trade union, and re-	In A cier	80	10	4 Mar.	Employees' demands conceded.
ors (Jewish)	London, E	arrangement of payment for work done Against alleged unreasonable discharge of fellow workman	I	2	I	1 Mar. Feb.	hand.
rs	London, E.C.	Alleged violation of scale governing machine composition	a series in	38	17		Places filled by other workpeople,
ivers (in mical works) n vinegar	Middlewich Gloucester	Against being required to do the amount of work previously done by double their number	1 1 1 1 1 1 2 4	3 125 dii		 20	Ditto. Reduction accepted and women to b
works		Against an attempt to gradually replace unior	and the second second	60 indi 13			permitted to join trade union. Still unsettled.
s in Glass	Dublin	The founders' crew struck work against a reduc	- I	46	24	2	Workpeople partially replaced.
Bottle Works		tion of one day's wages each per week, and the vanmen and labourers came out in sympathy	•	La contra d		The strike	
s (harbour works		. For an advance in wages to 5d. per hour for day work and to 6d. per hour for night work	AT STANLES	55	10	II	Employer granted 5d. per hour for da and night work.
s (night soil collectors	Birmingham		- 1	88 dir 14 indi		19	Man reinstated.

II. - DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE FEBRUARY, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH.

neering Trades. s, &c unders		Against introduction of the piecework system For an advance in wages of 2s. per week	1 5	104 190	1895. 22 Aug. 19 Oct.	1890. Feb. 22 6	Shop blocked to unionists. Advance granted.	
etal Trades. orkers	Near Sheffield	Alleged grievances in connection with working	I	20	1896 14 Jan. 1895	8	Work resumed on old conditions.	
ate Workers	Kidwelly	arrangements Against a proposed reduction in wages	I	300	16 Dec.	28	A reduction agreed to of $22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. off the 1874 list.	
ng-frame Tenters	Royton	Tenters alleged that they were not paid for the full amount of work performed	I	27	1896 29 Jan.	6	The firm conceded operatives' demands.	

March 1896.

II.-DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE FEBRUARY, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH-(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Estab- lish- ments.	Work- people.	Com- mence- ment.	Termi- nation.	Result.
Clothing Trades. Boot and Shoe Operatives Slipper Makers Cap Makers Framework Knitters (Hosiery Trade) Miscellaneous Trades. Cabinet Makers		Refusal of employer to pay up to the minimum wages statement For a minimum wage of 25s. a week for those employed on lasting machines For reinstatement of a workman discharged for alleged inefficiency Demand for a uniform wages statement Men desired to stop work and to be paid at 2 o'clock on Saturdays	I I I 7 I	28 26 30 dir. 20 indir. 140 6	1895 14 Nov. 5 Dec. 1896 9 Jan. 13 Jan. 1895 11 Dec.	Feb. 1 5 8	Shop blocked to trade unionists. Ditto. Some of the hands replaced, others re- turned to work unconditionally. A wages statement involving a reduction . accepted by 4 firms employing 9t men. Men's demands conceded.

III .-- DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE FEBRUARY, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH.

The following disputes reported in last month's issue as commencing in January were still unsettled :--cotton weavers, Barnolds-wick; dyers' labourers, Leeds; rotary power frame-work knitters, Nottingham (three firms); hosiery hands (circular branch), Nottingham; tailors, Bradford; boot and shoe operatives, Glasgow; mat and matting weavers, London, S.E.; building trade employees, Willerby, Hull; fancy leather workers, London, E.C.

The following disputes which commenced before January were also still unsettled :--coal miners, Standish, Cornsay, Durham (since settled 4th March) and Coleford, Glos.; curriers, Liversedge; bedstead-makers, Sowerby Bridge; settmakers, Letham, Fifeshire; cotton weavers, Barnoldswick; plasterers, coachmakers and glass bottle-makers, Dublin; fitters, &c., Dowlais; building trade employees, Plymouth; flax roughers, near Belfast.

Tra	ade.			Local	ity	Alleged Cause or Object.	Establish- ments.	Workpeople.	Date of Commence ment.
Bakers Stonemasons Coal Miners	 	···· ···		Limerick Whitby Flint		 Men locked out for not refunding money improperly given them as wages by employer's foreman Against refusal of employer to conform to trade rules Against reduction in wages of 30 per cent	I I I	4 3 290	1895 Dec. 26 Dec. 26 Dec. 26 Dec.
House Painters				Leicester		 Refusal of employer to pay time-and-a-half after 1 o'clock on Saturday	I	-	1895 Jan. 18

RECENT PROGRESS OF CO-OPERATION.

England and Wales .- During February three new co-operative societies for production and four for distribution have been registered, and two new branches of existing distributive societies have been opened. Three distributive societies at Hetton-le-Hole, Great Billing, and Kineton have ceased to exist, and one at Old and New Shildon has amalgamated with another society.

The report of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society for the quarter ended December 28th, 1895, shows that the shareholders of the society consisted of 1,035 co-operative societies, comprising a total membership of 930,985. The total sales during the quarter in the distributive departments amounted to £2,807,483, an increase of 8.7 per cent. over the corresponding quarter of 1894.

In the manufacturing departments the sales, i.e., transfers to distributive departments, amounted to £252,688, an increase of 37.0 per cent. over the corresponding quarter of 1894. The total sales for the year 1895 amounted to £10,141,917 as compared with £9,443,938 in 1894, an increase of 7.4 per cent.

Scotland.-A co-operative society of handloom weavers at Dunfermline, established in 1872, has dissolved.

The report of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society for the quarter ended December 28th, 1895, shows that the shareholders of the society consisted of 281 co-operative societies (comprising a total membership of 171,985) and of 204 of its employees. The quarter's sales in the distributive departments amounted to £969,468, an increase of 19.6 per cent. over the corresponding quarter of 1894. In the manufacturing departments the sales and transfers to distributive departments amounted to £167,944, an increase of 48.5 per cent. over the corresponding quarter of 1894. Its total sales for the year 1895 amounted to $f_{3,449,462}$, as compared with £3,056,583 in 1894, an increase of 12 8 per cent. At the quarterly meeting of delegates held on February 29th, it was decided to take over and work as a department of the society, a tweed manufacturing mill, hitherto worked by an independent co-operative productive society, and to give up the society's farm, upon which a loss had been sustained during each of the four years it has been worked.

The dispute between the society and its boot and shoe operatives still continues. A motion at the quarterly delegate meeting to refer it for settlement to the joint committee of trade unionists and co-operators, appointed by the Trade Union and Co-operative Congresses, was rejected by 564 to 17, the matter being left in the hands of the directors.

Ireland .- Seven agricultural and dairying societies have been registered during February, and an important series of meetings have been held at Roscommon, at which a co-operative baconcuring factory, on the lines prevailing in Denmark, has been organised.

A report by the secretary of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society states that at the middle of January there were in Ireland 45 co-operative creameries and 12 co-operative agricultural societies actually at work, and 18 creameries and eight agricultural societies in course of formation

The annual report of the Irish Co-operative Agency Society shows that its sales amounted to £77,194 in 1895, as compared with £64,857 in 1894, an increase of 19.0 per cent.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN AUSTRIA, 1894.*

THE Report on Labour Disputes for 1894, issued by the Ministry of Commerce, excludes, as usual, the mining industry, which is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The following statement gives a summary of the labour disputes which have taken place in Austria. in each of the four years for which statistics have been published :-

[The figures are exclusive of Hungary.]

		- mang Dil	Strikers.	.40.966	agaonte
Years.	Strikes.	Number.	Proportion per cent. of all Workers employed in Establishments Affected.	Establishments Affected.	Days of Work Lost.
1891 1892 1893 1894	No. 104 101 172 159	14,025 14,123 28,120 44,075	Per cent. 34'64 57'36 61'75 72'58	No. 1,917 1,519 1,207 2,468	No. 247,086 150,992 518,511 566,463†

In comparing the above figures a certain allowance has to be made for increased care exercised in the collection of the statistics. More than half the strikers belonged to the building and woodworking trades.

The results of strikes may be seen from the follow-1ng :--

Results.	GR. 18	St	trikes.	Strikers.		
Successful Partially successful Unsuccessful		No. 39 43 77	Per cent. 24'53 27'04 48'43	No. 5,167 9,184 29,724	Per cent. 11'72 20'84 67'44	
Total		159	100.00	44,075	100'00	

* Die Arbeitseinstellungen im Gewerbebetriebe in Oesterreich während des Jahres 1894. Vienna, 1896. Alfred Hölder, K.u.K. Hof- und Universitäts-Buchhändler I, Rothenthurmstrasse 15. + Excluding Sundays and holidays, which were included in the preceding

March 1896.

THE number of workpeople of the undermentioned classes killed by accidents reported in February was as follows:-

Factory and Quarrymen. Workshop Operatives. Seamen Others (so far as \dots 12 \dots 58 \dots 172 \dots 4 Act not in force. \dots 34 \dots 293 \dots 4
 Railway Servants.
 Miners.
 Quarrymen.
 Workants

 February 1896
 ...
 33
 ...
 64
 ...
 12
 ...
 ...

 February 1895
 ...
 45
 ...
 101
 ...
 Act not in force.
 ...
 Seamen Others (so far as reported) 477 Of the 4,462 non-fatal accidents reported, 1,031 were to railway servants, 660 in mines, 53 in quarries, 2,476 in factories and workshops, 171 to seamen, and 71 to other workpeople.

Railway Servants. Seamen (Fatal and Non-fatal Accidents). (Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.) Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured by accidents in which the movement of railway (Supplied by the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen.) Table showing the number of persons forming the crews of registered vehicles was concerned during the month of February 1896. vessels of the undermentioned classes, belonging to the British [The number of servants employed by the railway companies of the United Kingdom was 381,626 on 31st December 1889.] Islands, reported during the month of February 1896 as having been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers or harbours. (Deaths or injuries on yachts and vessels employed exclusively in rivers and inland navigation, and injuries on fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish Ports, and on Class of Service. vessels trading exclusively between Scottish Ports, are not included.)

Brakesmen and Goods Guar Engine Drivers Firemen Guards (Passenger) ... Permanent Way Men (no including Labourers) Porters Porters Shunters Miscellaneous (including Con tractors' Servants) ...

Total for February 18

Total for February 1895 NOTE.—In addition to the above the companies have reported 705 servants injured by accidents occurring on the companies' premises, but in which the movement of vehicles was not concerned, during February. These figures have been reported in accordance with a new order recently issued by the Board of Trade, and are scarcely comparable with those for February 1895.

Miners and Quarrymen.* Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in and about mines and quarries, during the month of February 1896. [The number of persons employed in and about mines was returned as 739,097, and in and about quarries as 84,986, in 1894.]

MINES.

Cause of Accident. NOTE.—The majority of the non-fatal injuries occurring among the crews of vessels trading within the Home Trade limits are only reported half-yearly, and will be so published. Underground :-Explosic. damp ions of Fire-Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 (Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.) Falls of ground In shafts ... Table showing the number of persons killed and injured in accidents fiscellaneous reported to the Board of Trade under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894, during the month of February 1896 Total for Feb. 1896 Total for Feb. 1895 Factory and Workshop Operatives.* Table showing the number of persons reported to H.M. Chief Inspector by Certifying Surgeons as killed or injured during the month of February 1896. [The classes of accidents reported are those specified in Section 18 of the Factory and Workshop Act of 1895.] Adults (over 18) Young Persons Total Males ... Note -The Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, provides that notices of accidents occurring on or after 1st January 1896 in the following employments, scheduled to the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894, viz., the construction, use, working or repair of any gaswork, harbour, dock, port, pier and quay, and the construction dults (over 18) or repair, by means of a scaffolding, of any building which exceeds 30 feet Young Persons in height, or use or working of any such building in which more than 20 persons, not being domestic persons, are employed for wages, shall be sent to the Total Females ... Inspector of Factories for the district, and in certain cases also to the Certifying fotal Males and Fe-males for Feb. 1896 Surgeon instead of to the Board of Trade. The effect of this legislation has been a considerable reduction in the number of accidents reported to the Board of Trade under the Notice of Accidents Act, Total for Feb. 1895 ... 1894, and a corresponding increase in the number reported to H.M. Chief * Supplied by the Home Office. + There were also 1,351 other non-fatal accidents only required to be reported to H.M. Inspectors. Inspector of Factories ‡ Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN FEBRUARY.

81,62	6 on 3	Ist De	ecemoer	1889.]	112 122	Li all'				
	Number of Persons injured, distinguishing Class of Accident.									
Killed	Caus- ing Ampu- tations.	Dislo- cations, Frac- tures, and Inter- nal In- juries.	Contu- sions, &c.	Cuts, Sprains, Bruises, Burns, &c.	Unspeci- fied and Miscel- laneous Injuries.	Total of In- juries.				
2	2	E	17	24	00	70				
	-					30				
2.0		-				34				
				9	1 Dave Brill	4				
			1	3		T				
5		3	I	I	5	IO				
3			18	7		39				
2	2	I	16	10	20	49				
2.		12.11								
16	3	4	33	17	33	90				
E. C.			1000		-	6				
33	7	15	101	85	118	326				
42	8	17	45	66	140	276				
	Killed	Num Killed Caus- ing Ampu- tations. 2 2 1 4 5 2 2 16 3 33 7	Number of I Number of I Dislocations, Caus- tations, Ampu- tations. 2 2 4 5 2 2 1 2 3 2 1 3 1 16 3 33 7	Number of Person Class of Class of Class of Class of Class of Class of Class of Class of Class of Class of Contu- sions, and Inter- nal In- juries. Contu- sions, and Inter- nal In- juries. 2 2 5 17 2 2 5 17 4 2 6 4 1 5 3 1 2 2 1 16 16 3 4 33 33 7 15 101	Number of Persons injured Class of Accide Killed Dislo- caus- cations, Ampu- tations. Dislo- cations, Frac- and Inter- nal In- juries. Contu- sions, Sprains, Sc. Cuts, Sprains, Sprains, dc. 2 2 5 17 24 4 2 6 14 4 9 9 3 1 1 3 18 7 16 3 4 33 17 33 7 15 101 85	Z Z				

		Quarrie	ES.				
Number of Persons		Cause of Accident.	Number of Persons				
led.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.			
5 27 11 13 8	14 231 28 310 77	Explosives or Blast- ing Falls of ground During Ascent or Descent Miscellaneous	3 7 2	12 20 I 20			
64	660	Total for Feb. 1896	12	53			
101	357	Total for Feb. 1895	Act not	t in force.			

	Num	ber of I	Persons I Class of	njured, d Accident	listinguis t.	hing
d	Causing Amputa- tions.	Frac- tures.	Injuries to Head or Face.	Loss of Sight of one or both Eyes.	Lacera- tions, Con- tusions, and other Injuries.	Total Persons Injured,
1000	1-		Males			
And Street in	100 74 3	43 32 	59 8 I	I I	380 207 16	583 321 21
1	177	75	68	2	603	925
B			Female	S.	in an the	i antigation
1 1 1 2 2 1 1 1	15 16 1	4 11 	17 4 	• I 	67 59 5	103 91 6
A CONTRACTOR	32	15	21	I	131	200
	209	90	89	3	734	1,125
and			1,015	let as a da		1,015

The returns of non-fatal injuries are probably far from complete, the tabulation being now made for the first time.]

	Number reported as Killed or Injured.										
		In Fe	bruary 1	896		Total for	ponding				
Cause and Class of Accident.	On Tr Vess		On Fi Ves	ishing sels	Total in Feb.	Total for 3 months Dec. 1895 to					
	Sailing.	Steam.	Sailing.	Steam.	1896.	Feb.1896.	of 1894-5.				
IBy Wreck or Casualty-											
Killed Fractures and	42	75		•	117	442	648				
Dislocations Other or unspeci-	I	I			2		No				
fied Injuries		6			6) ret	turns.				
IIBy other Acci-	talia 41	180.23			and the	and a strain of	Service 1				
Killed Fractures and	21	27	5	2	.55	220	229				
Dislocations	5	26			31	11	No				
Other or unspeci- fied Injuries	18	112	2		132	ј ге	turns.				
III.—All Accidents— Total Killed	63	102	E	2	172	662	877				
Total Injured	24	102 145	5 2		171		eturns				

	Co	nstructio	n or Ren	air.	Use or Working.					
	I	Jumber o	n Pet		N	Number of Persons.				
Nature of Works,	1		Injured.	(astro)		I	njured.			
&c.	Killed	Frac- tures and Dislo- cations.	Othe r In- juries.	Total.	Killed	Frac- tures and Dislo- cations.	Other In- juries.	Total.		
Bridge										
Canal			I	I		I	2	3		
Railway	2	4	23	27						
Tramroad		der ind					I	I		
Tramway			I	I		2	11	13		
Tunnel	I	2	II	13				1		
Other Workst		2	IO	12						
Traction or other steam engine or machine in the open air	Act	does not	apply.					14		
Total for Feb. 1896	3	8 ,	46	54	1	3	14	17		
Total for Feb. 1895	7	1	43	44	3	2	22	24		

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN FEBRUARY.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, and from Newspapers* and other sources, with corrections and additions supplied by many of the principal Employers' Associations and Trade Unions, and in some cases by the Employers concerned.)

Summary.-The total number affected by the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during February was about 27,000, and the estimated general effect of all the changes on the wages of this number of workpeople was an increase of 6d. per week. About 22,000 received advances amounting on an average to 1s. 3d. per week, and over 5,000 sustained decreases averaging 2s. 9d. per week.

Increases.—The principal changes reported were in the engineering and shipbuilding trades, and particulars relating to over 13,000 men are given in the table. On the Clyde and at Belfast about 5,200 workpeople have received advances in addition to the 12,300 previously reported. The upward movement in wages has extended to other shipbuilding centres, including the Mersey, Barrow, the North-East Coast of England, and the East Coast of Scotland. From the table it will be seen that 3,000 shipbuilders and boilermakers at Liverpool and Birkenhead, 840 engineers and pattern-makers at Barrow, 2,300 shipwrights on the North-East Coast, 330 engineers at Dundee, and 1,710 boilermakers, shipbuilders and engineers at Edinburgh and Leith have secured immediate advances ranging from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per week. The remaining advances include particulars of 2,837 building operatives, of which number 2,512 are joiners in the Glasgow district who have secured 1d. per hour.

Decreases.-A downward movement is taking place in the wages of coal miners in Scotland. Particulars are given below of a decrease in the Airdrie, Bathgate and Slamannan district : other changes which were not reported in February are referred to on p. 86. In continuation of the information published last month further details are given of reductions in the tinplate trade, and it is reported that very few employers are now paying the full 1874 list of prices. The quarrymen in East Gloucestershire have sustained a decrease of 5 per cent.

NOTE.—It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of tay, as in the case of policemen, scme municipal employees, and many rain ay servents, &c. are not recorded here. The same remark applies to changes in the tay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

Employment.	Locality.	Date of	Num work	oximate aber of speople ectly	Particulars of Change. Particulars of Change. Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, ex- clusive of overtime. Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, ex- clusive of overtime.
		Change.	affe	Dec.	(Decreases in Italics.) Before After crease crease per per
	1		Inc.		week. week
Contraction of the second	8 Increases-		ms.	BUI	LDING TRADES. Decreases—Nil.
Carpenters and Joiners	Glasgow district, including(Glasgow, Govan, Partick, Whiteinch, Cam- buslang, Pollock- shaws, Rutherglen, and Bishopbriggs)	I4th Mar.	2,512		Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour ($8\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 9d.) s. d. 34 II s. d. 36 II $\frac{1}{2}$ s. d. s. d. 34 II
	Motherwell Forfar	24th Feb. 10th Feb.			Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 8d.) 30 $9\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{1}{32}$ $10\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $0\frac{1}{2}$ Advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour ($6\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 7d.) 27 $8\frac{3}{2}$ 28 0 I $0\frac{1}{2}$
	Barrhead	2nd Mar.	36		Advance of 1d. per hour (7 d. to 8d.) 30 02 22 101 2 01
Plasterers	Ayr	1st Mar. 3rd Feb.	51 20		Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour ($\frac{1}{2}$ d. to \frac{1}{2}d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to \frac{1}{2}d. to \frac{1}
Painters {	Inverness Stirling	7th Mar. 1st April	50 50		Advance of $\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour ($\frac{6}{2}d$. to $\frac{7}{2}d$ $\frac{12}{2}$ $\frac{28}{10}$ $\frac{10}{31}$ $\frac{10}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{22}{2}$
Contraction of the second]		hours)§
		Increa	ises—Ni	l.	COAL MINING. I 1 Decrease-2,500 persons.
Hewers, and other under- ground Workers	Airdrie, Slaman- nan, and Bathgate districts	Jan. and Feb.		2,500	Decrease of 6d. per day Per day. Per day. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
All the second second second	1 Increase-190 p	ersons.	IR	ON A	ND STEEL TRADES. Decreases—Nil.
Blast furnacemen	Priors Lee, Salop	1st Jan.			Advance of 5 per cent
	1			1	
Inen Mauldan	2 Increase	San Markers and		SAL COLORISE	ETAL TRADES. Decreases—Nil.
	1 more thank the second the	24th Feb. 11th Jan.	140 18		Advance of $\frac{1}{4}d$. per hour 32 $7\frac{1}{4}$ 33 9 I $I\frac{1}{2}$ Advance of 2s. per week 22 0 24 0 2 0
Brass Founders	Edinburgh	15th and 29th Feb.	65		$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
C. Construction of the Construction of	and the second second second	creases_N		TIN	PLATE TRADE. 8 Decreases—1.685 persons.
1		3rd Feb.		100	Decrease of 121 per cent making present rates 191 ber
an and the second second second	The second second second second	3rd Feb.	10000		cent, below amended 1874 list of prices
A Strange States and And	Gowerton	24th Feb.		150 145	Ditto
	and the second of the	7th Feb.		300	cent. below amended 1874 list of prices
Tinplate Workers	Blaina, Mon 2	24th Feb.		400	Decrease of 5 per cent., making present rates 20 per cent
	Machen, Mon 2	4th Feb.		115	Decrease of 15 per cent., making present rates 17 ¹ / ₂ per
	Swansea I	7th Feb.		280	Decrease of 10 per cent. making present rates 10 per
1 I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	Ditto 1	7th Feb.		195	Cent. below amenaea 1874 list of prices Decrease of 10 per cent, and concession of 2 sheets per box
				1. 200	making rates 11 ¹ / ₄ per cent. below amended 1874 list
	reases-13,419 person			EERI	NG AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. Decreases-Nil.
Engineers	Barrow-in- Furness	5th Mar.	750		Advance of is, per week \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots $31 6 32 6 1 0 \dots$
Patternmakers	Ditto 2	27th Feb.	go		32 6 33 6
Fitters and Turners	Rodley, near Leeds	8th Feb. 4th Mar.	10		Ditto
Boilermakers)	Mersey District	qui mar.	2,300	(Advance of 1s. 6d. per week
Iron and Steel	ncluding Liverpool, Birkenhead and	6th Mar.	3,000		2s. per week on time rates Advance of 5 per cent, on piece rates and of 1s per
Shipbuilders) Engineers—	Garston)	W. Marsh		(week on time rates
Fitters }	Dundee 1	4th Feb.	140 130		Advance of is. per week 26 0 27 0 1 0
Machinists)	and the state of the second state of the	Section States	60	/	Ditto
and the second second second		gth Feb.	1,350	{	Advance of td. per hour
Fitters and Turners }	Dumbarton 2	ard Jan.	24 28		Advances of is, per week $ 1 \stackrel{2}{_{0}}$
dinizaspectores -				19-20	and
Engineers and Boilermakers }	Ditto 2	4th Jan.	268		Advance of is. per week $ \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
	and the second s		440		Advance of IS. 6d. per week \dots

* In all cases the accuracy of newspaper reports is enquired into before the information is used here. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is the result of averaging the wages for five summer

weeks and two winter weeks. t The weekly wages given are for house joiners; those employed in the railway and other works work longer hours, and their weekly earnings are proportionately. higher

§ See also Reductions in Hours of Labour, page 96.
 # See also note on Scottish miner's wages, page 86.

Engineer and Bl Helpers, Blacksmi Boilerma Shipbu

Platers'

Drillers Patternn Machinis Engineer

Drillers a Shipwrig

Platers' Angle Strike

Powerlo Ditto ... Cardroon

Spinners Silk Dye Framew

Calico Pr Calico

Labou

Calico Labou

Boot and

Sheet M

Engine &c.

Dock La

fron Or

Scaven Attenda Scaven Engine

Ditto‡

Yardm Sewern Sewa Paviors

Carter Ditto (Stone Female Bagma

Labor blast

March 1896.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

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aren 1890.		Date of	Approx Numbe workpe direc	imate er of cople	Particulars of Change.	full We	ges in a eek, ex- ve of	Increa Decrea full we clusi over	se in a ek, ex- ve of
mployment	Locality.	change.	affect Inc.		(Decreases in Italics.)	Before change.	After change.	In- crease per week.	De- crease per week
	EN	GINEER	ING A	ND S	HIPBUILDING TRADES (continued).				
rs, Boilermakers	Dumbarton	18th Feb.	60		One man received an advance of 3s. per week, 46 of 2s., and 13 of 1s. 6d.	-	-	III	
Labourers, &c.		Ditte	23		Seven men received an advance of 2s. per week, 1 of 1s. 6d., and 15 of 1s.	-	36 3	I 4 2 3	
iths akers and Iron	Finnieston, Glasgow Leith	Ditto 3rd and 7th Feb.	360		Advance of ¹ / ₅ d. per hour	<u>34</u> °		-	
uilders	Govan, Partick, Clydebank, Ren-	3rd Feb.	1,062		Advance of 5 per cent.—about ¹ / ₄ d. per hour	10 - 4 14 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 -	-	I II	
Helpers	frew and Paisley Pt. Glasgow and	Ditto	632		Ditto	1000 (Selection) 	-	I 112	
	Greenock Dumbarton	Ditto	160		Ditto		-	I 11	
	Troon The Clyde	Ditto Ditto	20 800		Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour Advance of 5 per cent. on piece rates and of 1s. per	29 3 —	31 6	2 3	
nakers*	Belfast*	10th Feb.	90		week on time rates Advance of is. per week	-	-	I O I O	
sts	Ditte	3rd Feb. {	35 19		Ditto <	=	-	0 6	
rs (other than ose in Shipyards) and Hole Cutters	Ditto	3rd Feb.	61 360		Advance of 15 per week Advance of 5 per cent. on piece rates and of 15. per week		_	-	
ghts	Ditto	6th Feb.	420		on time rates Advance of ad, per hour on repair work and of ad, per		35 9	2 3	
5410			1		hour on new work from March 20th, and a further 2d. on new work from July 16th.	a page	4.20	1. 1. 7. 4	
Helperst Iron Smiths'	Ditto Ditto	10th Feb. 3rd Feb.	700 20		Advance of 5 per cent. † Ditto	-	=	I 4 I 6	
rs and Helpers		A CARLANSIA -					1 Participation	to 2 0	6.91
The life shares and	7 Increases-	-4,623 pers	sons.		XTILE TRADES. 1 Decrease-350 persons.				
om Overlookers	Oldham	28th Feb.	35		Advance of 2d. in the f_{c} upon single twist warps, stated to be equal to an increase of 1s. per week	1111111	39 0	IO	
	Ashton-under-Lyne		18		Advance of 3d. in the \pounds on weavers' earnings, stated to be equal to an increase of 5s. per week	A CONTRACTOR	41 0	5 0	
m Grinders	Heywood	20th Feb.	3		One man advanced 3s. 8d. and two men advanced 2s. 8d. per week	and	25 0	3 8 and 2 8	•••
s	Batley Carr	roth Jan.	8		Advance of is, per week	22 4 22 0 21 0	23 0 22 0	2 8 I 0 I 0	
ers	Macclesfield	10th Feb.	40		Advance of is, per week (21s, for 60 hours to 22s, for 563 hours)	21 0	22 0	IO	
ork Knitters	and subscription of the	12th Feb. 19th Feb. 17th Feb.	10 20 170		Adoption of new statements for work made on Cotton's	=	-	IO	
(Hosiery Trade)	Nottingnam	1/ш гер.	1/0	350	patent frames, stated to be equal to reductions of 5 to 25 per cent. off previous statements. About 350	a the states			
		and the set			workers have sustained a reduction; 170 have benefited; and about 100 who were working at less	and the second			
Printing Works—	La state and a survey	And a second	(177	(than the old list are not affected A full week's wages to be paid for 56 hours instead of	h -	-	0 9	
and a good to be		P. Lenge		-	57 as formerly-equal to an advance of 91d. and 10d. per week to printers, 4d. to labourers and 2d. to	-		and 0 10	
and Boys	Renfrewshire, Dumbartonshire,	2nd Mar.	3,292	(females and boys) -	-	o 2 and	
Printers	Lanarkshire and Stirlingshire	2nd mar.	41	(A full week's wages to be paid for 56 hours instead of		-	0 4 3 0 0 6	1000
and Boys	enter and	milinel	809	}	60 as formerly—equal to an advance of 3s. per week to printers, 1s. 2d. to labourers and 6d. to females and here.			and I 2	
	1 Tner	ease—55 pe	1 1 22.8028	<u> </u>	OTHING TRADES. Decreases-Nil.	1/	1 1		1-1-111
d Shoe Clickers	CONTRACTOR STATE	7th, 14th,	12	I	Advance of 2s. per week	·+ =	1 =	2 0 1 0	
and to and the	AND THE PARTY OF THE	28th Feb.			OF RAILWAY COMPANIES. Decrease	o_Nil		11 1 0	
Z Inc	reases—73 persons.	4th Mar	4			1	1		1
Dressers 1	Glasgow	11th Mar. 18th Mar	4		Advance of is. per week			IO	12:22
ers, Iron Turners,	Belfast	1st Feb.	бі		Advance of is. per week	32 0	33 0	IO	
		Increases	s—Nil.	D	OCK LABOUR. 2 Decreases-458 persons.			1	1000
abourers and Porters, &c. }	London, E	5th Mar.	{	70 120	Decrease of 10 per cent. off piece rates Decrease of 32 per cent. off piece rates Decrease in piece rates of 7 per cent. off weighing and				-
fea Trade)	A congolanation	2.35 .05	(260	bulking, of 12 per cent. off coopering, of 15 per cent. of piling, and of 12 ¹ / ₂ per cent. off delivery	Ŧ	a succession	-	
e Dischargers (Bearers off)	Newport, Mon	24th Feb.		8	Decrease estimated at about 3s. per week	. 30 0	27 0		3
	Increases—386 perso	ms.	EMPL	OYEE	S OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES. Decre	ases—Ni	IZ (dende	
gers & Labourers ant (Waterworks)	Hexham Ditto	Ditto	IO		Advance of is. per week		and the second second	I 0 I 0	1000000000
gers	Sheffield	anth Dah.	12I (2		Advance of 1s. per week	. 32 0	34 6	I 0 2 6	and the second second
	Bingley	21st Feb.	1	19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19. 19.	- A CARLER OF THE OWNER AND THE OWNER AND THE	and 27 0			
orkers)	Stoke-on-Trent		(18 30		Ditto	. 26 0		2 6	17.19
···· ··· ···	Fenton	Ditto	12		Advances of from 4d. to 6d. per day			2 0 to 3 0	
ent		Ditto 1st week	5 150		Advance of 2s. per week			2 0 2 0	
nen, Scavengers, en, Labourers & ge Disposal Men		in Jan.	120			1 220	Carry	100000	
, Platelayers and Labourers	Leeds	14th Feb.	37		Increase in overtime rates from time to time and a quarter, stated to be equal, during some weeks in		1	-	
		and Array	The second second	1	summer, to increases of from 15 to 35. per week			11	1
(Two horse men))	3 Increases—9.	- and the second	1 70	ISCEL	LANEOUS TRADES. 2 Decreases-326 p Advance of 1s. per week	1 00 0	23 0	· I 0	
Dne horse men) Juarrymen	Eichande Diet et	8th Feb.	13	200	Advance of 2s. per week Decrease of about 5 per cent	. 20 0	22 0	2 0	100 B
es in Vinegar Works	Glos.		Carlon S .	125	Decrease of 5 per cent., except workers in jam-room wh	The course	-		-
manual at few?	Tundan	Tab	5 men	003.00	sustain a decrease of 10 per cent. Average increase of 4s. 5d. per week		_	4 5	
ers employed in	and the Marked and the state of the	ath Eah	5femal's		Average increase of 1s. 1od. per week \dots Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour ($\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5d.) for day and nigh	i —	=	<u> </u>	
ing operations (Harbour Works)	and the second second	Carl State	le maio	110115	work	1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1- 1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		

* In addition to the members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers who were included in the number published last month.
† Men on night shift to be paid time and quarter instead of time.
‡ In addition, all men employed in the gasworks at Fenton are to receive 4¹/₂ days' holiday per year without loss of pay.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

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CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES IN FEBRUARY (continued).

Port.	Voyage.	No. shipped at new Rate during Feb.	Particulars of Change.	Monthly I	hly Rates.	
	, ojugo,	Increase. Decrease	(Decreases in Ibalics.)	Jan. 1896.	Feb. 1896. c	In- De- crease. crease
	, HCTEAS	es—56 persons.	EAMEN. 9 Decreases-44 persons.			
	- 1	Able	Seamen (Steamships).		and the	N. S. C. MAR
Ditto South Shields Bristol Cardiff Mon. Newport, Mon.	Mediterranean East Indies and China Cape, Natal and E. Africa Running Agreements† Mediterranean Cape, Natal and E. Africa East Indies and China West Coast of Africa	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Decrease of 10s per month <td>80 0 80 0 80 0 80 0 70 0 65 0 70 0 70 0 70 0</td> <td>70 0* 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0</td> <td>IO G IO 0 IO 0</td>	80 0 80 0 80 0 80 0 70 0 65 0 70 0 70 0 70 0	70 0* 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0	IO G IO 0 IO 0
		in mar in the	Firemen.			
South Shields Hull Bristol Cardiff Glasgow	Mediterranean Running Agreementst W. Indies and S. America Mediterranean Cape, Natal and E. Africa W. Indies and S. America Running Agreementst	5 3 5 4 14 4 17	Decrease of 5s. per month Decrease of 10s. per month Decrease of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Ditto Increase of 10s. per month Increase of 5s. per month Increase of 5s. per month	80 0 80 0 85 0 75 0 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0 70 0	75 0* 70 0* 80 0 80 0* 75 0 80 0* 75 0 75 0* 75 0*	5 0 10 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN FEBRUARY.

THE 9 changes in hours of labour reported during February affected about 2,700 persons, of which number 1,900 had their hours of labour reduced and 800 had their hours lengthened. The more important decreases were at Manchester, where about 1,600 workpeople employed in printing establishments have had their working hours reduced from $52\frac{1}{2}$ to 50 per week. The single case of increase was at Leeds, where 800 workpeople (mostly piece workers), employed in a clothing factory have had their hours of labour extended 21 hours per week.

Employment.	Locality.	Date of change.	Approxi- mate number of work- people directly affected.	Hours of labour in a full week (exclusive of overtime).		
				Before change.	After change.	Dec. or Inc. per week.
State of the second		DECREAS	ES.			
Building Trades. Painters		ıst April	50	56	51	5
Printing Trades. Letterpress Printers,			(1,000	1	193UA	
Lithographic Printers, Bookbinders & Finishers,	Manchester and Salford District	2nd Mar.	116	521	50	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Machine Rulers, Folders, Sewers, &c.	District		28 316		20-11	
Lithographic Artists and Designers	London	ıst Feb.	14 to 30	50	49	1.1
Miscellaneous.	A CARLEN TO A MARCEN		and the second second	and the second		
Silk Dyers	Maccles- field	10th Feb. 12th Feb. 19th Feb.	45 10 20	60 59 59	561 561 561 561	3220 6
Men in Sanitary Department Shop Assistants and Workroom	Waltham- stow Plymouth	in Jan. 19th Feb.	150 17	54 63 ¹ / ₂	48 621	6 I
Hands	Arno Vale, Notts	Feb.	2	per day. p 12	er day. p	er day. 2
Signalmen*	Gedling, Notts	Feb.	2	12	• 10	2
A CONTRACTOR OF	I.	NCREASE	S.			
Clothing Trades. Pressers and	Leeds	17th Feb.	800	521	55	21

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

Machinists

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN FEBRUARY. (Supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.) THE summary given below of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations during February shows that 8 Trade Unions, I Employers' Association, 4 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 10 Cooperative Associations for Production, 4 miscellaneous Co-operative Associations, 16 new Friendly Societies. 30 new branches of existing Friendly Societies and 2 Building Societies have been added to the Register for the United Kingdom during the past month. Three Industrial and Provident Societies have been dissolved * Five men are now employed instead of four to work the two boxes.

and one amalgamated, while 25 Building Societies are returned as having sent notice of commencement of dissolution or as having ceased to exist. NEW ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

- Trade Unions .- England and Wales .- Reliance House Painters and Decorators, 348 Broadway, Stratford; Catshill Amal. Soc. of Builders and General Labourers, Golden Cross Inn, Catshill; National Soc. of Plasterers' and Slaters' Labourers, 45 Sobo St., Liverpool; Walsall Harness Makers' Trade Protection Soc., Bell and Cuckoo, Stafford St., Walsall; Gas Fitters' Trade Association, White Swan Hotel, Edmund St., Bir-mingham; Amal. Association of Builders' Labourers of Great Britain and Ireland, Worcester and District Branch, Plough Britain and Ireland, Worcester and District Branch, Plough Inn, Fish St., Worcester; Coventry Builders Labourers' Pro-tective Accident and Burial Soc., 145 Much Park St., Coventry. Scotland — Associated Range, Stove and Ornamental Fitters of Scotland, 122 Napiershall St., Glasgow. Ireland—(Employers' Association) The Friendly Soc. of Car Proprietors of the County and City of Dublin, 44 York St., Dublin.
 Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) Associations for Distri-bution.—England and Wales.—Rugeley Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Albion St., Rugeley; Duffryn Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 34 Commercial St., Mountain Ash; Hawarden and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Ewlve, Flint; South Eastern Co-op. Agricultural
- Soc., Ltd., Ewlve, Flint; South Eastern Co-op. Agricultural Soc., Ltd., 118 Hop Exchange, 24 Southwark St., S.E. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.
(B) Associations for Production.—England and Wales.—Cambridge Builders, Ltd., 34 James Street, Cambridge; Barry Herald Newspaper Publishing Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 12 Main St., Cadoxton-juxta-Barry, Cardiff; Union Co-op. Boot and Snoe Productive Soc., Ltd., 29 Workhouse Lane, Kettering. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Shanagarry Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Castleliney; Moycarkey Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Moycarkey; Lower Ormond Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Moycarkey; Lower Ormond Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Wexford; Donaghmore Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Wexford; Donaghmore Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Wexford; Donaghmore; Killeagh Co-op. Agricultural Dairy Soc., Ltd., Killeagh.
(c) Msscellaneous.—England and Wales.—Cittzen's Bank, Ltd., 37 St. Mary Axe, E.C.; Kennington Political Institute Soc., Ltd., Heyford House, Heyford Terrace, Old South Lambeth

Ltd., Heyford House, Heyford Terrace, Old South Lambeth Rd., S.W.; Chard Liberal Club, Ltd, Chard. Scotland.-Stenhousemuir Building and Investment (Land Co-op.), Ythan Cottage, Stenhousemuir.

Friendly Societies.—(A) New Friendly Societies.— England and Wales. Ordinary Friendly, 5; Female, 1; Working Mon's Clubs, 4; Specially Authorised, 3; Dividing, 2. Scotland.—1. Ireland.— None.

(B) New Branches of Existing Societies.—England and Wales.—
A.O. Foresters, 9; O. Sons of Temperance, 4; Various others, 9.
Scotland.—I.O. Rechabites, 3; L.O.A. Shepherds, 2; others, 2 (including I District). Ireland.—A.O. Foresters, I.
Building Societies.—England and Wales.—None. Scotland.—High Blantyre Guardian, Masonic Hall, High Blantyre; Glasgow Merchante' Cuardian 122 West George St. Glasgow

Merchants' Guardian, 133 West George St., Glasgow. OLD ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.-England and Wales.-None. Scotland .- None. Iveland -None.

- Industrial and Provident Societies .- England and Wales .- Old and New Shildon Ind. Co-op. Soc. (Amalgamated with Bishop Auckland Ind. Co-op. Flour and Provision Soc. Ltd.); Hettonle-Hole and Hetton Downs Butchers Soc. Ltd.; Gt. Billing Ind. and Prov. Soc. Ltd.; Kineton Co-op. Ind and Prov. Soc., Ltd. Scotland.-None. Ireland.-None.
- Building Societies.—England and Wales.—Dissolved by Instrument, 7. Sent notice of commencent of dissolution, 7; of termination of dissolution, 9; of commencement of winding-up, 1; and of termination of winding-up, 1.

Printed and Published for Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by VEALE, CHIFFERIEL & Co. LTD., 31 to 37 Cursitor-street, London, E.C.-March 1896.