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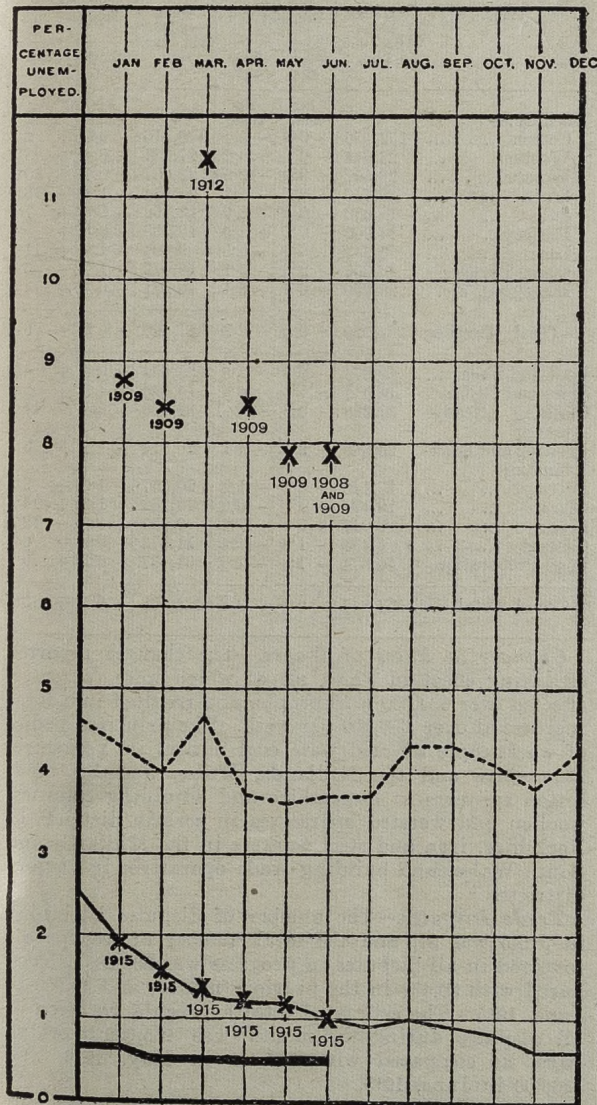
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— *Thick Curve* = 1916. — *Thin Curve* = 1915.
 *Dotted Curve* = Mean of 1906-15.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1906-15.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Department of Labour Statistics by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked-out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures.

THE LABOUR MARKET.

ON the whole the high level of employment of recent months was maintained in June. The war trades were still extremely active; in the others there were slight fluctuations, some showing an improvement and others a decline. The number of workpeople in industry was, of course, much less than a year ago, but those remaining were more fully employed.

Employment in June in the coal mining industry continued very good. Iron and shale mines were well employed, but in tin mines employment was still quiet. In the quarrying industry employment was fairly good on the whole.

The pig iron industry still suffered from shortages of labour and raw material, but employment continued good; at iron and steel works it was very good. Great activity prevailed in the engineering and shipbuilding trades, and much overtime was worked. There was a further reduction in the number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation, but most of the other metal trades continued very active, and much overtime was worked.

In the spinning section of the cotton trade employment was good and an acute shortage of labour was reported; the weaving section showed some slackness. In the woollen and hosiery industries all available workpeople were fully employed; in the worsted trade employment, though affected by the wool-combers' dispute, continued very good. In the linen trade employment was fairly good in Scotland, but quiet in Ireland with much short time. Employment was good in the jute trade; it was still good on the whole in the lace trade, but some decline was reported, due in part to a shortage of labour. In the bleaching, dyeing and finishing trades employment continued good generally; in the silk trade it was fairly good; in the carpet industry fair.

Great activity prevailed in the boot and shoe trades, partly owing to the execution of the Russian contract. In the leather trades employment was good generally, but in some branches of saddlery and harness at Walsall it remained quiet.

Employment continued good in the corset trade, fairly good in the felt hat and ready-made tailoring trades, and fair in the shirt and collar, millinery, mantle, blouse and costume trades; in bespoke tailoring there was a decline. In court and private dressmaking employment was moderate, and in the silk hat trade bad.

The workpeople remaining in the building and brick trades were generally well employed; in the cement trade employment continued good with much overtime and a shortage of labour. In the furnishing trades employment was fairly good on the whole; in the wood-working trades it was good.

In the printing trade employment continued fairly good; in the paper and bookbinding trades it was good. A shortage of labour was general in these trades.

The glass and pottery trades were generally well employed. The food preparation trades showed some decline, but employment generally continued good and overtime was worked.

Agricultural operations were hindered by unfavourable weather; labour was everywhere deficient, notwithstanding the assistance lent by the military and the further introduction of women.

Employment with dock labourers continued fair on the whole, but was bad at certain ports on the East Coast.

The supply of seamen for mercantile ships was about equal to the demand.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 939,077 reported 4,382 (or 0.5 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of June, 1916, compared with 0.5 per cent. at the end of May, 1916, and 1.0 per cent. at the end of June, 1915.

Trade.	Membership at end of June, 1916, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.	Unemployed at end of June, 1916.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Number.	Per cent.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building* ...	79,289	765	1.0	- 0.2	- 1.7
Coal Mining† ...	134,868	22	0.0	...	- 0.1
Iron and Steel ...	36,708	284	0.8	...	- 0.6
Engineering ...	259,907	690	0.3	...	- 0.3
Shipbuilding ...	73,475	177	0.2	...	- 0.2
Miscellaneous Metal	37,314	95	0.3	+ 0.1	...
Textiles† :-					
Cotton ...	78,943	786	1.0	...	- 0.6
Woolen & Worsted	7,638	3	0.0	- 0.1	- 1.1
Other ...	53,790	185	0.3	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper	53,328	830	1.6	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Furnishing ...	15,004	257	1.7	- 0.4	- 1.3
Woodworking ...	28,011	123	0.4	- 0.1	- 0.4
Clothing ...	65,435	85	0.1	...	- 0.1
Leather ...	4,086	62	1.5	- 0.2	+ 1.1
Glass ...	712	...	...	...	- 2.5
Pottery ...	8,310	2	0.0	...	- 0.2
Tobacco ...	2,259	16	0.7	+ 0.2	- 2.3
Total ...	939,077	4,382	0.5	...	- 0.5

UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED TRADES."

The percentage of "insured" workpeople unemployed at the end of June, 1916, was 0.5, compared with 0.6 at the end of May, 1916, and 0.9 at the end of June, 1915.

Trade.	Number Insured, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces	Unemployed at end of June, 1916.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed on a	
		Number.	Per cent.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building ...	528,991	5,074	1.0	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Construction of Works	111,677	420	0.4	...	- 0.3
Engineering and Iron-founding	953,451	4,064	0.4	...	- 0.1
Shipbuilding	231,994	638	0.3	...	- 0.4
Construction of Vehicles	166,702	790	0.5	...	...
Sawmilling ...	8,497	48	0.6	...	- 0.3
Other Insured Workpeople	40,918	66	0.2	...	- 0.1
All Insured Workpeople	2,042,230	11,100	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.4

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: MINING AND METAL TRADES.

The following Table summarises the returns from firms employing 710,405 workpeople in June in the industries mentioned:—

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for June, 1916.	June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining ...	530,470	Days worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Iron " ...	13,490	5.59	- 0.15	- 0.05
Shale " ...	3,148	5.79	- 0.09	+ 0.02
		5.98	- 0.02	- 0.01
Pig Iron ...	25,471	Furnaces in Blast.	No.	No.
		274	+ 4	+ 4
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	24,420	Mills Working.	- 10	- 31
		444		
Iron and Steel ...	113,406	Shifts Worked (One Week).	Per cent.	Per cent.
		657,945	+ 0.8	+ 8.9

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES.

Returns from firms employing 554,847 workpeople in the week ended 24th June, 1916, showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 3.8 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 3.5 per cent. in the wages paid.

Trade.	Number Employed.		Wages Paid.	
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Textiles :-				
Cotton ...	152,156	- 0.3	170,116	- 0.6
Woolen ...	22,644	- 0.7	27,334	+ 0.4
Worsted ...	28,562	- 0.4	29,007	+ 0.7
Linen ...	39,716	+ 0.2	28,974	+ 1.1
Jute ...	12,650	- 0.5	13,296	+ 0.8
Hosiery ...	18,705	- 0.2	18,235	- 0.8
Lace ...	7,987	- 0.9	9,094	- 1.2
Other Textiles	16,301	- 2.0	15,073	- 1.7
Bleaching, etc.	25,299	+ 0.4	40,271	- 0.3
Total, Textiles	324,020	- 0.3	351,400	- 0.3
Boot and Shoe ...	62,674	- 0.3	81,454	+ 0.4
Shirt and Collar...	18,517	- 1.0	14,645	- 1.8
Clothing (Ready-made)	32,928	- 0.3	31,078	+ 0.4
Printing and Book-binding	20,585	- 2.1	26,879	- 1.7
Pottery ...	17,140	- 0.0	20,067	+ 1.3
Glass ...	10,124	+ 1.0	16,752	+ 1.3
Brick ...	6,047	+ 0.8	9,283	+ 3.5
Cement ...	6,438	- 1.9	11,773	+ 0.0
Food Preparation	56,374	- 1.3	61,137	- 0.3
Grand Total ...	554,847	- 0.5	624,468	- 0.1

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes reported as taking effect in June, all of which were increases, affected over 930,000 workpeople, and resulted in a total increase of over £90,000 per week. The principal bodies of workpeople affected were coal miners in Yorkshire, Lancashire and the Midlands, Wales, and Scotland, cotton spinners in Lancashire and adjoining counties, woollen and worsted operatives in certain districts of Yorkshire, iron and steel workers in the Midlands and South Wales, and building trade operatives in various districts.

Trade Disputes.—The number of disputes beginning in June was 37, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was 33,823, as compared with 30,439 in the previous month, and 40,999 in June, 1915. The estimated total aggregate duration of all disputes during the month was 265,600 working days, as compared with 307,400 in May, 1916, and 176,600 in June, 1915.

Labour Exchanges.—The average weekly number of vacancies notified to all Labour Exchanges for the four weeks ended 9th June was 40,263, as compared with 37,717 in the previous four weeks, and with 35,303 in the four weeks ended 11th June, 1915. The average weekly number of vacancies filled for the same periods was 31,785, 28,661, and 24,934 respectively.

EMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY IN MAY.*

The following is the general conclusion arrived at by the German Department of Labour Statistics as to the course of employment in Germany during May:—

"The generally favourable conditions reported in previous months continued during May. Owing to the necessity for careful economy in textile goods and clothing, the position in trades supplying these articles was worse than in the corresponding month of 1915; on the other hand, this was more than offset by frequent cases of much increased employment as compared with a year ago in most other branches of industry.

"In mining, as in the metal and engineering trades, there was, on the whole, no perceptible change from April, while as compared with May, 1915, there was even more intense activity. The electrical and chemical trades reported improved employment as compared with May, 1915, and also to some extent as compared with April, 1916. In the building trades there was very little alteration in labour conditions."

Returns from Trade Unions.—Returns relating to unemployment were furnished by 36 Trade Unions, the membership covered being 813,776. Of these, 20,513 (or 2.5 per cent.) were out of work at the end of May, as compared with 2.3 per cent. in April, and 2.9 per cent. in May, 1915.

Unions.	Membership reported on at end of May, 1916.	Percentage of Membership reported as Unemployed at end of month.		
		May, 1916.	April, 1916.	May, 1915.
All Unions making Returns...	813,776	2.5	2.3	2.9
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:				
Building trade operatives ...	59,764	0.7	1.5	2.3
Painters ...	8,743	2.1	2.1	...
Metal workers (Soc. Dem.) ...	230,343	1.0	1.0	1.5
Engineers and metal workers (Hirsch-Duncker)	9,426	0.4	0.6	1.3
Metal workers (Christian)	15,737	0.6	0.6	...
Textile workers (Soc. Dem.)	60,814	13.5	13.3	1.2
Hat makers ...	7,900	43.3	18.0	5.5
Boot and shoe makers ...	18,028	1.4	1.2	48.3
Transport workers ...	67,621	0.7	0.6	3.9
Printers (book and job) ...	28,700	0.3	0.1	2.2
Lithographers ...	6,104	1.3	1.4	4.4
Bookbinders ...	17,361	5.2	5.1	10.4
Saddlers and bag makers ...	8,568	1.7	2.3	1.2
Leather workers (Soc. Dem.)	6,752	6.3	5.8	4.2
Wood workers (Soc. Dem.)	69,250	1.8	1.6	4.8
Porcelain workers ...	4,938	8.7	8.9	11.8
Bakers ...	8,661	3.0	3.2	1.9
Brewery & corn mill workers	19,988	0.4	0.4	0.5
Tobacco workers ...	20,112	0.5	0.4	1.2
Factory workers irrespective of trade (Soc. Dem.)	80,445	0.8	1.0	1.1
State and municipal workers	26,920	0.3	0.3	0.2

Among male members of Trade Unions the percentage unemployed at the end of May was 0.9, as compared with 1.0 in April, and with 1.7 in May, 1915; among female members the percentages on these dates were 9.7, 8.4, and 10.0 respectively.

Returns from Labour Exchanges.—Returns relating to the operations of Labour Exchanges during May show the proportion of applications for employment to every 100 situations registered as vacant to have been as follows:—

	May, 1916.	April, 1916.	May, 1915.
Males ...	88	87	99
Females ...	162	162	158

Returns from Employers of Labour.—Returns from 243 industrial concerns showed a total of 245,780 workpeople employed on the last day of May, as compared with 243,360 on the corresponding day of the preceding month—an increase of 2,420, or 0.99 per cent. For a comparison between May, 1916, and May, 1915, returns are available from 303 firms. These employed 295,234 persons in the present year, and 258,806 in May, 1915—an increase of 36,428, or 14.08 per cent. In the case of 184 concerns it is possible to make a comparison between May, 1916, and May, 1914. This shows a decline of 11,446, or 5.0 per cent., in the number of persons employed by these firms.

* Reichsarbeitsblatt, June, 1916.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES.

UNITED KINGDOM AT 1ST JULY.

COMPARISON WITH 1ST JUNE.

RETAIL prices of food on 1st July were higher than on 1st June by 1½ per cent. Apart from potatoes, however, there was a small net decrease in prices. Old potatoes continued to advance in price, the increase during the month, averaging about 30 per cent. In a large number of places new potatoes had come into general use among the working classes by 1st July, but the prices of new potatoes are not included among the figures. Although there was very little net change in the price of meat there were a large number of fluctuations, many in the nature of re-adjustments following upon the increase in prices reported last month. Flour and bread were about 5 per cent. (½d. per 3½ and 4 lb. respectively) lower on 1st July than a month earlier. Eggs showed a seasonal rise in price, averaging nearly 15 per cent., and the other articles included in the Returns showed no substantial change as compared with 1st June.

COMPARISON WITH A YEAR AGO.

As compared with 1st July, 1915, retail food prices at 1st July, 1916, showed an average increase of 22 per cent. Potatoes—old potatoes in each case—were more than double the price of a year ago, and sugar was over 50 per cent. higher. The advances recorded in the price of meat ranged from 17 per cent. for British ribs of beef to 37 per cent. for frozen breast of mutton, averaging about 2½d. per lb. Milk was dearer than a year ago by over 20 per cent., and the average advance in the price of other articles ranged from 10 to 18 per cent., except as regards bread and flour, which showed but little change in price.

COMPARISON WITH JULY, 1914.

In the following Table is given a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 1st July, 1916, in relation to the normal prices of July, 1914.

Article.	Percentage Increase from July, 1914, to 1st July, 1916.		
	Large Towns (populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	United Kingdom.
Beef, British—			
Ribs ...	62	59	60
Thin Flank ...	90	71	81
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs ...	85	80	83
Thin Flank ...	109	96	102
Mutton, British—			
Legs ...	57	54	55
Breast ...	91	69	80
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs ...	90	82	86
Breast ...	128	112	120
Bacon (streaky) ...	40	35	38
Fish ...	97	65	81
Flour (households) ...	44	51	48
Bread ...	47	42	44
Tea ...	51	50	50
Sugar (granulated) ...	162	154	158
Milk ...	37	29	33
Butter—			
Fresh ...	33	31	32
Salt ...	32	33	32
Cheese ...	51	52	51
Margarine ...	19	16	17
Eggs (fresh) ...	45	46	45
Potatoes ...	135	82	109
ALL ABOVE ARTICLES (WEIGHTED PERCENTAGE INCREASE)	65	57	61

The widely varying percentage increases recorded for meat are equivalent to about 6d. per lb. for the better cuts (ribs and legs) and 5d. per lb. for the inferior cuts. Bacon was 35 to 40 per cent. dearer than in July, 1914, and fish was 80 per cent. dearer on the whole. Potatoes averaged more than double the price of July, 1914, and showed much variation in price in different places. Granulated sugar remained at 5½d. per lb. on the average, as compared with 2d. per lb. in July, 1914. Increases of about 45 to 50 per cent. are recorded for tea, flour, bread, cheese and eggs. Milk and butter were one-third dearer than in July, 1914, and the price of margarine was about 17 per cent. higher.

Taking the country as a whole, and making allowance for the relative importance of the various articles in

* This percentage is based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers.

† In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is usually met by short time working.

working-class household expenditure, the average increase in the retail prices of food since the beginning of the war may be put at 61 per cent., which is reduced to 55 per cent. if the increase in the duties on tea and sugar is deducted.

These figures relate to food only, and in estimating the increased cost of living this percentage must not be applied to the total family expenditure, but only to that proportion which is expended on food. It should be remembered that rents of working-class dwellings are not appreciably higher than before the war, and that although many other items of expenditure have increased, they have not advanced, on the average, so much as food. It may be estimated that the average increase in the cost of living of the working-classes, taking food, rent, clothing, fuel and light and miscellaneous expenditure into consideration, between July, 1914, and the present time, is between 40 and 45 per cent., disregarding increased taxation and assuming that the standard of living has not been modified in view of war conditions.

BERLIN IN MAY.

A slight fall (1.7 per cent.) was registered in the general level of retail food prices in Berlin during May, according to the returns published in the Prussian official journal *Statistische Korrespondenz*. As a result, the percentage rise since July, 1914, stood at 116.0 in May, as against 119.8 in April. In calculating these percentages allowance is made for the relative importance of the various articles of food in working-class consumption.

Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Price in May, 1916, as compared with	
	April, 1916.	July, 1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Rye bread	No change	+ 42.9
Wheat bread	No change	+ 27.7
Rye flour	No change	+ 46.7
Wheat flour	No change	+ 14.3
Butter	No change	+ 15.4
Lard	+ 0.8	+ 305.8
Sugar	+ 3.0	+ 36.0
Coffee	+ 5.6	+ 145.2
Eggs	No change	+ 228.6
Milk	No change	+ 36.4
Beef	- 18.8	+ 166.5
Mutton	- 0.5	+ 180.9
Veal	- 11.8	+ 140.2
Pork	+ 0.6	+ 117.9
Bacon	+ 9.2	+ 215.6
Potatoes	+ 7.7	+ 75.0
Rice	- 4.4	+ 420.0
Split peas	- 4.5	+ 162.5
Haricot beans	- 5.0	+ 126.0
ALL ABOVE ARTICLES (WEIGHTED PERCENTAGE INCREASE)	- 1.7	+ 116.0

The most noteworthy change since April was in the price of beef, for which there came into operation for the first time in May maximum retail prices fixed at a level well below that previously obtaining in the uncontrolled retail trade. On the other hand, meat was so scarce in Berlin in May that a system of rationing was put into force similar to that already in operation as regards bread, flour, butter, sugar and potatoes. According to the *Vossische Zeitung* of 21st May the weekly ration per person had just been fixed at a maximum of $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of fresh meat or fresh fat, or of both combined.

VIENNA IN MAY.

A further rise of over 4 per cent. in retail food prices in Vienna is shown by the figures for the month of May published in the official journal *Warenpreisberichte*, the general level being thus brought up to 128 per cent. above that of July, 1914. (In the returns for May no price is given for rice, the article being apparently no longer procurable in Vienna. But for its omission, and assuming the price not to have changed since April, the general index number of the rise since July, 1914, would have been 131 per cent.). No data are available as to the relative importance of the various foods in household consumption in Vienna, and in computing the general index number it is assumed that the same standard exists there as in Berlin. The following Table

shows the percentage changes in price of the more important articles of food separately:—

Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Price in May, 1916, as compared with	
	April, 1916.	July, 1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef	+ 3.6	+ 282.2
Veal	+ 6.6	+ 170.0
Pork	+ 13.8	+ 218.2
Bacon	No change	+ 235.0
Lard	No change	+ 236.8
Milk	+ 2.1	+ 51.8
Butter	No change	+ 144.4
Margarine	+ 17.6	+ 300.0
Flour, wheat	No change	+ 179.1
Bread, rye... ..	No change	+ 75.0
Eggs	+ 11.1	+ 185.7
Potatoes	+ 5.9	- 25.0*
Haricot beans	No change	+ 191.7
Onions	No change	+ 140.0
Sugar	No change	+ 17.7
ALL ABOVE ARTICLES (WEIGHTED PERCENTAGE INCREASE)	+ 4.3	+ 128.1

Compared with the preceding month, seven articles out of the 15 shown in the Table increased in price (the increase being most marked for margarine, pork and eggs) and eight remained as in April.

As compared with prices prevailing immediately before the war, all articles except potatoes* were dearer. Sugar had only advanced by 18 per cent., but, on the other hand, margarine cost four times, and beef, pork, bacon and lard over three times as much as in July, 1914.

As an index to the state of food supplies the above figures (like those for Berlin) can only be accepted with considerable and increasing reserve, since many of the most essential kinds of food are no longer sold in a free market, nor obtainable in any but strictly limited quantities.

ITALY IN APRIL.

During April there was a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the retail prices of food in Italy, and the general level fell slightly to a point 32.4 per cent. above that of July, 1914. The percentages in the following Table are based on index numbers published in the issue for 16th June of the journal of the Italian Labour Department (*Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro*), and relate to 42 towns in Italy:—

Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April, 1916, as compared with	
	March, 1916.	July, 1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wheat bread	- 2.8	+ 26.2
Wheat flour	- 2.9	+ 34.0
Macaroni, &c.	No change	+ 41.2
Beef	- 1.3	+ 62.2
Bacon	+ 4.0	+ 32.5
Olive oil	+ 1.7	+ 27.2
Milk	- 2.1	+ 7.3
ALL ABOVE ARTICLES	- 0.4	+ 32.4

EMPLOYMENT OF SAILORS AND SOLDIERS ON THE LAND.

THE second part of the Final Report† of the Departmental Committee appointed to consider the settlement and employment of discharged sailors and soldiers on the land in England and Wales has recently been issued.

This section deals with the second of the two problems indicated by the terms of reference, namely, the employment of ex-Service men as wage-earners, as opposed to the settlement of these men as smallholders; the latter was regarded as the more urgent problem because immediate action is necessary in order to acquire and equip land for this purpose, and the subject was therefore dealt with in Part I. The problem of employment

* In this case the decrease is only apparent, being due to the fact that the only price returned for potatoes in July, 1914, related to the new crop.
† Cd. 8277, Price 4d.

however is regarded as the larger problem, as it is recognised that only a comparatively small proportion of the men can be settled as smallholders, immediately.

For the purpose of the present Report, the evidence collected has been divided into the following sections:—

(A) The shortage of agricultural labour which will exist at the end of the war.

(B) Temporary relief measures to meet any serious amount of unemployment which may occur on demobilisation.

(C) Suggestions towards the extension and development of agricultural industry.

(A) Exact figures as to the number of agriculturists who have joined the Services for the period of the war are not available, but the Committee estimate that up to the present time about 320,000 men have left the land since the beginning of the war. From the evidence taken it seems probable that most of the older and of the married men will wish to return to their former occupations, but, owing to the wastage of war and various other factors, it is certain that the number of farm workers who will return to agriculture will fall considerably short of the original number, the probable shortage being estimated at about 80,000, or at least 25 per cent. of those who have enlisted.

In order to meet this serious shortage, four possible courses are indicated:—

(1) To continue the labour of women and children which has been introduced during the war.

(2) To employ more labour-saving machinery.

(3) To attract to agriculture men who were not thus employed before the war.

(4) To reduce agricultural employment by putting more land down to grass.

After due consideration of the above possibilities, the Committee are forced to the conclusion that it will be essential to provide agriculture with a considerable number of ex-Service men who were not previously employed in farm work, unless the fourth course mentioned above is adopted, whereby agricultural production and agricultural population in England and Wales would be still further reduced.

In the demobilisation of the Forces, however, which will set free about three million non-agricultural men (excluding munition workers), the Committee see an exceptional opportunity for providing the required supply of labour for agriculture. But in order to attract these men they consider that substantial improvements will have to be made with regard to wages, housing, and conditions generally, the evidence taken by the Committee showing the decline in population in the rural districts in recent years to have been largely due to the absence of satisfactory conditions.

On the question of wages generally, and especially with regard to the establishment of a minimum wage, the Committee arrived at no unanimous conclusion. Some of the members were strongly of opinion that in order to attract sufficient men it would be absolutely necessary to give some guarantee that wages would not fall below a certain minimum. On the other hand, some members of the Committee considered that, apart from the objections so often advanced against minimum wage legislation and the difficulties of applying it to the agricultural industry, legislation was uncalled for at the present time, seeing that wages in this industry stand at a higher level than they have ever reached before, and are likely to be maintained at this level after the war. They also consider that such legislation might be regarded as controversial, and, as such, could not be passed during the continuance of the war.

But in order to fill the vacancies in agriculture it is recognised that it will be necessary to offer ex-Service men not only a satisfactory wage but adequate housing accommodation. For some years past one of the greatest obstacles in the way of retaining men in the country has been the lack of good cottage accommodation. In August, 1914, an Act was passed (which has never be-

come operative) to authorise the Board of Agriculture to advance large loans to local authorities and public utility societies in agricultural districts for the purpose of erecting cottages; the Committee are strongly of opinion that this Act should be put into force as soon as practicable. If more cottages were provided by the local authorities, the problem presented by the much-criticised "tied" cottage system would be largely solved, since the proportion of "tied" cottages would then become smaller than at present, and a labourer who was obliged to leave a "tied" cottage would not experience the difficulty he does now in finding a suitable house in the neighbourhood.

The Report further emphasises the fact that the difficulties in the way of providing new cottages in country districts would be largely removed if an economic rent could be charged for them. The present practice of letting good cottages at a nominal rent not only tends to keep the standard of wages low, but discourages building and aggravates the problem generally.

(B) This section deals with temporary relief measures to be adopted if there is widespread unemployment in the country at the time of demobilisation. To meet this contingency the Committee consider that it will be necessary for the State and the local authorities to prepare beforehand schemes of remunerative works of improvement on which the surplus labour may be employed without delay, and they consider it of great importance that reclamation of waste lands and afforestation should be included among these schemes. The Report calls special attention to the importance of having these schemes ready, and all legal and other obstacles removable at short notice. For this purpose further powers to acquire and develop land will have to be vested by law in some Government Department.

(C) The problem of filling the vacancies caused by the war has already been dealt with under Section A. The Committee, however, consider that in the highest interests of the nation much more is demanded, and that the unique opportunity of extending and developing the agricultural industry in this country afforded by the demobilisation of the Forces ought not to be thrown away. They therefore discuss in some detail various methods which were brought before their notice for increasing the home-grown food supply and the rural population. It is generally agreed that the only means by which a substantial increase in the home production of food can be obtained is by bringing under the plough a large area of land now devoted to pasture, thus entailing a large increase in the number of men permanently employed on the land. The Report, however, points out that in order to make this conversion remunerative steps must be taken to ensure stability for the prices of arable produce. In this connection the following measures are suggested as worthy of consideration:—

(1) A guarantee by the State of a minimum price for home-grown wheat for a period sufficient to give confidence to the farmers.

(2) An offer by the State of a bonus for each acre of permanent grass land brought under the plough and kept in a proper state of cultivation.

(3) The imposition of import duties on agricultural produce sufficient to give the protection that is necessary to the farmer.

The above paragraphs summarise the main features of the Majority Report. The Minority, while agreeing with much of the policy advocated by the Majority, consider that their colleagues have failed to emphasise or make provision for the urgency of the problem, the most marked disagreement arising in connection with the question of remuneration to agricultural labour and with regard to the execution of the policy for combining the development of British agriculture with the employment of ex-Service men. In the opinion of the Minority minimum wage legislation is absolutely necessary, and although fully recognising the difficulties of the situation, they consider that it is absolutely essential that all necessary steps, legislative and otherwise, should be taken before demobilisation begins, or the opportunities thus offered will be lost.

LABOUR IN THE BRITISH DOMINIONS OVER-SEA AND IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

CANADA.*

Employment in May.—Employment continued active in practically all occupations, and if anything there was a shortage, rather than a surplus, of labour in many industries. A reduction of output was reported in some Nova Scotia coal mines on this account, and in some mines in the Crow's Nest Pass operations were reported curtailed owing to a lack of haulage hands. A number of towns reported civic construction work delayed on account of difficulty in securing unskilled labour. Building operations were improved somewhat, not only in the East, but in a few parts of the West, and even in parts where dullness existed, workpeople belonging to the building trades suffered but little from lack of employment, being able to secure other work. While there appeared to be a shortage of labour in a number of industries, returns sent to the Department by employment agencies in the principal towns indicated an increased capacity on the part of these agencies to fill positions offering, an evidence that, so far as the classes of labour dealt with by these agencies are concerned, at least, the situation in regard to a shortage of help was improving. Some agricultural districts reported a scarcity of farm labour, but in other parts sufficient help was available. Continued wet weather in many parts interfered with operations and lessened the demand for help.

Labour Disputes.—During May 13 new disputes were recorded, by which 2,007 workpeople were directly affected. In addition, 4 disputes, directly affecting 1,397 workpeople, were continued from April. The number of working days lost by the above 17 disputes was estimated as 26,704. During the month 12 disputes came to an end. Eight of these terminated in favour of the employers, and 3 in a compromise, while in the remaining dispute the men returned to work pending the award of the conciliation board.

Cost of Living.—The cost of food in Canada in May, measured by the weekly expenditure of a family as computed from returns of retail prices in about 60 cities in the Dominion, increased by 0.4 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, and was higher by 12.9 per cent. than in July, 1914.

Taking the total family expenditure—food, fuel, lighting and rent—the figures for May showed a rise of 0.7 per cent. as compared with April, and an increase of 1.0 per cent. as compared with July, 1914.

The difference in the extent of the rise since July, 1914, between food on the one hand and the total family expenditure on the other is due to the fact that while food has become dearer there has been a reduction under the headings "Rent" (16.5 per cent.) and "Fuel and Lighting" (0.8 per cent.).

NEW ZEALAND.

Labour Disputes and Cost of Living.—According to a report to the Board of Trade by H.M. Trade Commissioner in New Zealand, dated 8th May, "wages generally show a tendency to rise as a result of the demands of the workers to be compensated for the increased cost of living by increased remuneration for their work. For the most part, this increase in wages is being obtained without conflict, the prevailing tendency being to agree to a 10 per cent. rise given in the form of a war bonus. Certain classes of railway workers have been given an increase of 1s. per day. General opinion seems to be in favour of increasing freight rates on the railways to meet this additional charge and other increases to the public service which were forecasted by the Premier in publishing the Government's decision on this application.

"The cost of living continues to increase, and shortage of housing accommodation, in Wellington particularly, is leading to much increased rents. This is becoming a serious matter for all classes. The work-

ing people have recently sent a deputation to the Premier in the hope that the Government can be induced to take the matter in hand, either by regulating rents or by erecting new buildings."

HOLLAND.*

Employment in April.—Returns relating to unemployment in April were received by the Dutch Government Statistical Office from Trade Unions and municipal unemployment funds with a total membership of 125,711. The percentage of members out of work during the month was 5.8, as compared with 6.5 in the previous month and 17.6 in April, 1915.

Group of Trades.	Number of Members insured against unemployment in April, 1916.	Percentage actually Unemployed.			Average Days Lost per Week per Member Unemployed.		
		April, 1916.	Mar., 1916.	April, 1915.	April, 1916.	Mar., 1916.	April, 1915.
All Unions paying Unemployment Benefit, and Municipal Unemployment Funds making Returns	125,711	5.8	6.5	17.6	5.3	5.3	4.9
Do. do., excluding Diamond Workers	115,532	2.3	2.0	10.2	4.3	4.4	4.0
Working in Diamonds and other Precious Stones	10,179	43.7	43.9	74.7	5.9	5.8	5.9
Printing, Lithography, &c.	12,292	1.0	1.1	16.5	4.2	4.0	2.7
Building Trades (including Roadmaking)	24,743	3.5	6.8	16.2	5.0	5.1	5.3
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	18,290	1.4	1.6	11.0	4.0	4.0	3.4
Textile	8,274	3.0	4.1	10.3	2.1	2.1	2.3
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	19,759	1.4	0.7	3.0	5.3	4.7	3.2
Woodworking, &c.	4,733	1.1	1.3	11.3	5.4	5.0	5.0
Leather, Oilcloth, &c.	2,496	0.2	0.2	3.3	4.8	5.5	3.3

The comparison between April, 1916, and the preceding month yields identical results when based upon data furnished by Trade Unions only (irrespective of whether they pay unemployment benefit or not), and when further limited to data received from Trade Unions making returns for both months. Among members of these unions the average number of working days lost per week owing to unemployment was in March 5.3 per cent. and in April 5.3 per cent. of the average possible working days in the respective months.

SWEDEN.

Employment, January-March, 1916.—The issue of *Sociala Meddelanden* (the journal of the Swedish Department for Social Affairs) for May, 1916, contains particulars as to unemployment among members of Swedish Trade Unions at the beginning of January, February, and March respectively.

Unions.	Membership reporting at Mar. 1st, 1916.	Percentage Unemployed on 1st of Month.		
		January, 1916.	February, 1916.	March, 1916.
All Unions making Returns	64,218	7.7	8.0	6.7
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Stoneworkers	2,106	30.9	22.4	19.3
Bricklayers and masons	1,011	37.5	37.7	37.1
Painters	1,210	29.5	35.6	29.8
Blastfurnacemen, &c.	5,477	1.0	0.4	0.6
Foundrymen	2,470	0.6	1.2	0.7
Temple workers, &c.	1,368	4.8	11.8	15.7
Engineering operatives	18,976	2.5	2.4	2.5
Boot, shoe and leather workers	1,462	1.0	1.7	1.5
Brewery workers	1,196	2.2	1.8	2.6
Sawmill workers	4,517	2.4	4.3	2.6
Woodworkers	4,531	12.6	15.7	12.8
Municipal workers	3,968	3.6	3.8	2.6
General workers and factory operatives (trades not distinguished)	7,754	18.0	20.6	15.3

DENMARK.†

Employment in April.—According to returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Office, 4.5 per cent. of the 139,700 members of Trade Unions reporting were unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 8.8

* Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (Journal of the Central Statistical Bureau of Holland), 31st May, 1916.
† Statistiske Efterretninger, 6th July, 1916. Danish Statistical Office.

per cent. in the previous month, and 5.4 per cent. in April, 1915. The average time lost through unemployment during April was about 1.2 days per member.

NORWAY.*

General Strike: Compulsory Arbitration Law.—In a cablegram to the Board of Trade dated 7th June, H.M. Consul at Christiania reported that a general strike had been proclaimed on that day by all Trade Unionists in Norway as a protest against a compulsory arbitration Bill introduced by the Government. About 80,000 men were affected at once, and it was estimated that in two weeks a further 40,500 would be involved.

The general strike was the outcome of a dispute which occurred in the mining industry at the end of January, when some 3,000 workpeople went on strike as the result of differences with their employers concerning the renewal of collective agreements which had terminated at the end of 1915.

The compulsory arbitration Bill became law on 9th June, and on the 14th it was reported that the strikers had determined to resume work. The latest despatch, dated 20th June, states that work was still suspended at certain carbide factories and at many paper and pulp mills, while in iron industries and mines many men had not returned.

UNITED STATES.†

Employment in April.—Returns furnished to the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics by representative manufacturers enable comparisons to be made as to the volume of employment in identical establishments (a) between April and March, 1916, and (b) between April, 1916, and April, 1915:—

(a) Comparison of April with March, 1916.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople.			Earnings.‡		
		Mar., 1916.	April, 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	Mar., 1916.	April, 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
Iron and steel ...	99	140,748	140,467	- 0.2	1,052,871	1,053,247	+ \$
Car building and repairing	37	45,271	45,298	+ 0.1	308,497	312,533	+ 1.3
Cotton manufacturing	59	55,113	55,105	- \$	101,881	103,106	+ 1.2
Cotton finishing	17	14,451	13,772	- 4.7	34,487	33,266	- 3.5
Hosiery & underwear	57	30,155	30,423	+ 0.9	59,864	59,989	+ 0.2
Woolen ...	14	17,606	17,324	+ 1.6	39,977	40,559	+ 1.5
Silk ...	47	16,766	16,934	+ 1.0	74,520	73,906	- 0.8
Men's ready-made clothing	35	16,175	16,084	- 0.6	43,694	43,450	- 0.6
Boots and shoes	63	49,713	49,134	- 1.2	138,101	132,426	- 4.1
Cigar manufacturing	64	21,550	22,303	+ 3.5	45,202	44,330	- 1.9

In the foregoing table half the industries show an increase in April in the number of workpeople and half a reduction. The greatest reduction was of 4.7 per cent. in the cotton finishing industry. As regards earnings also, half the industries show an increase and half a reduction.

(b) Comparison of April, 1916, with April, 1915.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople.			Earnings.‡		
		April, 1915.	April, 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	April, 1915.	April, 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
Iron and steel ...	96	107,099	139,920	+ 30.6	690,068	1,052,651	+ 52.5
Car building and repairing	37	27,727	45,036	+ 62.4	167,617	311,047	+ 85.6
Cotton manufacturing	60	56,451	55,755	- 1.2	96,303	103,385	+ 7.4
Cotton finishing	17	13,107	13,772	+ 5.1	29,594	33,266	+ 12.4
Hosiery & underwear	55	26,307	29,240	+ 11.1	45,838	58,353	+ 27.1
Woolen ...	49	37,313	41,574	+ 11.4	80,611	101,608	+ 26.0
Silk ...	48	15,307	17,075	+ 11.6	58,840	75,049	+ 27.5
Men's ready-made clothing	37	13,627	16,474	+ 20.9	29,553	44,699	+ 51.2
Boots and shoes	66	39,905	51,143	+ 28.2	86,725	137,190	+ 58.2
Cigar manufacturing	68	22,384	25,052	+ 3.0	43,263	47,262	+ 9.2

* Based on dispatches from H.M. Minister and H.M. Consul at Christiania, dated 1st February to 20th June.

† Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, June, 1916, Washington.

‡ These figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of the iron and steel, car building and silk industries, and for one week in other cases.

\$ Less than 0.1 per cent.

¶ If the number of workpeople be correctly given in the source this percentage should be minus 1.6. Possibly the March and April figures have become transposed.

The number of workpeople in April, 1916, was greater than in April, 1915, in all industries except cotton manufacturing. The greatest increase shown (viz. 62.4 per cent.) was in car building and repairing. More money was paid out in wages in all the industries covered in April, 1916, than in April, 1915. The greatest increase in the amount of the pay-roll was in the car building and repairing industry (85.6 per cent.), and the smallest (7.4 per cent.) was in the cotton manufacturing industry.

In addition to the data summarised above, 76 plants in the iron and steel industry reported an increase of 26.2 per cent. in the number of workpeople actually working on the last full day of the pay-period reported for in April, 1916, as compared with the corresponding date in 1915; while 87 plants reported a decrease of 2.6 per cent. in the number of employees as compared with the preceding month.

Retail Food Prices in March.—The index number representing the level of retail food prices in the United States rose approximately by 1 per cent. between 15th February and 15th March, and on the latter date was a little over 9 per cent. higher than on 15th March, 1915, and about 8 per cent. higher than on 15th March, 1914.

As compared with February, 14 articles out of the 26 taken were dearer in March, while 4 were cheaper. There was a marked fall in the price of eggs, and milk was slightly cheaper.

As compared with March, 1915, 19 articles had increased in price, the greatest relative rises being for potatoes, onions, beans, pork chops, sugar and butter. Only 3 articles were cheaper, viz. wheat flour, maize meal and prunes.

Operations of Federal Labour Exchanges in April.—The following data relate to the operations during April and the two preceding months of the Labour Exchanges established by the Division of Information of the Bureau of Immigration:—

Month.	No. of Applicants for Employment.	No. of Persons for whom Situations were Found.	Percentage of Applicants Placed.
February, 1916 ...	14,257	4,185	29.35
March, 1916 ...	19,484	7,030	36.08
April, 1916 ...	13,498	7,653	56.70

New York State.*

Employment and Wages in New York State in May.—The high record of business activity in the factories of New York State in April of this year was almost equalled in May, in spite of the disturbing influence of important strikes in the latter month. This is shown by returns from over 1,400 representative manufacturers employing more than half a million workpeople. From April to May the total number of workpeople decreased less than 2 per cent., while the total amount of wages paid decreased less than 1 per cent. In May, 1916, there were 17 per cent. more persons employed and 31 per cent. more wages paid than in May, 1915. In all industries the amount of wages paid continues to increase more rapidly than the number of persons employed.

Massachusetts.†

Employment in Massachusetts at End of March, 1916.—For the quarter ending 31st March, 1916, returns were received from 1,029 labour organisations in Massachusetts with an aggregate membership of 178,434, or about 75 per cent. of the total membership of all Trade Unions in the State. The proportion of such members unemployed on 31st March, owing to causes other than labour disputes and disablement—e.g. lack of work, shortage of materials, weather conditions, holidays and temporary shut-downs—was 5.1 per cent., as compared with 5.3 per cent. at the end of December, and with 13.7 per cent. at end of March, 1915.

* Bulletin of New York State Industrial Commission, June, 1916. Albany, N.Y.
† Thirty-third Quarterly Report on Employment in Massachusetts, Quarter ending 31st March, 1916. Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics, Boston.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING JUNE.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good during June. There was an increase of 1,892, or 0.4 per cent., in the number of workpeople employed compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 217 on a year ago.

Of the 530,470 workpeople included in the returns, 132,983, or 25.1 per cent. of the total, were employed at pits working twelve days* during the fortnight to which the returns relate; while a further 338,287, or 63.8 per cent., were employed at pits working eleven but less than twelve days.

The highest average number of days worked was in North Wales (5.86 days), and the lowest average was in Northumberland (5.43 days).

Districts.	No. of Work-people employed in June, 1916, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1916, on a	
		June 24th, 1916.	May 27th, 1916.	June 26th, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Northumberland ...	45,496	5.43	5.48	5.24	- 0.05	+ 0.19
Durham ...	92,281	5.39	5.57	5.49	+ 0.02	+ 0.10
Cumberland ...	5,331	5.60	5.76	5.78	- 0.26	- 0.28
South Yorkshire ...	61,008	5.81	5.87	5.78	- 0.06	+ 0.03
West Yorkshire ...	25,198	5.75	5.79	5.67	- 0.04	+ 0.08
Lancashire and Cheshire	47,724	5.55	5.77	5.74	- 0.22	- 0.19
Derbyshire ...	31,637	5.49	5.87	5.73	- 0.38	- 0.24
Nottingham and Leicester	33,878	5.56	5.05	5.42	- 0.09	+ 0.14
Staffordshire ...	27,398	5.75	5.82	5.81	- 0.07	- 0.06
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop ...	8,708	5.82	5.80	5.84	+ 0.02	- 0.02
Gloucester and Somerset	5,598	5.67	5.97	5.91	- 0.30	- 0.24
North Wales ...	7,617	5.86	6.00	5.97	- 0.14	- 0.11
South Wales and Mon. ...	94,231	5.51	5.93	5.93	- 0.42	- 0.42
ENGLAND AND WALES.	486,245	5.60	5.76	5.67	- 0.16	- 0.07
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	20,131	5.47	5.51	5.22	- 0.04	+ 0.25
The Lothians ...	2,163	5.57	5.47	5.35	+ 0.10	+ 0.22
Fife ...	21,459	5.56	5.58	5.47	- 0.02	+ 0.09
SCOTLAND	43,753	5.52	5.54	5.35	- 0.02	+ 0.17
IRELAND	472	5.56	5.28	4.94	+ 0.28	+ 0.62
UNITED KINGDOM	530,470	5.59	5.74	5.64	- 0.15	- 0.05

Compared with the previous month employment showed an appreciable decline in Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, Derbyshire, Gloucester and Somerset, and South Wales and Monmouthshire; this may be accounted for, to some extent, by the fact that a certain amount of time was lost owing to holidays. In the Lothians and in Ireland there was an improvement. In the other districts there was little change.

Compared with June, 1915, employment showed an improvement in Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, Nottingham and Leicester, Scotland and Ireland, but a decline in every other district; the decline was most marked in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

Description of Coal.	No. of Work-people employed in June, 1916, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Pits in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1916, on a	
		24th June, 1916.	27th May, 1916.	26th June, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Anthracite ...	6,610	5.62	5.90	5.85	- 0.28	- 0.23
Coking ...	28,164	5.78	5.78	5.74	+ 0.04	+ 0.09
Gas ...	36,301	5.50	5.56	5.41	- 0.06	+ 0.09
House ...	60,174	5.61	5.73	5.59	- 0.12	+ 0.02
Steam ...	181,528	5.57	5.79	5.70	- 0.22	- 0.13
Mixed ...	217,693	5.63	5.72	5.64	- 0.09	- 0.01
ALL DESCRIPTIONS	530,470	5.59	5.74	5.64	- 0.15	- 0.05

* The figures in this article and the following only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron ore or shale was got and drawn from the mines or open works included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed worked every day that the mines or works were open.

Compared with a month ago employment showed a decline at pits producing all classes of coal, except at coking coal pits, which showed no change. Compared with a year ago there was some improvement at coking, gas and house coal pits, but a decline at all other pits.

The exports of coal, coke and manufactured fuel during June amounted to 3,504,000 tons, a decrease of 321,000 tons on a month ago and of 221,000 tons on a year ago.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

At iron and shale mines the workpeople continued well employed. At tin mines employment continued quiet; lead miners continued busy.

At quarries employment was fairly good on the whole; with sett makers it was moderate. China clay workers were generally fully employed.

MINING.

Iron.—Returns received for each of the three periods named below, relating to the same mines and open works in each case, show that the number of workpeople employed in June, 1916, was 13,490, an increase of 314 (or 2.4 per cent.) compared with May, 1916, but a decrease of 271 (or 2.0 per cent.) compared with June, 1915.

The returns are summarised by districts in the following Table:—

Districts.	Work-people employed in June, 1916.	Average number of days worked per week by Mines in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1916, on a	
		24th June, 1916.	27th May, 1916.	26th June, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	5,837	5.61	5.85	5.64	- 0.24	- 0.03
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,614	5.92	5.94	5.86	- 0.02	+ 0.06
Scotland ...	760	5.99	5.59	5.56	+ 0.40	+ 0.43
Other Districts ...	2,279	5.96	5.89	5.99	+ 0.07	- 0.03
ALL DISTRICTS	13,490	5.79	5.88	5.77	- 0.09	+ 0.02

The weekly average number of days* worked by the mines and open works included in the returns are 5.79, compared with 5.88 a month ago and 5.77 a year ago. Compared with a month ago there was a decrease of nearly a quarter of a day per week in the Cleveland district, but in Scotland there was an increase of about two-fifths of a day per week compared with both a month ago and a year ago.

Shale.—According to the returns received, there were 3,148 workpeople employed in the fortnight ended 24th June, 1916, at mines which worked, on the average, 5.98 days per week, compared with 3,104 workpeople in May at mines which worked 6.00 days, and 3,160 a year ago at mines working 5.99 days per week.

Tin.—Employment in Cornwall continued about the same as a month ago, when it was quiet; owing to the small number of men left in the trade a shortage of labour at some mines was reported.

Lead.—Employment continued good in Flintshire, at Darley Dale (Matlock), and on the Wear.

QUARRYING.

Slate.—In North Wales employment continued fair, and was better than a year ago.

Granite.—In Leicestershire the macadam quarries continued well employed, but in Cornwall employment was dull, and worse than a year ago. At the Aberdeen quarries the labour shortage was still very marked.

Limestone.—In the Cleveland and Weardale districts employment continued good. At Buxton it was fair,

* See note * in previous column.

but not so good as a month ago. In the Plymouth district it was moderate.

Other Stone.—At the Bakewell chert quarries employment continued good. It was also good at the Clee Hill road-material (basalt) quarries, and a shortage of labour was reported. At the Rowsley grindstone and building stone quarries employment was moderate. At freestone quarries on the Tyne it was still fair. The depression in the Forfarshire sandstone quarries continued.

Sett-making.—Many men were reported to have left the trade. In Scotland employment was moderate generally. In the Clee Hill district it was quiet. In Leicestershire it continued moderate, and showed some decline on a year ago.

China Clay.—In the St. Austell district employment was good, and better than a year ago; it continued fair at the Shaugh and Lee Moor works.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good. The difficulty in obtaining sufficient supplies of iron ore, coke and other materials was again mentioned in many reports. There was also a shortage of labour, principally of furnace-men and general labourers, at a number of furnaces.

Returns received show that 274 furnaces were in blast at the end of June, 1916, compared with 270 both a month ago and a year ago. During the month five furnaces were re-lit (three in Cumberland and one each in Cleveland and Lanarkshire), and one furnace in Cumberland was blown out.

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1916, on	
	June, 1916.	May, 1916.	June, 1915.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Cleveland ...	70	69	68	+ 1	+ 2
Cumberland and Lancs ...	31	29	27	+ 2	+ 4
S. and S.W. Yorks... ..	11	11	11	...	...
Derby and Nottingham ...	27	27	31	...	- 4
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	28	28	28	...	...
Staffs and Worcester ...	30	30	33	...	- 3
S. Wales and Monmouth...	11	11	9	...	+ 2
Other districts ...	5	5	4	...	+ 1
ENGLAND AND WALES	213	210	211	+ 3	+ 2
SCOTLAND	61	60	59	+ 1	+ 2
TOTAL	274	270	270	+ 4	+ 4

The imports of iron ore during June totalled 646,000 tons, compared with 688,000 tons in May and 641,000 tons a year ago.

The exports of pig iron amounted to 77,000 tons, a decrease of 20,000 tons on a month ago, but an increase of 38,000 tons on a year ago. Of the total exports in June, 1916, nearly 51,000 tons went to France.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued very good, and showed an improvement on a month ago; it was much better than a year ago. A general shortage of labour continued.

Compared with a month ago employment showed some decline in the Sheffield and Rotherham and Staffordshire districts, but an improvement in every other district, which was most noticeable in Northumberland and Durham, and in Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire. As regards the departments, there was an improvement at crucible furnaces and rolling mills and a decline at forges and presses, but in the other departments there was not much change.

Compared with a year ago employment showed an improvement in every district, except in the Leeds and Bradford district, where there was a decline; the improvement was most marked in Scotland, Sheffield and Rotherham and Cleveland. There was a slight decline at puddling forges, but an improvement at all the other departments. This improvement was greatest at crucible furnaces, Bessemer converters and foundries; the average number of shifts worked per man at foundries was 6.39.

According to returns relating to 113,406 workpeople, the aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended 24th June, 1916, was 657,945, showing an increase of 5,154 (or 0.8 per cent.) on a month ago and of 53,716 (or 8.9 per cent.) on a year ago.

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts worked.	
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	11,023	+ 1.3	65,467	+ 0.6
Crucible Furnaces ...	612	+ 4.8	3,547	+ 1.4
Bessemer Converters ...	1,536	- 0.3	8,603	- 0.7
Puddling Forges ...	7,169	+ 0.1	37,103	- 0.6
Rolling Mills ...	31,513	+ 0.4	172,456	+ 1.4
Forging and Pressing ...	5,520	+ 0.6	31,115	+ 2.4
Founding ...	17,730	- 0.2	113,262	- 0.3
Other Departments...	15,874	+ 1.8	91,977	+ 1.6
Mechanics, Labourers ...	22,429	+ 1.5	134,415	+ 1.7
TOTAL	113,406	+ 0.8	657,945	+ 0.8
DISTRICTS.				
Northumberland & Durham	12,464	+ 2.6	71,152	+ 2.6
Cleveland ...	9,828	+ 0.5	57,520	+ 0.4
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	28,676	+ 0.0	175,688	- 0.6
Leeds, Bradford, &c. ...	3,775	- 0.5	21,290	+ 1.0
Cumberland, Lancashire, & Cheshire	8,277	+ 1.4	47,044	+ 2.0
Staffordshire... ..	9,444	- 0.2	52,361	- 0.6
Other Midland Counties ...	5,720	+ 0.2	32,024	+ 1.5
Wales and Monmouth ...	13,139	+ 1.2	73,464	+ 1.9
TOTAL, England & Wales	91,323	+ 0.7	530,493	+ 0.7
Scotland ...	22,083	+ 1.1	127,452	+ 1.2
TOTAL	113,406	+ 0.8	657,945	+ 0.8

The imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during June, 1916, totalled 78,000 tons, compared with 73,000 tons a month ago and 134,000 tons a year ago.

The exports (excluding pig iron, black plates, tin plates and galvanised sheets) amounted to 171,000 tons, a decrease of 35,000 tons compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3,000 tons compared with a year ago.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

GREAT activity continued in these trades, and a large amount of overtime was again worked. Trade Unions with 259,907 members (mostly in skilled occupations) reported 0.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of June compared with 0.3 per cent. in each of the previous four months, and with 0.6 per cent. in June, 1915.

The number of workpeople (skilled and unskilled) in these trades insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act was 953,451, of whom 0.4 per cent. were reported as unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 0.4 per cent. a month ago, 0.5 per cent. a year ago, and 3.3 per cent. in June, 1914. In only two areas (London and Ireland) was the percentage of unemployed in excess of 0.5, while in Scotland, the Northern Counties, Yorkshire and Wales it was as low as 0.2.

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1916, on a	
		30th June, 1916.	26th May, 1916.	25th June, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
London ...	102,727	0.9	1.0	1.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Northern Counties ...	92,237	0.2	0.2	0.3	...	- 0.1
North-Western ...	181,993	0.5	0.5	0.6	...	- 0.1
Yorkshire ...	119,506	0.2	0.2	0.4	...	- 0.2
East Midlands ...	59,365	0.4	0.4	0.3	...	+ 0.1
West Midlands ...	119,633	0.5	0.5	0.4	...	+ 0.1
Eastern and S.E. Counties	65,251	0.3	0.2	0.3	+ 0.1	...
South-Western ...	39,200	0.3	0.4	0.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Wales ...	17,347	0.2	0.3	0.3	- 0.1	- 0.1
Scotland ...	136,407	0.2	0.2	0.3	...	- 0.1
Ireland ...	19,775	1.4	1.8	2.9	- 0.4	- 1.5
UNITED KINGDOM	953,451	0.4	0.4	0.5	...	- 0.1

The general state of employment, as described above, applied to all districts and all occupations with few exceptions. In certain cases a decrease in the number of

available men necessitated the adoption of 12-hour shifts instead of 8-hour shifts for male workers. In one railway centre, on the other hand, night shifts ceased during June owing to a re-arrangement of work.

The imports of machinery during June, 1916, were valued at £874,000, compared with £887,000 in May, 1916, and £924,000 in June, 1915.

The exports (British and Irish) were valued at £1,772,000, compared with £1,921,000 a month ago and £1,856,000 a year ago.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

THESE trades continued to work at high pressure, with much overtime.

Trade Unions of iron and steel shipbuilders and shipwrights with 73,475 members reported 0.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, compared with 0.2 per cent. in May, and with 0.4 per cent. in June, 1915.

The percentage unemployed among the 231,994 workpeople in the shipbuilding industry who are insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act was reported as 0.3 at the end of June, compared with 0.3 a month ago, 0.7 a year ago, and 4.1 two years ago. The percentages unemployed in each district at the end of June, 1916, May, 1916, and June, 1915, are shown in the following Table:—

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1916, compared with a	
		30th June, 1916.	26th May, 1916.	25th June, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	10,139	1.1	1.4	1.3	- 0.3	- 0.2
Northern Counties	51,128	0.1	0.1	0.3	...	- 0.2
North-Western	35,896	0.1	0.1	0.3	...	- 0.2
Yorkshire	5,762	0.2	0.2	0.5	...	- 0.3
East Midlands	1,540	0.3	0.5	1.1	- 0.2	- 0.8
West Midlands	435	0.5	0.9	...	- 0.4	+ 0.5
Eastern and S.E. Counties	7,134	0.1	0.2	0.7	- 0.1	- 0.6
South-Western	22,068	0.4	0.4	0.7	...	- 0.3
Wales	11,028	0.1	0.1	0.8	...	- 0.7
Scotland	69,751	0.1	0.0	0.4	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Ireland	17,113	1.5	1.5	3.7	...	- 2.2
UNITED KINGDOM	231,994	0.3	0.3	0.7	...	- 0.4

The only noticeable variations as compared with the preceding month, or exceptions to the general state of employment as described above, were as follows:—

On the Clyde there was some decline in the employment of platers, and with other ironworkers overtime was not so general as a month ago; with joiners, however, a further improvement was reported in this district. There was also an improvement with joiners on the Tyne and Wear, but at Belfast employment in this occupation was reported as bad. On repair work employment was described as exceptionally good on the Tyne; at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool it was only fair, and in the case of ironworkers worse than a month ago; at Swansea also a decline was reported.

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADE.

THE following Table shows the number of tinsplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of June, 1916, at the works covered by the returns, together with the increase or decrease on a month ago and a year ago. The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 24,400 workpeople:

Works.	Number of Works open.			Number of Mills in operation.		
	At end of June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		At end of June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate	74	+ 1	...	373	- 7	- 23
Steel Sheet	12	- 1	...	71	- 3	- 8
TOTAL	86	...	...	444	- 10	- 31

TINPLATE.

The number of mills at work at the end of June was seven less than at the end of the previous month, and twenty-three less than a year ago. The demand for tinplates was good. It was reported that there was not quite so much difficulty in procuring steel bars, and the difficulties in obtaining other supplies, such as boxes, etc., were stated to be less acute. At many works a shortage of labour was reported, and in order to minimise the effects of this, many men of higher grades were employed on lower grade work hitherto done mostly by men of military age now with the colours.

The exports of tinned plates and tinned sheets showed a decrease compared with both a month ago and a year ago. Compared with a month ago the chief decreases were in shipments to France, the Netherlands, Australia, China and Japan; the quantity sent to Norway increased by nearly 2,000 tons. Compared with a year ago there were increases to Australia, China and Japan, and France; the most marked decreases were in the consignments to British East Indies, the Netherlands and Norway.

	June, 1916.	May, 1916.	June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1916, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.					
To United States	35	34	3	-	1
„ British East Indies	2,721	2,126	5,201	+ 505	+ 2,480
„ France	5,514	9,650	4,533	- 4,136	+ 981
„ Netherlands	1,040	4,992	2,878	- 3,952	- 1,838
„ Russia	1,039	94	365	+ 945	+ 674
„ Norway	3,655	1,773	5,393	+ 1,882	- 1,738
„ Portugal	1,082	1,705	1,858	- 623	- 776
„ Italy	1,373	2,231	2,057	- 858	- 684
„ China and Japan	2,408	5,454	1,537	- 3,046	+ 871
„ Australia	1,896	5,797	618	- 3,931	+ 1,248
„ Canada	130	22	297	+ 108	- 167
„ Argentina	1,097	360	1,635	+ 737	- 538
„ Other Countries	8,891	7,626	7,580	+ 765	+ 811
TOTAL	30,351	41,868	33,986	- 11,517	- 3,635
Black Plates for Tinning.					
TOTAL	11,814	28,037	3,478	- 16,223	+ 8,336

STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEETS.

In this branch of the trade the number of mills in operation at the end of June was three less than in May and eight less than a year ago. Much of the production of galvanised sheets was reported to be for Government orders. There was still a demand for sheets of the heavier gauges, and the mills worked regularly so far as the supply of steel bars and other materials would permit. The shortage of labour continued.

The imports of crude zinc during June, 1916, amounted to 4,561 tons, compared with 2,838 tons in May and 5,533 tons a year ago.

The exports of galvanised sheets totalled 10,900 tons during June, 1916, a decrease of 5,700 tons compared with a month ago and of 14,000 tons compared with a year ago.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

THE majority of these trades continued very active during June, and much overtime was worked. Trade Unions with 37,314 members reported 0.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, compared with 0.2 per cent. a month ago and 0.3 per cent. a year ago.

Brasswork and Bedsteads.—Brassworkers continued exceptionally busy, and 80 per cent. of the Trade Union members were working overtime. With bedstead workers at Birmingham employment continued fair.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment continued good with makers of nuts, bolts, rivets and spikes at Blackheath and Halesowen, and with makers of nuts and bolts at Darlaston and on the Tyne. At Birmingham shoe rivet and wire nail makers were very busy, and nut and bolt makers continued fairly well employed.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—Great activity in the Sheffield cutlery trades continued during June, and there was still a shortage of labour. With edge tool makers employment was fairly good at Birming-

ham, and fair at Wednesbury. In the hoe trade at Wednesbury it was still slack, however, and showed a decline on a year ago. At Walsall makers of saddle and harness furniture and bits and stirrups reported employment as fairly good, and better than a month ago. At Redditch needle and fish-hook makers were very busy; fishing tackle makers were also well employed.

Tubes.—Employment at all the principal centres continued good; in the brass and copper tube trade at Birmingham it was very good.

Chains, Anchors, Springs, &c.—At Cradley employment was good with anchor and block makers. Chain and cable makers reported it as fair, but not so good as a month ago and a year ago. With anchor smiths it was good on the Tyne and fair on the Wear. At Walsall motor chain and case hame and cart gear makers were fairly well employed; there was some decline, however, on both a month ago and a year ago. Employment in the axle and spring trades at Wednesbury continued good. Makers of springs and small steel parts at West Bromwich and Redditch were still very busy. With anvil and vice makers at Dudley employment, though fairly good, showed a slight decline on a month ago.

Sheet Metal Workers.—The brazing and sheet metal working trades continued very active, and at many centres much overtime was worked. At Birmingham, however, employment was only fairly good, and at Aberdeen, Warrington and Grimsby, fair; at Wolverhampton it was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the ironplate trade there was a general decline on a year ago; at Birmingham employment was quiet, and at Bilston, Dudley and Wolverhampton and in the Lye District it was fair.

Wire.—With wire weavers at Norwich and Glasgow employment continued good. With wire drawers it was very good at Halifax; good at Manchester, Sheffield and Ambergate; and fairly good at Warrington and Newport. At Sheffield and Ambergate there was an improvement on a year ago. With wire rope makers on the Tyne and Wear employment continued good.

Locks, Hollow-ware, &c.—With makers of locks and latches at Wolverhampton and Willenhall employment continued good, and was about the same as a year ago. With hollow-ware makers in the Midlands employment was fair generally, but not so good as a year ago; at Wolverhampton it was very good with stampers and piercers, fairly good with cast iron hollow-ware tanners and turners, and fair with tin and enamel hollow-ware makers. At West Bromwich hollow-ware makers were fairly well employed, chiefly owing to Government orders. On galvanised tanks and hollow-ware at Wolverhampton employment was good; in the builders' ironmongery branch it was fair.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—In England employment was quiet generally, and rather worse than a month ago and a year ago; short time was reported from Rotherham and Luton. Many men were reported to have left the trade for other work in the Sheffield area. In Scotland employment was very good at Falkirk and good at Glasgow.

Jewellery, Plated Ware, &c.—At Birmingham and in London employment in these trades continued good, and was better than a year ago; much overtime was worked in London.

Farriers.—Employment with farriers was good generally.

COTTON TRADE.

In the spinning section employment continued good, but in the weaving section it was slack in some districts, and not so good as a month ago. There was an acute shortage of labour in the spinning department, and some of the slackness in the weaving branch was also due to this cause. The employment of women to replace men on service with the colours is increasing in mule rooms and in blowing rooms, and in roller covering, chain warping, and twisting and drawing-in.

Returns from firms employing 152,156 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 0.3 per

cent. in the number employed and of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 4.4 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	18,219	- 0.7	- 5.3	19,172	+ 1.2	+ 3.5
Spinning	30,983	- 0.3	- 3.4	35,549	+ 0.2	+ 5.3
Weaving	75,653	+ 0.3	- 4.3	79,854	- 1.3	+ 1.0
Other	12,851	- 1.7	- 5.0	17,792	- 1.5	+ 1.2
Not specified	14,450	- 1.7	- 5.7	17,749	- 0.4	+ 1.8
TOTAL	152,156	- 0.3	- 4.4	170,116	- 0.6	+ 2.3
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton	7,561	- 0.4	- 4.8	7,794	- 9.1	- 5.5
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde	8,862	- 1.8	+ 1.1	8,246	- 9.1	+ 0.1
Oldham	16,219	- 0.6	- 3.9	20,183	- 1.5	+ 2.9
Bolton and Leigh	20,231	- 0.2	- 2.4	21,445	+ 2.5	+ 7.6
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden	10,063	- 0.7	+ 1.2	10,875	- 4.4	+ 5.0
Manchester	9,442	- 0.2	- 7.7	9,062	+ 3.9	- 1.6
Preston and Chorley	10,932	- 0.0	- 5.9	11,247	- 3.7	+ 3.4
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	29,593	+ 0.3	- 6.3	33,336	- 0.5	- 3.4
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson	21,462	- 1.0	- 4.7	29,267	+ 2.0	+ 7.0
Other Lancashire Towns	5,739	- 0.1	- 13.1	5,450	+ 1.9	- 3.5
Yorkshire Towns	5,968	+ 0.4	- 5.1	6,679	+ 1.4	+ 2.9
Other Districts	6,084	- 1.0	- 1.3	6,532	+ 5.2	+ 1.9
TOTAL	152,156	- 0.3	- 4.4	170,116	- 0.6	+ 2.3

In the Oldham district employment in the spinning section continued good, and was better than a year ago. There was still an acute shortage of labour, although an increased number of women and girls are working in the spinning rooms; about 13 per cent. of the machinery was idle owing to scarcity of labour. In the weaving section looms were standing for lack of weavers, but employment generally was good and about the same as in June, 1915.

In the Bolton district employment continued fair, and rather more machinery was in action than a month ago. In Manchester it was fair with spinners, but there was some slackness in the weaving department.

In the Blackburn, Preston and Darwen districts employment continued slack; in Blackburn several mills were closed during the month, and many looms were standing through lack of orders, about 1,000 of the trade union members being unemployed per week. In Preston about 2,000 weavers were on short time.

The imports of raw cotton during June, 1916, amounted to 1,557,000 centals of 100 lb., compared with 1,431,000 centals a month ago and 2,593,000 centals a year ago.

The exports of cotton yarn during June, 1916, totalled 17,964,000 lb., an increase of 762,000 lb. on a month ago, and a decrease of 626,000 lb. on a year ago. The quantity of cotton piece goods exported during May, 1916, was 500,832,000 yards, compared with 504,838,000 yards a month ago and 424,946,000 yards a year ago.

COTTON FORWARDED FROM PORTS TO INLAND TOWNS.

Description of Cotton.	June, 1916.	May, 1916.	June, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
American	198,543	227,203	251,847	- 28,660	- 52,044
Brazilian	4,707	5,929	4,500	- 1,222	+ 207
East Indian	5,318	5,195	8,115	+ 113	- 2,807
Egyptian	18,839	16,825	15,927	+ 2,014	+ 2,912
Miscellaneous	8,936	12,889	11,521	- 3,944	- 2,585
TOTAL	236,333	268,032	290,910	- 31,699	- 54,577

PRICES OF COTTON AT LIVERPOOL.

The average daily price of "middling American" cotton at Liverpool during June, 1916, was 8.32d. per lb., a decrease of 1.3 per cent. on the average for the previous month, and an increase of 57.0 per cent. on the average for June, 1915.

In the case of "good fair Egyptian" cotton, the average daily price during June, 1916, was 11.46d. per lb., an increase of 3.9 per cent. on that for May, and of 56.6 per cent. on that for a year ago. The June, 1916, average is the highest recorded for any month since October, 1910, when it was 11.60d.

	June, 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
MIDDLING AMERICAN:	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.
Monthly average of Daily Quotations	8.32	- 0.11	+ 3.02
Highest price on any one day	8.49	- 0.25	+ 3.05
Lowest " " " "	8.16	+ 0.21	+ 3.03
GOOD FAIR EGYPTIAN:			
Monthly average of Daily Quotations	11.46	+ 0.43	+ 4.14
Highest price on any one day	11.68	+ 0.26	+ 4.23
Lowest " " " "	11.28	+ 1.23	+ 4.18

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

ALL the available operatives were fully employed in this industry, but there was an increasing shortage of labour. About 13 per cent. of the workpeople were on overtime during the month, as compared with 15 per cent. a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 22,644 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed and of 8.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
DEPARTMENTS.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Wool Sorting ...	494	+ 1.2	+ 0.2	653	- 2.5	+ 8.1
Spinning ...	5,573	- 0.9	+ 2.6	7,466	- 0.4	+ 16.9
Weaving ...	8,671	- 0.5	- 2.2	9,328	- 0.5	+ 6.1
Other Departments ...	5,953	- 0.6	+ 2.6	7,653	+ 0.9	+ 6.6
Not specified ...	1,953	- 1.2	- 2.1	2,234	- 3.8	+ 4.8
TOTAL ...	22,644	- 0.7	+ 0.2	27,334	- 0.4	+ 8.9
DISTRICTS.						
Huddersfield District ...	3,077	+ 0.2	+ 2.0	4,530	- 1.6	+ 20.9
Leeds District ...	1,961	- 1.4	- 3.4	2,562	+ 3.8	+ 8.1
Dewsbury & Batley District ...	3,146	- 0.3	- 4.2	4,141	+ 3.8	+ 10.5
Other Parts of West Riding ...	2,689	- 1.2	- 2.5	3,360	- 1.4	+ 2.6
TOTAL, WEST RIDING ...	10,873	- 0.6	- 1.9	14,593	+ 0.8	+ 11.1
Scotland ...	5,768	- 0.8	+ 0.5	6,318	- 1.4	+ 7.3
Other Districts ...	6,003	- 0.7	+ 4.2	6,423	- 2.2	+ 5.8
TOTAL ...	22,644	- 0.7	+ 0.2	27,334	- 0.4	+ 8.9

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley districts employment continued very good, the difficulty being to get sufficient labour, especially for the spinning departments: the pressure in the factories has been increased by the placing of large orders for Russian army cloth, and women workers are still being imported into the district. In the Dewsbury and Batley district the majority of cloth manufacturers were also very busy with Government work. At Leeds employment continued very good, although it was affected by the scarcity of labour and consequent waiting for material. In "Other Districts" (which include Rochdale and

* Comparison with a year ago is affected by war bonuses.

other places engaged mainly in the manufacture of flannel) output was restricted by the labour shortage, and efforts to replace the men called up have been only partially successful.

In Scotland employment continued brisk, but was affected by the difficulty in getting yarns and the shortage of workers.

WORSTED TRADE.

In this trade employment continued very good, but was affected by the labour shortage and by the woolcombers' dispute. About 5 per cent. of the workers were on overtime, as compared with 7 per cent. a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 28,562 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 10.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.†
DEPARTMENTS.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	2,155	- 0.3	- 1.8	2,762	- 1.5	+ 7.5
Spinning ...	13,846	- 0.6	- 1.8	11,481	+ 0.5	+ 12.7
Weaving ...	7,519	+ 0.2	- 4.1	8,661	+ 3.5	+ 8.3
Other Departments ...	2,956	- 1.0	+ 0.9	3,993	- 2.0	+ 10.2
Not specified ...	2,086	- 0.2	- 6.4	2,110	- 0.5	+ 6.4
TOTAL ...	28,562*	- 0.4	- 2.5	29,007	+ 0.7	+ 10.1
DISTRICTS.						
Bradford District ...	13,633	+ 0.3	- 0.8	14,151	+ 1.4	+ 12.5
Keighley District ...	5,298	- 0.9	- 6.1	5,078	+ 0.2	+ 3.2
Halifax District ...	2,397	- 0.3	- 4.0	2,205	+ 0.0	+ 9.6
Huddersfield District ...	3,404	- 1.2	- 5.4	3,885	- 2.0	+ 8.3
Other Parts of West Riding ...	1,515	- 1.8	- 0.9	1,558	+ 1.4	+ 15.0
TOTAL, WEST RIDING ...	26,247	- 0.3	- 2.8	26,877	+ 0.6	+ 9.9
Other Districts ...	2,315	- 0.9	+ 1.2	2,130	+ 2.9	+ 11.6
TOTAL ...	28,562*	- 0.4	- 2.5	29,007	+ 0.7	+ 10.1

In the Bradford district employment continued very good, but was affected at the end of the month by the woolcombers' dispute: some machinery was standing for want of operatives. In the Huddersfield district employment was fairly good, but rather less overtime was reported. In the Keighley and Halifax districts the operatives continued well employed.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF WOOL.

The imports of wool (sheep's or lambs') amounted to 46,105,000 lb. during June, 1916, compared with 65,575,000 lb. during May, 1916, and 74,551,000 lb. a year ago.

The exports of tops and of woollen and worsted yarns during June, 1916, amounted to 4,028,000 lb., being 76,000 lb. more than in May and 1,087,000 lb. more than a year ago. Exports of woollen tissues were 12,510,000 yards in June, 1916, 13,943,000 yards in May, 1916, and 8,001,000 yards in June, 1915. The corresponding particulars for worsted tissues were 5,249,000 yards, 4,757,000 yards, and 5,005,000 yards respectively.

PRICES OF WOOL AT BRADFORD.

During June, 1916, the price of Lincoln hoggs wool averaged 19d. per lb., the same as in May, but $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. higher than a year ago. For 40's crossbred tops the average price was 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., as against 27d. in May, 1916, and 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in June, 1915. In the case of 60's super botany tops, the price, 52d. per lb., was the highest recorded; it showed an advance of 4d. (or 8.3 per cent.) on the previous month's price, and of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (or 28.4 per cent.) on the figure for June, 1915.

* Excluding firms affected by the woolcombers' dispute.
† Comparison with a year ago is affected by war bonuses.

	June, 1916.	May, 1916.	June, 1915.
AVERAGE PRICES:	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.
Lincoln Hoggs ...	19	19	18 $\frac{1}{2}$
40's Crossbred tops ...	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	27	26 $\frac{1}{2}$
60's Super Botany tops ...	52	48	40 $\frac{1}{2}$
COURSE OF PRICES:			
Lincoln Hoggs ...	19	19	18, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$
40's Crossbred tops ...	27, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	27	25 $\frac{1}{2}$, 27
60's Super Botany tops ...	51, 53	45, 51	37, 44

LINEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in Ireland was slightly better than a month ago, but was still quiet and a good deal of short time was worked. In Scotland employment was fairly good generally. There was a shortage of labour at a number of mills in both districts, especially in Scotland.

Returns from firms employing 39,716 workpeople in the week ended 24th June, 1916, showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago the number employed decreased by 1.1 per cent., and the amount of wages paid increased by 13.0 per cent.

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
DEPARTMENTS.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Preparing ...	5,805	+ 0.5	- 0.7	3,941	+ 0.5	+ 13.5
Spinning ...	11,708	+ 0.6	- 0.1	6,906	+ 1.1	+ 13.0
Weaving ...	12,945	- 0.1	- 2.1	9,846	+ 0.6	+ 15.3
Other ...	6,283	+ 0.0	- 1.3	6,220	+ 3.4	+ 10.4
Not specified ...	2,975	+ 0.2	- 0.5	2,061	- 1.9	+ 9.3
TOTAL ...	39,716	+ 0.2	- 1.1	28,974	+ 1.1	+ 13.0
DISTRICTS.						
Belfast ...	16,939	- 0.1	+ 1.0	12,141	+ 1.4	+ 18.5
Other places in Ireland ...	11,875	+ 0.7	+ 0.7	7,770	+ 0.7	+ 14.2
TOTAL, IRELAND ...	28,814	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	19,911	+ 1.1	+ 16.8
Fifehire ...	4,980	- 0.1	- 9.3	3,875	+ 0.1	+ 4.7
Other places in Scotland ...	5,405	+ 0.9	- 4.4	4,747	+ 2.5	+ 4.3
TOTAL, SCOTLAND ...	10,385	+ 0.4	- 6.8	8,622	+ 1.4	+ 4.4
England ...	517	- 1.9	+ 17.2	441	- 3.7	+ 32.4
UNITED KINGDOM ...	39,716	+ 0.2	- 1.1	28,974	+ 1.1	+ 13.0

In the Belfast district employment was fair with flax roughers, weavers, and winders and tenters; with flax dressers it was bad, and worse than a month ago. In other parts of Ireland there was but little change compared with a month ago. At Brechin the mills continued busy. At Dunfermline the home trade was good, but there was not quite so much activity on export orders. At Barnsley there was a slight decline.

The imports of flax (dressed and undressed) during June, 1916, amounted to 19,044 tons, compared with 1,161 tons a month ago and with 13,289 tons during June, 1915.

The exports of linen yarn during June, 1916, totalled 1,462,000 lb., compared with 901,000 lb. a month ago and 577,000 lb. a year ago. For linen piece goods the figures were 14,176,000 yards in June, 1916, 17,723,000 yards in May, 1916, and 11,326,000 yards in June, 1915.

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT was good and better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 12,650 workpeople in the week ended 24th June, 1916, showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago the number employed increased by 0.7 per cent., and the amount of wages paid by 7.1 per cent.

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
DEPARTMENTS.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Preparing ...	2,853	- 0.3	+ 1.6	2,811	- 0.3	+ 7.3
Spinning ...	3,402	- 1.0	- 1.3	3,194	- 1.2	+ 5.0
Weaving ...	3,879	- 0.3	+ 2.5	4,226	+ 1.8	+ 9.7
Other ...	2,516	- 0.6	- 0.2	3,065	+ 2.5	+ 5.7
TOTAL ...	12,650	- 0.5	+ 0.7	13,296	+ 0.8	+ 7.1

In the Dundee district, in which 93 per cent. of the workpeople reported on were employed, employment was good, but the supply of male and female labour was insufficient; the calender workers' dispute, which had an adverse effect throughout May, came to an end early in June. At Forfar and Kirkcaldy employment was good; at Arbroath it was fair, and showed some decline on both a month ago and a year ago.

The imports of jute during June, 1916, amounted to 10,600 tons, a decrease of 11,900 tons on a month ago and of 26,900 tons on a year ago.

The quantity of jute yarn exported was 2,381,000 lb. in June, 1916, 2,508,000 lb. in May, 1916, and 3,744,000 lb. in June, 1915.

LACE TRADE.

THERE was some decline as compared with a month ago in the levers and curtain branches, in part due to the further withdrawal of labour, but employment for those who still remain in the trade was on the whole good, and considerably above the level of a year ago. In the Midland district women are now being employed in threading, and, to some extent, in beaming and brass bobbin winding. On plain net machines in the South Western counties women are being trained as twist-hands, or assistants to twisthands; while girls are taking the place of boys as threaders.

Nevertheless a shortage of labour, male and female, was reported in the principal districts.

Returns from firms employing 7,987 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 11.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
BRANCHES.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Levers ...	1,542	- 0.6	+ 7.5	2,259	- 4.0	+ 19.1
Curtain ...	2,179	- 2.5	- 10.6	2,671	- 2.0	- 0.6
Plain Net ...	3,000	- 0.4	+ 4.2	3,264	+ 1.2	+ 18.5
Others ...	966	+ 0.9	- 3.4	900	- 0.1	+ 6.3
TOTAL ...	7,987	- 0.9	- 0.5	9,094	- 1.2	+ 11.2
DISTRICTS.						
Nottingham City ...	2,949	- 0.2	- 1.7	2,993	- 1.8	+ 6.4
Long Eaton and other outlying Districts ...	942	- 1.3	+ 2.2	1,335	- 2.7	+ 15.8
Other English Districts ...	2,622	- 0.8	+ 7.3	2,947	+ 0.5	+ 22.9
Scotland ...	1,474	- 2.2	- 11.3	1,819	- 1.9	+ 0.1
TOTAL ...	7,987	- 0.9	- 0.5	9,094	- 1.2	+ 11.2

At Nottingham there was a decline in the levers section as compared with a month ago, and much irregular time was reported, but employment was better than a year ago; both the curtain and plain net sections were well employed. At Long Eaton employment continued good, and was better than a year ago; in the West of England there was also a decided improvement as compared with June, 1915. At Newmilns employment was good, and half the operatives were working overtime.

SILK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good and there was some improvement as compared with a year ago. There was a considerable shortage of both male and female labour.

Returns from firms employing 10,096 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.7 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 11.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

BRANCHES	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Throwing	1,389	- 1.3	+ 0.4	760	+ 2.3	+ 10.6
Spinning	2,648	- 0.4	- 1.1	2,747	+ 1.6	+ 17.6
Weaving	3,608	- 1.3	- 3.7	2,969	- 1.6	+ 7.1
Other	1,724	- 0.5	+ 1.6	1,593	+ 2.9	+ 9.5
Not specified	727	- 3.6	- 5.5	734	- 2.3	+ 9.2
TOTAL	10,096	- 1.1	- 1.7	8,803	+ 0.5	+ 11.1
DISTRICTS.						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	2,805	- 0.5	- 4.4	2,919	+ 0.0	+ 9.5
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	2,641	- 1.4	+ 0.6	2,294	+ 3.3	+ 8.8
Eastern Counties	2,935	- 1.6	- 2.0	2,405	- 1.5	+ 13.2
Other Districts, including Scotland	1,715	- 0.8	- 0.3	1,185	+ 0.4	+ 15.6
TOTAL	10,096	- 1.1	- 1.7	8,803	+ 0.5	+ 11.1

At Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton employment continued good in all departments except in the hand-loom weaving section, which was slack, and worse than a month ago.

In the Eastern Counties employment was good generally except at Halstead and Braintree, where it was fair. In the West Riding employment in the spinning branch continued fair. At Coventry makers of artificial silk reported employment as fairly good; with ribbon weavers it continued fair.

HOSIERY TRADE.

IN this trade employment continued good and was above the level of a year ago. The supply of male and female labour was insufficient. Women are being increasingly employed on the lighter machines, and as assistants to men on the heavier Cotton's Patent machines.

Returns from firms employing 18,705 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 9.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.†
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Leicester	8,211	- 0.7	- 0.7	8,678	+ 0.2	+ 6.7
Leicester Country District ...	1,680	- 0.8	- 3.4	1,562	- 0.9	+ 0.8
Notts and Derbyshire ...	4,886	+ 0.4	+ 4.5	4,405	- 3.3	+ 10.5
Scotland	2,760	+ 0.5	+ 4.5	2,676	+ 1.2	+ 15.7
Other Districts	1,168	+ 0.3	+ 27.1	914	- 2.6	+ 30.2
TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM	18,705	- 0.2	+ 2.5	18,235	- 0.8	+ 9.3

At Leicester employment continued very good, especially with those operatives employed in the production of army and navy hose. At Hinckley and Loughborough employment was fairly good.

In Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire employment with

* Comparison of wages with a year ago is affected by increases in rates of wages.

† The comparison of wages with a year ago is affected by war bonuses.

power frame work knitters continued good; about 25 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of 8 to 10 hours per week. Some short time was reported on coarse goods owing to the unsettled state of the wool market. With hand frame workers employment continued fair.

In Scotland employment continued good.

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was fair, but was affected by the further withdrawal of labour, with the result that production was curtailed in some districts.

Returns from firms employing 6,205 workpeople and paying £6,270 in wages in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 3.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 4.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 9.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Kidderminster district employment was hampered by labour conditions and the scarcity of material, but on the whole was fair for the time of year. In the Halifax district employment continued good, and was about the same as a year ago, but many looms were standing owing to scarcity of weavers. In Scotland the operatives were fully employed.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT generally continued good, and was above the level of a year ago. There was a general scarcity of labour.

Returns from firms employing 25,299 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 5.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 14.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

TRADES :	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Bleaching	2,860	- 1.8	- 2.5	3,404	- 5.3	+ 2.9
Printing	769	+ 1.1	+ 9.4	1,220	+ 2.3	+ 24.7
Dyeing	13,073	+ 0.7	+ 8.0	24,034	+ 0.8	+ 19.9
Trimming, Finishing and other Departments	7,362	+ 0.2	+ 2.7	9,487	- 1.5	+ 5.8
Not specified	1,235	+ 3.3	+ 5.7	2,126	- 0.1	+ 15.9
TOTAL	25,299	+ 0.4	+ 5.1	40,271	- 0.3	+ 14.6
DISTRICTS :						
Yorkshire	12,761	+ 0.8	+ 6.8	23,714	+ 1.5	+ 18.4
Lancashire	7,491	- 0.4	+ 4.8	10,055	- 6.2	+ 7.3
Scotland	1,861	- 1.3	- 2.7	2,123	+ 0.1	+ 13.0
Ireland	733	+ 0.3	+ 1.2	627	+ 1.0	+ 9.6
Other Districts	2,453	+ 2.2	+ 4.8	3,752	+ 5.3	+ 14.6
TOTAL	25,299	+ 0.4	+ 5.1	40,271	- 0.3	+ 14.6

Bleaching.—Employment with cotton bleachers in Lancashire was fair, and better than a year ago. At Basford overtime was general, and operatives in the hosiery section were very busy. At Dundee bleachfield workers were fairly busy.

Printing.—With machine calico printers in England employment was quiet; about a third of the machines were standing. In Derbyshire employment with engravers was fair on the whole; in Scotland it was good with engravers and fairly good with printers.

Dyeing.—Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in Yorkshire continued good, and was better than a year ago; the shortage of labour caused a considerable amount of overtime, affecting about 85 per cent. of the operatives. With cotton dyers in Yorkshire and Lancashire and with silk dyers in the Macclesfield district employment was also good. Lace dyers at Nottingham and hosiery dyers at Basford were well employed, and overtime was worked during the month.

Trimming, Finishing, &c.—At Leicester, Hinckley

* The comparison of wages with a year ago is affected by war bonuses and increases in rates of wages.

and Loughborough employment was good with hosiery trimmers, &c., and on the whole better than a year ago. At Basford there was some decline as compared with a month ago, and some short time was reported. At Dundee calender workers were well employed.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

GREAT activity prevailed in this trade during June at all the principal centres, owing mainly to the execution of the Russian contract; as a result, efficient male labour was in greater demand than ever. Increased numbers of women and girls are being engaged in many places to fill the vacancies, and an extension of the list of operations on which females are permitted to be engaged is under consideration.

Returns from firms employing 62,674 workpeople in the week ended 24th June, 1916, showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.3 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 4.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	2,512	+ 0.3	- 4.0	3,847	+ 4.7	+ 6.4
Leicester	12,074	- 0.5	- 4.3	17,457	+ 0.1	+ 3.5
Leicester Country District	2,973	- 0.2	- 2.5	3,860	+ 1.6	+ 7.2
Northampton	10,035	- 0.6	- 3.5	13,603	+ 0.3	+ 4.5
Northampton Country District	8,430	- 0.4	- 4.0	11,113	+ 1.0	+ 4.2
Kettering	4,004	- 0.7	- 5.5	5,392	- 0.9	- 1.1
Stafford and District	2,619	- 0.4	- 5.0	3,152	- 2.4	- 6.1
Norwich and District	4,028	- 1.1	+ 0.8	4,278	- 2.0	+ 2.0
Bristol and District	1,750	+ 1.5	+ 7.3	2,094	- 0.8	+ 14.1
Kingswood	2,130	- 0.0	- 3.1	2,731	+ 1.9	+ 7.2
Leeds and District	2,037	- 0.3	- 2.3	2,507	+ 2.1	+ 3.6
Manchester and District	3,459	+ 0.5	+ 5.6	3,918	- 3.7	+ 10.1
Birmingham and District	1,083	- 0.6	+ 3.0	1,135	+ 1.2	+ 6.3
Other parts of England and Wales	2,085	+ 0.2	+ 3.0	2,188	+ 0.6	+ 10.6
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	59,219	- 0.3	- 2.4	77,275	+ 0.2	+ 4.2
SCOTLAND	3,108	- 0.2	- 1.6	3,881	+ 3.6	+ 3.3
IRELAND	347	+ 1.5	+ 8.4	298	+ 2.1	+ 12.9
UNITED KINGDOM ...	62,674	- 0.3	- 2.3	81,454	+ 0.4	+ 4.2

The exports (British and Irish) of boots and shoes of leather during June, 1916, amounted to 140,831 dozen pairs, compared with 103,872 dozen pairs a month ago and 79,034 dozen pairs a year ago.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally, with overtime in certain districts. It was still reported as quiet, however, in some branches of the saddlery and harness trades at Walsall. Short time was worked by curriers in the Birmingham district, but in London and Glasgow employment with curriers was good and better than a month ago. Women are now being employed in many operations in connection with light leather, e.g. in pebbling, greasing, brushing-up, staining, rolling, glazing and seasoning.

Trade Unions with 4,086 members reported 1.5 per cent. as unemployed at the end of June, compared with 1.7 per cent. at the end of May and 0.4 per cent. a year ago.

The imports of raw hides (wet and dry) totalled 121,100 cwts. in June, 1916, compared with 137,400 cwts. a month ago and 205,100 cwts. a year ago.

The exports (British and Irish) of leather during June, 1916, were 18,600 cwts., an increase of 3,300 cwts. on a month ago and of 4,500 cwts. on a year ago. Exports of leather manufactures were valued at £157,000 in June, 1916, compared with £135,000 in May, 1916, and £190,000 in June, 1915.

TAILORING TRADE.

BESPOKE.

London.—During June employment on the whole was slack and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms paying £10,655 in wages to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor workers) during the four weeks ended 24th June showed a decrease of 5.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago and of 11.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment in the provinces was fairly good on the whole; it was reported as good at Belfast and Liverpool; it was better than a year ago at the former place and about the same at the latter.

READY-MADE.

In this branch employment on the whole continued fairly good, but was not so brisk as a year ago; there was a decline in Leeds, Manchester and other places in Yorkshire and Lancashire as compared with a month ago, but an improvement in all the other districts. In many cases the supply of cutters and machinists was not equal to the demand.

About 11 per cent. of the workers were on short time during the month and about 17 per cent. were on overtime; in June, 1915, about 34 per cent. were working more than the normal hours.

Returns from firms employing 32,928 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 12.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 14.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Indoor Workpeople.					
	Number Employed.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Leeds	8,316	- 3.4	- 15.5	7,922	- 6.5	- 15.2
Manchester	3,511	- 5.4	- 5.4	3,322	- 15.4	- 15.6
Other places in Yorkshire, Lancs and Cheshire	3,464	- 1.5	- 15.3	3,381	- 4.4	- 14.6
Bristol	1,492	+ 4.4	- 20.5	1,234	+ 7.2	- 21.3
North and West Midland Counties (excluding Bristol)	3,307	+ 2.6	- 15.5	3,129	+ 20.7	- 4.6
South Midland and Eastern Counties	3,821	- 0.2	- 3.5	3,267	+ 2.9	- 7.5
London	3,445	+ 9.1	- 13.9	4,020	+ 19.5	- 25.4
Glasgow	1,894	- 1.0	- 17.3	1,833	+ 2.8	- 13.8
Rest of United Kingdom ...	3,678	+ 1.0	- 9.0	2,910	+ 0.8	+ 0.1
TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM	32,928	- 0.3	- 12.7	31,078	+ 0.4	- 14.1

The total amount of wages paid to outworkers by the above firms showed an increase of 4 per cent. compared with a month ago and a decrease of 33 per cent. compared with a year ago.

At Leeds employment since the Whitsuntide holidays has not been quite so brisk; less overtime was worked and in some cases short time was reported; it was not so good as a year ago. At Manchester employment was moderate and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

At Hebden Bridge and Wigan employment was good, at Huddersfield and Liverpool it was reported as fair. At Bristol employment was better than a month ago, but showed a decline of 21 per cent. in numbers and wages as compared with a year ago. At Stroud employment was fair.

At Walsall, Tamworth and Colchester the operatives were well employed; at Plymouth employment was fairly good; at Norwich it was slack, very little Government work being in hand during the month.

In London employment was fairly good and much better than a month ago; compared with a year ago there was a decline of 14 per cent. in the number of indoor workpeople, accompanied by a decrease of 25 per cent. in earnings. In Glasgow employment continued fair.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

DURING June employment generally was fair and not quite so good as a month ago; compared with a year ago there was a decline in numbers in most of the principal districts, but a general increase in average earnings. About 14 per cent. of the workers were on short time during the month and about 11 per cent. worked overtime.

A number of firms reported a scarcity of male cutters and women machinists, but, on the other hand, a considerable number stated that the supply was equal to demand.

Returns from firms employing 18,517 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decline of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 4.4 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 2.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
London	4,600	+ 0.7	+ 1.9	£ 4,418	0.0	+ 9.4
Manchester	2,931	- 3.9	- 11.2	2,420	- 11.4	- 8.8
Rest of Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,394	- 1.5	- 2.0	928	+ 2.1	+ 3.7
S.W. Counties	2,327	- 2.6	- 2.8	1,546	- 0.6	+ 6.5
Rest of England and Wales	1,456	+ 1.0	- 4.9	1,166	- 3.2	+ 3.5
Glasgow	2,535	- 1.4	- 8.8	2,098	+ 6.1	- 1.4
Londonderry	1,907	+ 0.7	- 7.7	1,141	- 1.4	- 5.0
Belfast	822	+ 1.6	- 2.4	639	- 2.7	+ 5.1
Rest of Ireland	545	- 0.9	+ 5.0	289	- 2.4	+ 17.5
TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM	18,517	- 1.0	- 4.4	14,645	- 1.8	+ 2.2

In London employment continued fairly good and was better than a year ago; in Manchester it was fair and not so good as a month ago or a year ago. In the South Western Counties employment was reported as fair at Bideford, fairly good at Barnstaple and moderate at Exeter. At Glasgow employment was fair and slightly better than a month ago.

In Ireland generally employment was moderate and not so good as a month ago; a good deal of short time was reported in the Londonderry district.

HAT TRADE.

Silk.—Employment in this branch continued bad in London and in the provinces, and was rather worse than a year ago; all the operatives were on short time.

Felt.—In this branch there was an improvement as compared with a month ago, and employment on the whole was fairly good and better than a year ago. Partly owing to enlistments there were practically no unemployed among the Trade Union members either in May or June, as compared with 1.3 per cent. a year ago. At Denton employment was fair, and better than a month ago and a year ago. About 33 per cent. of the operatives worked short time and about 10 per cent. were on overtime; the short time was in part due to the shortage of labour in the earlier stages of manufacture. At Stockport employment was reported as good, and as better than at either of the other periods under review; about 15 per cent. were on short time. In Warwickshire employment continued good.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

In London employment with dressmakers in retail firms continued fair. Returns from firms, chiefly in the West End, employing 2,171 dressmakers in the week ended 24th June showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 0.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Several firms reported a scarcity of workers.

With court and private dressmakers employment was

moderate, and not so good as a month ago or a year ago. Firms employing 574 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 2.5 per cent. compared with a month ago and of 20.7 per cent. compared with a year ago. The supply of labour was not quite equal to the demand.

With milliners in the West End employment continued fair, but was worse than a year ago; firms employing 715 workers showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with a month ago, and a decline of 12.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, ETC., TRADES.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, underclothing and millinery trades, returns from firms in London employing 4,188 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 2.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago and of 9.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment on the whole was fair, and there was an insufficient supply of machinists, &c., especially in the blouse branch.

At Manchester returns from firms employing 4,536 workpeople in the week ended 24th June in the costume, blouse, mantle, &c., trades showed a decrease of 2.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good, and machinists were in demand.

At Glasgow employment was good, and about 34 per cent. of the workers were on overtime during the month. Returns from firms employing 2,080 workpeople showed decreases of 2.2 per cent. and 7.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago and a year ago respectively. There was a scarcity of machinists.

CORSET TRADE.

Employment continued good at most of the principal centres, and was better than in June, 1915. Returns from firms (mainly in England) employing 6,168 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 3.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. In this branch also there was some shortage of labour.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

PRIVATE building work remained quiet, many men, especially plasterers and masons, were still working in non-building occupations. Men remaining in the building trade were, however, generally well employed, partly owing to Government requirements, and overtime on war work was frequently reported, especially by bricklayers, carpenters and painters. The general percentage of "insured" workpeople unemployed in all building occupations was 0.9, compared with 0.8 in May and 1.4 a year ago. For plasterers the percentage was still as high as 2.3, but for painters, plumbers, navvies and labourers it was less than 0.8 in each case.

Occupations.	Number Insured at end of June, 1916.	Percentage Unemployed at end of June.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
			Month ago.	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Carpenters	108,782	1.2	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Bricklayers	48,424	1.0	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Masons	27,494	1.6	- 0.2	- 0.7
Plasterers	13,904	2.3	- 0.7	- 0.3
Painters	86,823	0.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Plumbers	28,669	0.7	...	- 0.7
Other skilled occupations	31,886	0.8	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Navvies	96,465	0.4	...	- 0.3
Labourers	198,221	0.7	...	- 0.5
ALL OCCUPATIONS	640,668	0.9	+ 0.1	- 0.5

The next Table shows in detail the percentage unemployed in the above occupations in each geographical division. The percentage for all occupations taken together was 0.7 or less in all divisions, with the exception of London, where it was 1.8, and of Ireland, where

it was 3.6. For nearly all occupations the highest percentage unemployed was in Ireland, and the next highest was in London. The percentage for masons was as high as 2.7 in Ireland and 3.7 in London. Apart from these two divisions, the percentage unemployed seldom exceeded 0.7 in any occupation, except in the cases of masons and plasterers.

Compared with a month ago the percentage unemployed showed a slight increase with carpenters in most districts, and a slight decrease with masons and plasterers, other occupations showing little change. In five districts the general percentage unemployed remained stationary; there was an increase in London, but a considerable decrease in Ireland.

Districts.	Number Insured.	Per cent. Unem- p'ly'd.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Number Insured.	Per cent. Unem- p'ly'd.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
			M'nth ago.	Year ago.			M'nth ago.	Year ago.
Carpenters.								
London	21,091	3.1	+ 1.1	- 0.7	9,206	2.0	...	- 1.8
Northern Counties	5,082	0.2	+ 0.1	- 1.0	2,501	0.2	...	- 1.3
North-Western	12,962	0.6	+ 0.2	- 1.4	3,749	0.5	...	- 1.1
Yorkshire	8,380	0.4	+ 0.2	- 0.8	4,142	0.2	- 0.1	- 0.6
East Midlands	5,127	0.7	+ 0.3	- 0.4	3,494	0.4	...	- 1.0
West Midlands	7,533	0.3	+ 0.1	- 0.2	5,458	0.1	- 0.1	- 0.4
Eastern & S.E. Counties	14,992	0.9	+ 0.2	- 0.5	9,433	1.2	+ 0.2	- 1.1
South-Western	14,135	0.6	...	- 0.8	4,213	0.8	- 0.4	- 1.1
Wales	4,971	0.7	+ 0.3	- 0.2	1,415	0.5	...	- 0.3
Scotland	9,953	0.2	- 0.1	- 0.6	1,583	0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.7
Ireland	5,426	4.6	- 2.3	- 6.8	1,370	4.5	- 2.3	- 1.2
Bricklayers.								
Masons.								
London	1,945	3.7	+ 1.0	- 2.2	3,002	2.4	- 1.7	- 0.7
Northern Counties	1,937	0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.7	590	0.7	+ 0.2	- 0.7
North-Western	2,617	1.4	- 0.1	- 1.3	1,501	3.5	+ 1.0	+ 1.2
Yorkshire	3,367	0.5	...	- 0.9	1,462	0.3	- 0.2	- 1.1
East Midlands	666	1.4	+ 0.4	- 0.8	327	1.8	- 1.4	...
West Midlands	585	0.7	- 0.8	- 0.9	674	1.0	- 1.1	- 0.8
Eastern & S.E. Counties	767	1.2	- 1.3	- 1.3	1,096	2.3	- 0.4	- 0.2
South-Western	4,992	1.3	- 0.1	- 0.9	1,588	3.0	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Wales	3,880	1.0	+ 0.2	- 0.1	1,107	0.7	+ 0.1	- 1.1
Scotland	4,967	0.8	- 0.2	- 0.6	1,412	1.1	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Ireland	1,771	8.7	- 3.2	+ 2.2	1,135	7.0	- 3.4	+ 0.6
Plasterers.								
Painters.								
London	25,504	1.3	+ 0.4	- 0.7	6,520	1.5	+ 0.1	- 1.2
Northern Counties	2,924	0.1	+ 0.1	...	1,470	0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2
North-Western	10,553	0.3	...	+ 0.1	4,022	0.4	...	- 1.6
Yorkshire	5,636	0.2	...	- 0.3	2,517	0.3	...	- 0.8
East Midlands	3,342	0.2	...	- 0.4	1,115	0.2	...	- 0.9
West Midlands	3,779	0.1	- 0.2	- 0.1	1,767	0.3	- 0.1	- 0.3
Eastern & S.E. Counties	12,464	0.7	+ 0.2	...	2,868	0.3	- 0.2	- 0.8
South-Western	8,555	0.5	+ 0.2	- 0.1	2,361	0.3	- 0.1	- 0.5
Wales	2,513	0.2	- 0.1	...	807	0.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Scotland	6,315	0.1	...	- 0.2	4,132	0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Ireland	3,218	1.2	- 2.6	- 0.7	1,090	4.2	- 1.5	- 1.2
Plumbers.								
Other Skilled Workers.								
London	7,665	1.7	+ 0.1	- 1.2	10,514	1.4	+ 0.6	- 0.6
Northern Counties	2,108	0.1	- 0.1	- 0.4	5,679	0.1	...	- 0.1
North-Western	4,274	0.4	...	- 1.0	12,355	0.3	...	- 0.1
Yorkshire	2,432	0.1	...	- 0.9	12,014	0.1	- 0.1	- 0.3
East Midlands	1,232	0.6	+ 0.4	- 0.3	4,683	0.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
West Midlands	2,477	0.3	...	- 0.1	6,968	0.1	...	- 0.2
Eastern & S.E. Counties	2,383	0.6	+ 0.3	...	8,938	0.6	+ 0.1	- 0.2
South-Western	2,113	1.8	+ 1.1	+ 0.8	7,145	0.2	- 0.5	- 1.0
Wales	1,126	0.1	...	- 0.6	10,255	0.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Scotland	5,090	0.1	- 0.1	- 0.1	13,341	0.1	...	- 0.2
Ireland	986	4.3	+ 0.1	- 1.5	4,573	1.9	- 0.3	- 2.5
Navvies.								
Labourers.								
London	43,585	1.4	+ 0.2	- 0.6	129,032	1.8	+ 0.4	- 0.8
Northern Counties	8,483	0.1	- 0.1	- 0.2	30,634	0.1	...	- 0.7
North-Western	23,162	0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1	76,595	0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Yorkshire	16,327	0.3	...	- 0.4	56,297	0.2	...	- 0.6
East Midlands	8,951	0.3	- 0.1	- 0.3	28,937	0.4	...	- 0.5
West Midlands	13,866	0.3	...	- 0.1	45,107	0.2	- 0.1	- 0.3
Eastern & S.E. Counties	26,003	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.3	78,944	0.7	...	- 0.4
South-Western	23,572	0.6	+ 0.1	- 0.5	68,684	0.7	...	- 0.6
Wales	10,855	0.3	...	- 0.5	36,932	0.4	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Scotland	14,241	0.2	- 0.2	- 0.1	60,764	0.2	- 0.1	- 0.3
Ireland	9,173	3.0	- 0.5	- 2.6	23,742	3.6	- 1.4	- 2.6
All Occupations.								

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

MILL SAWING AND MACHINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole and was about the same as a month ago and rather better than a year ago. Women were reported as taking the place of men, particularly on lathes, circular saws, and on boring, box-nailing, grooving, dove-tailing, &c., machines.

Overtime was again reported on the Tyne and Wear, in engineering shops at Sheffield, in the Glasgow district, and at Birmingham and Bristol. Employment was only fair and not so good as a month ago at Hull. It continued fair at Liverpool, Leeds and Nottingham, quiet at Edinburgh and Leith, and dull at Belfast.

The percentage unemployed at the end of June among workpeople engaged in saw-milling and insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act was 0.6, the same figure as in the previous month; that in June, 1915, was 0.9.

FURNISHING.

With cabinetmakers and upholsterers employment was fairly good on the whole, slightly better than a month ago, and better than a year ago. Overtime was reported at Glasgow and Dundee and with cabinetmakers at Sheffield. Employment with cabinetmakers, however, was only moderate in the Tees and Hartlepool districts and continued dull at Belfast. With upholsterers also it was quiet in London and worse than a year ago, but rather better than in the previous month. It was fair and had improved at Liverpool, but there was a decline at Manchester. With french polishers there was an improvement in London, but employment was still quiet on the whole. It was moderate at Glasgow.

COACH BUILDING.

Employment continued good, showing little change on a month ago and a year ago. Overtime was worked in London and at Glasgow, Newcastle, Bristol, Loughborough and other centres, and both overtime and short time were again reported at Salford and Coventry. Employment was only moderate, however, at Liverpool, and there was a decline at Sheffield and a further decline at Salford, Wolverhampton and Gloucester. Employment was again reported as very quiet at Belfast.

COOPERS.

Employment continued good generally, showing practically no change on the previous month. Overtime was reported at Manchester, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock and Liverpool. Employment was also very good at Glasgow and Greenock, but was only fair at Birmingham and Cork, and continued slack at Yarmouth. There was an improvement at Burton-on-Trent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Brushmaking.—Employment continued good in all sections. Overtime was worked in London and at Bristol, Glasgow, Edinburgh and other centres.

Other Trades.—Employment was reported as fairly good with *wheelwrights and smiths*. *Packing-case makers* continued well employed generally, except at Belfast, where employment was dull. Overtime was reported at Manchester, Bradford, Bristol, Nottingham and Dundee. With *skip and basket makers* employment was very good, with overtime, at Oldham and Leicester; good in London; and fair at Manchester and on the Tyne.

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good, showing an improvement on a month ago and a year ago. Very little short time was reported. Compared with a year ago there was a great reduction in the number of workpeople employed, and the shortage of male labour was especially marked in the case of navvies and general labourers, clay getters, brick setters and wheelers. Women are reported as being increasingly employed in moulding bricks and tiles on both hand and power presses, in loading clay and shale, in wheeling, and in clearing up ashes.

Returns from firms employing 6,047 workpeople in the week ended 24th June, 1916, showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed and of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 20.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 12.5 per cent. in the wages paid.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire	2,650	+ 2.4	- 1.8	4,279	+ 1.4	+ 6.8
Midland and Eastern Counties	1,635	+ 0.2	- 3.5	2,238	+ 2.1	- 28.1
S. and S.W. Counties and Wales	1,210	- 1.4	- 29.4	2,015	+ 11.5	- 21.7
Scotland	435	+ 0.5	- 23.3	590	+ 1.0	- 18.2
Other Districts	117	- 0.8	- 29.1	161	0.0	- 19.1
TOTAL	6,047	+ 0.8	- 20.1	9,283	+ 3.5	- 12.5

Employment continued moderate in the Tees and Hartlepool district. An improvement was reported from Peterborough. Employment was again very good in the Stourbridge district and fair in South Staffordshire. With makers of caustic tiles at Tamworth and in the Shropshire glazed brick trade it was good. It continued slack in Norfolk, Cambridge and Bedford, but was reported as fair in Suffolk and Essex. A number of yards remained closed in the Plymouth and Exeter districts, and employment was again reported as slack at Bridgwater and in the Wrexham and Ruabon district of North Wales. In the Glasgow district employment was reported as good.

CEMENT TRADE.

Employment continued good and much overtime was worked. There was again a general shortage of all kinds of male labour, especially of quarrymen and general labourers.

Returns from firms employing 6,438 workpeople in the week ended 24th June, 1916, showed a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed and practically no change in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 12.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 6.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

PAPER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT remained good generally, though a shortage of raw materials was reported. There was a continued scarcity of male labour.

Returns from firms employing 13,962 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease in the number employed of 1.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

MACHINE-MADE PAPER AND MILLED BOARDS:	Workpeople paid Wages in the week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties	3,634	- 1.0	+ 0.9
Midlands, Wales, and Ireland	1,007	- 1.5	- 4.0
Southern Counties	5,342	- 2.2	- 0.7
Scotland	3,370	- 2.1	- 1.8
TOTAL MACHINE-MADE PAPER, &C.	13,353	- 1.8	- 0.8
Hand-made Paper	609	+ 1.2	+ 8.9
TOTAL	13,962	- 1.7	- 0.4

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 3,185 members had 0.2 per cent. unemployed, the same percentage as a month ago; in June, 1915, the percentage was 0.4.

PRINTING TRADES.

Employment continued fairly good in June, the supply of labour remaining inadequate in many cases owing to enlistments. Women were reported as being employed now in the London area on feeding printing machines and lithographic machines, as well as in the heavier printing processes. Compared with a year ago an improvement was shown. In London a considerable amount of overtime was worked, though employment in newspaper offices showed a decline.

Returns from Trade Unions with a membership of 44,456 show that the percentage unemployed at the end

of June was 1.8, compared with 1.7 a month ago and 2.7 a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1916.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		June, 1916.	May, 1916.	June, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London	20,202	1.4	1.4	2.1	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	4,482	1.1	1.0	3.6	+ 0.1	- 2.5
Lancashire and Cheshire	5,706	2.1	2.4	3.6	- 0.3	- 1.5
East Midland and Eastern Counties	2,096	1.2	0.9	1.5	+ 0.3	- 0.3
West Midlands	2,394	1.1	1.0	3.5	+ 0.1	- 2.4
S. and S.W. Counties and Wales	3,310	1.2	1.2	2.2	...	- 1.0
Scotland	4,131	1.6	2.3	1.9	- 0.7	- 0.3
Ireland	2,135	8.9	6.9	7.6	+ 2.0	+ 1.3
UNITED KINGDOM	44,456	1.8	1.7	2.7	+ 0.1	- 0.9

According to returns received from firms employing 12,547 workpeople in the week ended 24th June, the number of persons employed showed a decrease of 2.1 per cent. compared with a month ago, while the amount of wages paid showed a decrease of 2.3 per cent. Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 10.8 per cent. in the number employed and 6.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
London	3,982	- 1.9	- 8.6	7,498	- 1.8	- 6.6
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	1,056	- 4.8	- 23.2	1,407	- 6.9	- 13.9
Lancashire and Cheshire	1,761	- 3.7	- 11.6	2,626	- 3.4	- 4.7
Midland and Eastern Counties	1,850	- 1.0	- 5.3	2,359	- 1.5	+ 0.1
Scotland	1,503	- 2.1	- 17.1	2,191	- 0.2	- 8.2
Other Districts	2,305	- 1.0	- 6.6	2,738	- 2.6	- 5.6
UNITED KINGDOM	12,547	- 2.1	- 10.8	18,819	- 2.3	- 6.2

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment continued good, with a shortage of labour, and was better than a year ago. In London it was reported that about 10 per cent. of the Trade Union members worked overtime, while 5 per cent. were on short time.

Returns from firms employing 8,038 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease in the number of workpeople employed of 2.1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 6.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. on a month ago, and an increase of 4.4 per cent. on a year ago.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
London	2,496	- 2.5	- 4.6	3,195	- 0.1	+ 12.0
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	590	- 5.1	- 3.0	553	- 4.5	+ 10.6
Lancashire and Cheshire	1,347	- 3.4	- 11.3	1,224	- 1.6	- 5.9
Midland and Eastern Counties	920	- 1.5	- 4.5	787	+ 0.1	+ 3.6
Scotland	1,883	- 1.2	- 7.7	1,655	+ 2.8	+ 2.8
Other Districts	802	+ 0.6	- 7.2	646	- 2.4	- 7.7
TOTAL	8,038	- 2.1	- 6.6	8,060	- 0.2	+ 4.4

Trade Unions with a membership of 5,289 had 0.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, compared with 0.5 per cent. in May, 1916, and 1.6 per cent. in June, 1915.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1916.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		June, 1916.	May, 1916.	June, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London	2,841	0.4	0.3	1.6	+ 0.1	- 1.2
Other Districts	2,448	0.8	1.4	1.7	- 0.6	- 0.9
UNITED KINGDOM	5,289	0.6	0.8	1.6	- 0.2	- 1.0

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally, and was better than a year ago. It showed a very marked improvement in the china section. With makers of tiles and sanitary ware employment was fair on the whole. There was again a general deficiency of male labour, which was most marked with biscuit and glost placers and ovenmen, but the replacement by women of men who have been called to the colours was reported to be progressing steadily.

Returns from firms employing 17,140 workpeople in the week ended 24th June, 1916, showed practically no change in the number of workpeople employed and an increase of 1.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 9.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
China Manufacture	3,239	+ 1.3	+ 12.3	4,966	+ 3.7	+ 26.0
Earthenware Manufacture	11,404	- 0.2	- 1.7	12,587	+ 0.8	+ 7.9
Other Branches (including unspecified)	2,497	- 0.8	- 12.8	2,514	- 0.9	- 5.9
TOTAL	17,140	- 0.0	- 1.2	20,067	+ 1.3	+ 9.8
DISTRICTS.						
Potteries	13,321	- 0.2	- 2.8	14,500	+ 1.0	+ 6.4
Other Districts	3,819	+ 0.4	+ 4.7	5,567	+ 2.1	+ 19.6
TOTAL	17,140	- 0.0	- 1.2	20,067	+ 1.3	+ 9.8

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in all branches, any short time worked being due to stoppages for repairs or to the shortage of certain classes of labour. In many cases overtime was worked. Compared with a year ago there was, on the whole, a distinct improvement.

Returns from firms employing 10,124 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 1.3 per cent. in the wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was practically no change in the number employed, but the wages paid showed an increase of 14.3 per cent.

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Glass Bottle	7,340	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	12,875	+ 1.6	+ 16.9
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	2,125	+ 2.0	- 0.1	3,025	+ 1.2	+ 9.2
Other Branches	659	+ 0.5	- 4.9	852	- 2.1	- 2.4
TOTAL	10,124	+ 1.0	- 0.0	16,752	+ 1.3	+ 14.3
DISTRICTS.						
North of England	889	...	- 4.6	1,338	- 7.3	+ 4.9
Yorkshire	4,767	+ 1.3	- 1.6	8,134	+ 2.3	+ 13.4
Lancashire	1,239	+ 4.0	+ 18.7	1,789	+ 1.8	+ 23.5
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	851	+ 2.7	- 4.2	1,229	+ 0.2	+ 4.5
Scotland	836	- 3.5	- 18.1	1,472	+ 2.8	...
Other parts of the United Kingdom	1,542	- 0.3	+ 10.2	2,790	+ 2.6	+ 32.3
TOTAL	10,124	+ 1.0	- 0.0	16,752	+ 1.3	+ 14.3

The glass bottle trade remained very active, and continued to benefit from the absence of foreign competition. With flint glass makers and cutters in the Midlands employment continued good, as also with pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear. At St. Helens it continued good with sheet and plate glass workers, and it improved to good with flatteners.

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good and overtime was still largely worked; but there was again some decline on the whole as compared with the previous month owing to a falling off in the cocoa, chocolate, &c., and the jam and marmalade trades. Other trades showed a distinct improvement which was least in the sugar refining industry.

As compared with a year ago, there was a decline in the number of workpeople employed in the cocoa, chocolate, etc., and in the jam and marmalade trades. The bacon and preserved meats and the pickles, sauces, &c., industries, however, showed marked improvements in the numbers employed as well as in the amount of wages paid.

Returns from firms employing 56,374 workpeople in the week ended 24th June showed a decrease of 1.3 per cent. in the numbers employed and of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month. As compared with June, 1915, there was a decline of 4.2 per cent. in the numbers employed, but an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Trade.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Sugar Refining, &c.	5,292	+ 0.5	+ 5.6	9,074	+ 1.8	+ 14.2
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	29,401	- 3.6	- 6.6	30,394	- 3.3	- 3.3
Biscuits, Cakes, &c.	9,275	+ 3.8	- 4.6	9,005	+ 3.7	- 4.2
Jams, Marmalade, &c.	5,418	- 4.0	- 13.7	5,069	- 2.6	- 6.1
Bacon and Preserved Meats	5,988	+ 2.7	+ 10.5	6,688	+ 7.2	+ 16.2
Pickles, Sauces, &c.	997	+ 3.6	+ 8.4	907	+ 7.0	+ 15.1
TOTAL	56,374	- 1.3	- 4.2	61,137	- 0.3	+ 0.7

It was reported that the employment of women in the sugar refining industry is increasing in the London and Glasgow districts, and the substitution of women has been carried very far in the manufacture of biscuits. Women are also being employed to a considerable extent as machine attendants and in warehouses in the confectionery trades, and progress in substitution is still being made. Nevertheless, a very general shortage of labour was still reported. The high price of raw materials also affected the cocoa and chocolate and the biscuit trades, and a shortage of sugar was reported as affecting the former trade and the jam and marmalade industry. The jam and marmalade industry and the bacon and preserved meat trades were still busy to a considerable extent on Government orders.

AGRICULTURE.*

ENGLAND AND WALES.

THE weather conditions during June in England and Wales were cold and unfavourable. The crops consequently made comparatively little progress, and the hay harvest had barely commenced at the end of the month. Labour was everywhere deficient, and it was difficult to get temporary help for haymaking and turnip-hoeing. Assistance was, however, being rendered to some extent by women, particularly in turnip-hoeing. The arrival of Irish migratory labourers was reported from parts of Durham, and it was stated in a number of districts that soldiers were assisting.

SCOTLAND.

Little change was reported in the conditions as compared with last month. Almost everywhere there was a shortage of labour, which in the majority of districts was seriously felt. In Moray, North-East Fife, Bute, and Kintyre and South Ayr the conditions were more favourable. Turnip-hoeing is stated in several reports to have been undertaken to a greater extent than usual by women, and in some cases by schoolchildren, working on piece-work. In Berwickshire, Irish migratory labourers were reported as present in considerable numbers.

* Based on information supplied by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair on the whole except at certain ports on the East Coast, where it was bad.

London.—Employment continued fair, but was not so good as either a month ago or a year ago; it was best during the earlier part of the month, when the sale and delivery of wool occurred.

The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in the four weeks ended 24th June was 16,959, a decrease of 2.9 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 10.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At 110 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended June 3rd	7,169	2,486	9,655	7,315	16,970
" " " 10th	7,092	2,165	9,257	7,337	16,594
" " " 17th	6,570	3,046	9,616	7,011	16,627
" " " 24th	6,931	3,463	10,394	7,253	17,647
Average for 4 weeks ended 24th June, 1916.	6,940	2,790	9,730	7,229	16,959
Average for May, 1916	6,947	2,907	9,854	7,609	17,463
" " June, 1915	7,227	3,769	10,996	7,923	18,919

The numbers employed at the docks and principal wharves on each day* in June, 1916, were as follows:—

Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.
1	17,685	12	13,546	22	17,809
2	17,904	13	16,578	23	17,489
3	14,216	14	17,222	24	16,984
5	17,113	15	17,466	26	17,103
6	17,035	16	17,822	27	17,584
7	16,517	17	17,129	28	17,683
8	16,335	18	17,634	29	18,543
9	16,864	19	18,102	30	17,144
10	15,702	21	17,864		

Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks during June was 2,002, compared with 2,367 a month ago and 2,021 during June, 1915.

OTHER ENGLISH AND WELSH PORTS.

East Coast.—Employment was good generally on the Tyne except on grain cargoes; trimmers and teamers were well employed on both the Tyne and Wear. Employment was good at Seaham Harbour and fairly good on timber cargoes at Blyth. It continued fairly good at Hartlepool and good at Middlesbrough. Employment was bad generally at Hull, Grimsby, and Goole. There was a slight improvement at Yarmouth and Lowestoft, but a decline at Harwich; at all these ports and at Lynn employment was slack.

South and West Coasts.—Employment was fair, but not quite so good as a month ago at Plymouth; it continued very good, however, at Dartmouth. At Bristol and Gloucester there was an improvement on the previous month, and employment was fair; but still not so good as a year ago. At Cardiff, Newport, and Barry dock labourers continued well employed on the whole, and coal trimmers were again very busy. Employment remained good at Liverpool, overtime being worked.

SCOTTISH AND IRISH PORTS.

Employment was fair and had improved at Dundee, a considerable amount of overtime being reported. It was good and better than a month ago at Glasgow, but declined somewhat at Ayr and Troon, where, however, it remained very good on cargoes of coal. It was good at Belfast, but continued bad at Londonderry, Cork and Waterford.

* Sundays are omitted.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally except at certain ports on the East Coast; there was on the whole an improvement on a month ago and a year ago.

East Coast.—At Hartlepool employment was fair generally and better than a month ago. At Hull and Grimsby it was good with fishermen and fish dock labourers; with fish curers it continued moderate at Hull and fair at Grimsby. Fishing operations remained practically suspended at Yarmouth, most of the men having found other work. Employment continued quiet at Lowestoft.

South Coast.—Employment was fair on the whole off the coasts of Devon and Cornwall, but was considerably hindered by unsettled weather. Fish packers, carters and curers, however, continued fairly well employed.

Scotland.—Employment was steady at Arbroath and Montrose. At Aberdeen it was good and better than a month ago with fishermen and fish dock labourers and continued fair with fish curers. Employment showed a general improvement and was good at Peterhead. It was moderate with fishermen and fish curers and fair with fish dock labourers at Macduff. There was on the whole an improvement at Fraserburgh, and employment was fair with fishermen; but it remained bad in the other branches of the industry.

FISH LANDED IN JUNE, 1916.

	Quantity.		Value.	
	June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on June, 1915.	June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on June, 1915.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	£	£
Fish (other than shell):				
England and Wales	492,211	+ 71,768	654,345	+ 63,735
Scotland	398,952	+ 190,649	277,448	+ 87,563
Ireland	74,459	+ 23,136	45,717	+ 11,271
TOTAL	965,622	+ 285,553	977,510	+ 162,569
Shell Fish	—	—	23,672	+ 4,481
TOTAL VALUE	965,622	+ 285,553	1,006,182	+ 158,058

SEAMEN.

At most of the ports included in the Table the supply of seamen and firemen for mercantile ships was stated to be about equal to the demand. From South Shields, however, it was reported that the supply of seamen and firemen still exceeded the demand; while a slight excess of seamen was reported from London (Poplar), and of firemen from Liverpool. From Bristol, Newport, Avonmouth and Southampton a shortage of seamen was reported.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Six months ended		
		Month ago.	Year ago.	June, 1915.	June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1916.
ENGLAND AND WALES:						
East Coast—						
Tyne Ports	1,725	+ 106	- 46	10,194	9,604	- 590
Sunderland	180	- 18	- 16	1,733	1,307	- 426
Middlesbrough	390	+ 34	+ 120	1,194	2,129	+ 935
Hull	978	- 254	- 453	7,492	6,447	- 1,045
Grimsby	57	+ 44	+ 30	340	204	- 136
Bristol Channel—						
Bristol	849	- 175	- 593	6,905	5,580	- 1,325
Newport, Mon.	1,027	- 140	+ 119	6,229	5,256	- 973
Cardiff	4,363	- 311	- 993	28,334	25,249	- 3,085
Swansea	164	- 149	- 100	2,117	1,264	- 853
Other Ports—						
Liverpool	12,995	+ 2,131	+ 1,106	77,378	65,207	- 12,171
London	7,384	+ 47	- 1,229	47,431	41,448	- 5,983
Southampton	1,313	+ 812	- 320	7,943	5,361	- 2,582
SCOTLAND:						
Leith	321	+ 47	+ 155	1,911	2,525	+ 614
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	37	+ 18	+ 31	426	239	- 187
Glasgow	3,164	+ 461	+ 391	17,638	15,960	- 1,678
IRELAND:						
Belfast	79	- 131	- 153	2,838	788	- 2,050
TOTAL	35,026	+ 2,522	- 1,951	220,103	188,568	- 31,535

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

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

(a) DISPUTES IN JUNE.

Number and Magnitude.—The number of new disputes in June was 37, as compared with 41 in the previous month and 72 in June, 1915. In these new disputes 21,296 workpeople were directly, and 244 indirectly involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before June and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 33,823 workpeople involved in trade disputes in June, 1916, as compared with 30,439 in the previous month, and 40,999 in June, 1915.

New Disputes in June, 1916.—In the following Table the new disputes for June are summarised by trades affected:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	4	316	...	316
Coal Mining	5	1,571	192	1,763
Other Mining and Quarrying	1	19	...	19
Engineering	4	7,321	...	7,321
Shipbuilding	1	227	...	227
Other Metal	1	16	32	48
Textile	4	10,250	...	10,250
Clothing	4	582	...	582
Transport	6	749	...	749
Miscellaneous	6	320	20	340
Employees of Local Authorities	1	25	...	25
TOTAL, JUNE, 1916	37	21,296	244	21,540
TOTAL, MAY, 1916	41	11,955	2,558	14,513
TOTAL, JUNE, 1915	72	17,904	4,426	22,330

Causes.—Of the 37 new disputes, 22 arose on demands for advances in wages, 2 against proposed reductions in wages, 3 on other wages questions, 3 on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons, 3 on details of working arrangements, 2 on questions of Trade Union principle and 2 on other matters.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 27 new disputes, directly involving 19,761 workpeople, and 8 old disputes, directly involving 30,740 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes 12 were settled in favour of the workpeople, 11 in favour of the employers and 12 were compromised. In the case of 4 other disputes work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in June by disputes which began or were settled in that month amounted to 224,500. In addition, 41,100 working days were lost owing to disputes which began before June and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total aggregate duration in June of all disputes, new and old, was 265,600 days, as compared with 307,400 in the previous month and 176,600 in June, 1915.

(b) DISPUTES IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1915 AND 1916.†

Groups of Trades.	Jan. to June, 1915.			Jan. to June, 1916.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building	26	9,634	83,000	52	5,886	145,800
Coal Mining	29	31,625	106,400	31	21,265	106,400
Other Mining and Quarrying	1	33	1,100	5	541	12,700
Engineering	58	18,675	184,600	36	15,705	121,300
Shipbuilding	27	3,210	26,200	6	896	5,500
Other Metal	26	9,940	46,400	15	2,541	7,000
Textile	36	25,798	216,900	34	45,124	976,300
Clothing	24	3,316	14,800	17	5,962	27,700
Transport	51	16,954	101,200	31	19,946	87,200
Other Trades	82	16,451	170,400	73	16,112	338,700
TOTAL	360	135,636	951,000	300	133,978	1,828,600

(c) PRINCIPAL DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN JUNE, 1916.

Occupations and Locality.	Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.†				
BUILDING:— Painters—Edinburgh and District.	450	...	27th March	70	For advance of 1d. per hour in wages and of 3s. per week in country allowance, and for the signing of working rules as from 1st March instead of 1st January as hitherto.	Advance granted of 1d. per hour in wages and of 1s. per week in country allowance, working rules to be signed as from 1st February.
ENGINEERING:— Fitters, turners, planers, women shell workers, etc.—Barrow-in-Furness.	7,000‡	...	26th June	6	Dispute arising out of dilution of skilled with unskilled labour and other grievances.	Work resumed.
TEXTILE:— Woolcombers, etc.—Bradford.	10,000	...	20th June	10	For advance in wages of 6s. per week, in lieu of existing war bonus (subject to good time-keeping) of 2s. per week.	Agreement arrived at involving advance of 1s. per week as from 9th June, further advance of 1s. per week as from 8th September, and continuance of the time bonus.
Jute workers, etc.—Dundee.	30,000¶	...	24th March	64¶	For advance in wages of 15 per cent.	Work resumed on old terms.
CLOTHING:— Dressmakers, mantlemakers, etc.— Liverpool.	314	...	7th June	2	For a general advance in wages of 2s. per week.	Various advances granted.
TRANSPORT:— Coal porters and fillers—Cork.	500	...	26th June	5	For advance in wages.	Modified advance granted.

DISPUTES STILL IN PROGRESS.—34 disputes, involving about 8,700 workpeople, were in progress at the time of going to press.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

† In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information.

‡ I.e. workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.

§ Estimated.

¶ Work was resumed in April by most of the workpeople, excepting calendermen; but on 12th May the calendering sections of the works were closed down workpeople in other sections were also involved, the total number being estimated at 10,000.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

THE increases in rates of wages (including war bonuses) reported to the Department as taking effect in June, affected over 930,000 workpeople, and resulted in a total increase of over £90,000 per week. No decreases in rates were reported.

The industries which accounted for the largest number of workpeople affected were coal mining (over 660,000) and the textile trades (over 200,000, including 160,000 cotton spinners).

Changes in January-June.—The total number of workpeople affected by the changes in wages which have been reported to the Department as taking place during the six months ended 30th June, 1916, was over 2,000,000 of whom all but 1,650 received a net increase. The net effect of all these changes was an increase of over £230,000 per week.

The extent to which the different groups of trades have contributed to these totals is shown below:—

Group of Trades.	No. of Workpeople affected.	Amount of Net Increase per week.
Building	87,000	12,200
Coal Mining	846,000	126,600
Iron and Other Mining	20,000	4,200
Quarrying	4,000	700
Pig Iron Manufacture	23,000	4,300
Iron and Steel Manufacture	63,000	16,200
Engineering and Shipbuilding	143,000	7,800
Other Metal	25,000	2,400
Textile	603,000	37,400
Clothing	43,000	3,000
Transport	53,000	9,600
Printing, Paper, &c.	20,000	1,800
Glass, Brick, Pottery, Chemical, &c.	51,000	3,000
Other Trades	29,000	3,000
Local Authority Services	21,000	1,800
TOTAL	2,029,000	234,000

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN JUNE, 1916.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.																																								
NORTHERN COUNTIES: Tyne and Blyth, Tees and Wear Districts.	1 June	Slaters	Increase of 1d. per hour, in lieu of war bonus of 2s. 6d. per week previously granted, making rate 11d. per hour.																																								
					YORKSHIRE: Bradford	1 June	Bricklayers and masons	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (10d. to 10 1/4d.).																																			
										Hartogate	5 June	Labourers	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (7 1/2d. to 8d.), including 1/4d. war (bonus).																														
															Hebden Bridge	1 June	Plumbers	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (9 1/2d. to 10d.).																									
																				Holmfirth	1 June	Painters	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (8 1/2d. to 9d.).																				
																									Leeds	1 June	Masons	Increase of 1d. per hour (9 1/2d. to 10 1/2d.).															
																														Sheffield	5 June	Slaters and tilers	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (10d. to 10 1/4d.).										
																																			Todmorden	7 June	Plumbers	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (10d. to 10 1/4d.).					
																																								York	17 June	Painters	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (8 1/2d. to 9d.).
Lancaster	1 June	Plasterers	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (9 1/2d. to 10d.).																																								
					Wigan	1 June	Painters	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (9 1/2d. to 9 3/4d.).																																			
										MIDLAND COUNTIES: Gloucester	25 June	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, and plumbers	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (8 1/2d. to 9d.).																														
															Kidderminster and District	1 June	Painters	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (7 1/2d. to 8d.).																									
																				Leek	1st pay after 21 June	Labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour (5 1/2d. to 6 1/2d.).																				
																									Building	1 June	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, and plumbers	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (9 1/2d. to 10d.).															
																														Rugby	1 June	Plasterers	Increase of 3/4d. per hour (9 3/4d. to 10 1/4d.).										
																																			Tamworth	3 June	Painters	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (8 d. to 9d.).					
																																								West Bromwich	1 June	Bricklayers', masons', and general builders' labourers	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (6 1/2d. to 7d.).
Southampton	1st pay day after 21 June	Plumbers	Increase of 3/4d. per hour (6 3/4d. to 7 1/4d.).																																								
					Aberdeen	1 June	Labourers	In lieu of 1d. per hour (8 1/2d. to 9 1/2d.).																																			
										Dumfries and Maxwelltown	1 June	Scaffolders	Increase of 1 1/4d. per hour (7d. to 7 1/4d.).																														
															Edinburgh and Leith	19 June	Labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour (5 1/2d. to 6 1/2d.).																									
																				Kirkcaldy	1 June	Scaffolders	Increase of 1 1/4d. per hour (6 1/2d. to 7 1/2d.).																				
																									Paisley and Johnstone	1 June	Joiners	Increase of 1d. per hour (9d. to 10d.).															
																														Perth	3 June	Slaters	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (10d. to 10 1/4d.).										
																																			IRELAND: Dublin	27 June	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of 1 1/2d. per hour (8 1/2d. to 10d.).					
																																								Queenstown	June	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (10 1/2d. to 11d.).
S. Staffs. and E. Worcestershire	2nd pay day in June	Painters	Increase of 1d. per hour (10d. to 11d.).																																								
					Bristol District	2nd pay day in June	Bricklayers' and masons' labourers, and navvies	Increase of 1d. per hour (6 1/2d. to 7 1/2d.).																																			
										S. Wales and Monmouthshire	1 June	Plasterers' labourers	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (7d. to 7 1/4d.).																														
															Scotland	6 June	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (9 1/2d. to 10d.).																									
																				S. Staffs. and E. Worcestershire	2nd pay day in June	Slaters	Increase of 1/4d. per hour (10 1/2d. to 11d.).																				
																									Bristol District	2nd pay day in June	Painters	Increase of 1d. per hour (9 1/2d. to 10 1/2d.).															
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PRICES OF WHEAT, FLOUR AND BREAD.

I.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

(a) Supplies.

Imports.—The quantity of wheat and wheat meal and flour imported into the United Kingdom during June, 1916, together with the increase or decrease compared with June, 1915, and June, 1914, is shown below:—

	Quantity imported during June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with	
		June, 1915.	June, 1914.
WHEAT.			
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
From Russia	12,500	- 115,800	-1,151,100
" United States	7,496,300	+4,669,600	+5,354,376
" British East Indies	44,600	-1,284,100	- 399,400
" Australia	589,900	+ 589,900	-1,449,200
" Canada	3,442,000	+1,550,900	+ 703,367
" Argentine Republic	184,600	-2,350,500	- 599,060
" Other Countries ... ..	...	- 32,500	- 20,500
TOTAL	11,769,900	+3,027,500	+2,438,483
WHEAT MEAL AND FLOUR.			
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
From United States	373,400	- 37,368	- 36,405
" Canada	371,425	- 10,975	+ 57,551
" Other Countries	77,900	+ 71,100	- 88,000
TOTAL	822,725	+ 22,757	- 66,854

During the first ten months (September to June) of the current cereal year, 1915-16, the imports of wheat totalled 85,273,820 cwts., compared with 79,009,030 cwts. and 78,217,202 cwts. in the corresponding period of the 1914-15 and 1913-14 seasons. The figures for wheat meal and flour were 8,612,893 cwts., 9,245,301 cwts., and 9,864,132 cwts. respectively.

Deliveries of British Wheat.—In the following Table the deliveries of wheat by farmers at the various markets of England and Wales from which returns are received by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries are shown for the 44 weeks of the current cereal year, together with the increase compared with a year ago and with two years ago:—

1915-16.	Quantity delivered.	Increase compared with	
		1914-15.	1913-14.
	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
Thirty-nine weeks ended May 27th, 1916	3,161,075	1,654,439	752,311
Five weeks ended July 1st, 1916	180,395	67,720	33,980
TOTAL	3,341,470	233,159	786,291

(b) Prices.

In the following Table particulars are given of the average declared values and market prices of wheat and wheat meal and flour during June, 1916, with the decrease compared with a month ago and a year ago:—

	June, 1916.	Decrease in June, 1916, compared with	
		May, 1916.	June, 1915.
WHEAT:—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Imported: Average declared value per 480 lb.	55 0	4 6	4 8
Imported: Spot price at Liverpool per 480 lb. ... ..	...	...	...
No. 1 North Manitoba: Average price	50 1	10 8	6 7
No. 2 Hard Winter Gulf (new): Average price	48 4	5 10	7 7*
Australian: Average price	55 11	7 3	...
Argentine (Rosaflo): Average price	52 3	7 4	2 7
British: Gazette average price per 480 lb. (England & Wales)	50 2	5 0	7 4
English white wheat per 504 lb. (London)	49 5	7 11	6 4
WHEAT MEAL AND FLOUR:—			
Imported: Average declared value per cwt.	16 5	0 10	0 10
Flour: Town Households No. 1, London (ex mill, less usual discount), average price per 280 lb.	42 3	4 5	3 9

During June, of the total wheat imports of nearly 11½ million cwts., almost 11 million cwts. came from the United States and Canada. The "spot" price at Liverpool of imported wheat showed a steady decrease during

* Comparison with No. 2 Hard Winter. No quotations given for new Gulf wheat in June, 1915.
† No quotations for June, 1915.

the month. No. 1 North Manitoba was about 54s. 8d. per quarter on 1st and 49s. 4d. on 30th; similarly, No. 2 Hard Winter (New Gulf) dropped from 52s. 5d. per quarter to 45s. 8d. There was an appreciable quantity of Australian wheat on the market, the price of which was about 60s. per quarter in the first week of June; but the price steadily fell during the remainder of the month, the quotation on the 30th being 53s. 7d. During the first fortnight of July the quotations have risen considerably, and on 13th the price of No. 1 North Manitoba was 54s. 8d. The Gazette average price of British wheat fell from 53s. 3d. per quarter in the returns received in the week ended 3rd June to 46s. 3d. in those for the week ended 1st July. The price of No. 1 town households flour in London (ex mill, less usual discount) was 44s. 6d. per 280 lb. on June 5th, and 40s. 6d. on 3rd July. There has since been an increase, and the price at present ruling (15th) is 44s. 6d.

II.—BREAD.

There was a fairly general fall in the price of bread during June, and the average price on 1st July was about ½d. per 4 lb. lower than on 1st June.

Returns received from 120 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations, and 30 returns received from other sources, are summarised below. The predominant prices, i.e. the prices at which the bulk of the bread was sold, are utilised, but it will be understood that bread was also sold at both lower and higher prices. The prices are quoted per 4 lb., and in cases in which the loaf of 2 lb. or 4 lb. has been displaced by a loaf of smaller size the necessary allowance has been made in compiling the statistics.

The following Table shows the mean predominant price in different parts of the country at 1st July, 1916, as compared with 1st June, 1916, and 1st July, 1915:—

District.	Mean Predominant Price per 4 lb.		
	1st July, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with	
		A month ago	A year ago
	d.	d.	d.
London	8½	-¾	+¼
Northern Counties & Yorkshire	8½	-¾	+¼
Lancashire & Cheshire	8	-¾	+¼
Midlands	8	-¾	+¼
Eastern Counties	7¾	-¾	+¼
South Eastern Counties	8½	-¾	+¼
South Western Counties & Wales	8½	-¾	+¼
Scotland	8½	-¾	+¼
GREAT BRITAIN	8½	-¾	+¼

Of the prices at which bread was sold in each of the following towns, the predominant price was as under:—

Place.	Predominant Price per 4 lb. on 1st July, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with		Last Change.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Date.	Amount per 4 lb.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
London	8 & 8½	-¾	+¼	June, '16	-¾
Birmingham	8 & 8½	-¾	+¼	June, '16	-¾
Bristol	7¾ & 8	-¾	...	June, '16	-¾
Cardiff	8	-¾	...	June, '16	-¾
Derby	8	-¾	...	June, '16	-¾
Hull	7 to 8	-¾	-¾	June, '16	-¾
Ipswich	8	-¾	...	June, '16	-¾
Leeds	8 to 9	-¾	+¼	Mar., '16	-¾
Leicester	7¾	-¾	+¼	June, '16	-¾
Liverpool	8 to 8½	-¾	+¼	June, '16	-¾
Manchester	8	-¾	+¼	June, '16	-¾
Norwich	8	-¾	+¼	June, '16	-¾
Nottingham	7 to 8	-¾	...	June, '16	-¾
Portsmouth	8	-¾	-¾	June, '16	-¾
Southampton	8	-¾	...	June, '16	-¾
Stoke-on-Trent	7½	-¾	-¾	June, '16	-¾
Wolverhampton	8	-¾	+¼	June, '16	-¾
Aberdeen	8½ & 9	...	-¼	May, '16	+ 1
Dundee	8½	...	+¼	Jan., '16	+ ½
Edinburgh	8½	-¾	+¼	June, '16	-¾
Glasgow	8½	...	+¼	Feb., '16	+ ½
Belfast	9	...	+ 1	May, '16	+ ½
Dublin	8½	-¾	+¼	June, '16	-¾

Since 1st July the price of bread has been reduced in London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, and Belfast; from smaller towns not many changes have been reported.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

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

THE total number of cases of poisoning, of anthrax and of toxic jaundice reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during June, 1916, was 58, of which 36 were due to lead poisoning, 3 to mercurial poisoning, 7 to anthrax, and 12 to toxic jaundice. Four deaths due to lead poisoning, 1 to anthrax, and 2 to toxic jaundice were also reported. In addition, 3 cases of lead poisoning (one of which was fatal) among house painters and plumbers, came to the knowledge of the Home Office, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

During the six months ended June, 1916, the total number of cases of poisoning, of anthrax and of toxic jaundice reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 288, compared with 223 during the corresponding period of 1915. The number of deaths in 1916 was 30, as compared with 18 in 1915. In addition, 38 cases of lead poisoning (including 7 deaths) among house painters and plumbers, came to the knowledge of the Home Office during the first six months of 1916, compared with 58 cases (including 21 deaths) during the corresponding period of 1915.

ANALYSIS BY INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Cases.			Deaths.		
	Month of June, 1916.	Six Months ended June, 1916.	June, 1915.	Month of June, 1916.	Six Months ended June, 1916.	June, 1915.
Lead Poisoning†						
AMONG OPERATIVES ENGAGED IN—						
Smelting of Metals	2	17	24	—	1	1
Brass Works	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping	—	1	—	—	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering	—	4	16	—	—	—
Printing	—	4	12	—	—	—
File Cutting	1	5	1	—	3	—
Tinning of Metals	—	2	1	—	1	—
White Lead Works	2	13	19	—	—	—
Red and Yellow Lead Works	2	7	6	—	—	—
*Pottery	6	15	10	3	4	1
Glass Cutting and Polishing	—	1	—	—	—	—
Vitreous Enamelling	—	1	—	—	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works	6	33	36	—	—	1
Paint and Colour Works	1	10	5	—	—	—
Coach and Car Painting	4	16	20	—	—	—
Shipbuilding	2	13	7	1	1	1
Paint used in other Industries	2	10	6	—	—	2
Other Industries	8	29	21	—	2	—
TOTAL IN FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS	36	183	190	4	9	13
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING	3	38	58	1	7	21
Other Forms of Poisoning.						
MERCURIAL POISONING—						
Barometer and Thermometer Making	—	1	2	—	—	—
Furriers' Processes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Industries	3	10	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	11	3	—	—	—
PHOSPHORUS POISONING	—	1	1	—	—	1
ARSENIC POISONING—						
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Industries	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL "OTHER FORMS OF POISONING"	3	12	4	—	—	1
Anthrax.						
Wool	4	37	12	—	5	—
Handling of Horsehair	2	5	1	1	2	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	—	10	14	—	3	3
Other Industries	1	1	2	—	—	1
TOTAL ANTHRAX	7	53	29	1	10	4
TOXIC JAUNDICE	12	40	—	2	11	—
TOTAL REPORTED UNDER FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT	58	288	223	7	30	18
GRAND TOTAL	61	326	281	8	37	39

* The persons affected were males.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

CASES REPORTED IN JUNE, 1916.

[Based on Home Office and Board of Trade Returns.]

THE number of workpeople, exclusive of seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in June, 1916, was 247, a decrease of 1 on a month ago and an increase of 1 on a year ago. The mean number for June during the five years 1911-15 was 233, the maximum being 246, and the minimum 213.

Fatal accidents in the railway service during June, 1916, numbered 35, compared with 33 in May, 1916, and 28 in June, 1915.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 98, a decrease of 5 on a month ago and of 10 on a year ago. There were 8 fatal accidents at quarries, compared with 1 a month ago and 9 a year ago.

The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshops Act in June was 104, a decrease of 4 on May, 1916, and an increase of 3 on June, 1915.

The total number of fatal accidents to seamen during June, 1916, was 153, the same as a month ago, but an increase of 19 on a year ago.

The Table shows the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during May and June, 1916, and June, 1915:—

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, 1916, on a	
	June, 1916.	May, 1916.	June, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
RAILWAY SERVICE—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	5	4	3	+ 1	+ 2
Engine Drivers	2	1	—	+ 1	+ 2
Firemen	2	—	1	+ 2	+ 1
Guards (Passenger)	—	1	—	—	—
Permanent Way Men	8	5	8	+ 3	—
Porters	4	3	2	+ 1	+ 2
Shunters	7	1	3	+ 6	+ 4
Mechanics	—	2	1	—	- 1
Labourers	2	3	2	- 1	—
Miscellaneous	4	12	8	- 8	- 4
Contractors' Servants	1	1	—	—	+ 1
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	35	33	28	+ 2	+ 7
MINES—					
Underground	93	94	100	- 1	- 7
Surface	5	9	8	- 4	- 3
TOTAL, MINES	98	103	108	- 5	- 10
Quarries over 20 feet deep	8	1	9	+ 7	- 1
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—					
Textile—					
Cotton	5	7	3	- 2	+ 2
Wool and Worsted	3	3	—	—	+ 3
Other Textiles	—	1	1	- 1	- 1
Non-Textile					
Extraction of Metals	2	3	2	- 1	—
Founding and Conversion of Metals	11	17	14	- 6	- 3
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	3	5	2	- 2	+ 1
Ship and Boat Building	12	8	11	+ 4	+ 1
Gas	1	—	2	+ 1	- 1
Wood	3	3	—	—	+ 3
Clay, Stone, &c.	2	—	4	+ 2	- 2
Chemicals	12	6	5	+ 6	+ 7
Laundries	—	—	—	—	—
Food	3	5	5	- 2	- 2
Drink	—	3	1	- 3	- 1
Paper, Printing, &c.	—				

BUILDING PLANS.

RETURNS received by the Department from 90 of the principal urban districts in the United Kingdom (exclusive of the County of London), giving the estimated cost of the buildings for which plans were passed during the second quarter of 1916, show that there was a net decrease of £868,472 (or 34·3 per cent.) compared with the corresponding period of 1915. The population of the districts included in the Returns is over 12,000,000.

District and Population at Census 1911.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses and other business premises.	Churches, Schools, and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	TOTAL.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Outer London (1,700,000)	108,128	71,541	23,210	69,550	46,290	318,719
Northern Counties (725,000)	128,432	35,830	15,460	21,000	9,717	210,439
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	121,425	234,292	27,570	20,440	45,682	449,409
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	121,808	115,941	120,782	19,090	116,626	494,247
Midlands (1,200,000)	147,913	235,827	108,346	29,600	60,800	582,486
Other Districts in England (1,145,000)	56,300	3,600	9,800	17,000	29,325	116,025
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	28,650	...	400	...	8,493	37,543
Scotland (1,830,000)	29,420	133,931	7,200	28,190	56,143	254,884
Ireland (825,000)	40,445	200	2,850	11,500	16,840	71,835
TOTAL	782,521	831,222	315,618	216,370	389,916	2,535,647
Second Quarter of 1916.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Outer London (1,700,000)	35,905	27,800	5,913	10,050	43,415	123,083
Northern Counties (725,000)	3,600	26,410	9,250	550	10,543	50,353
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	26,955	201,852	£2,610	28,190	76,011	368,618
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	90,085	101,010	21,255	29,200	137,806	379,356
Midlands (1,200,000)	53,550	210,577	99,745	15,200	67,041	386,113
Other Districts in England (1,145,000)	31,770	1,350	18,090	3,500	26,593	81,303
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	2,650	500	2,072	250	2,921	8,393
Scotland (1,830,000)	1,330	131,949	15,139	5,750	57,178	211,346
Ireland (825,000)	34,140	...	1,500	3,500	19,470	58,610
TOTAL	279,985	704,448	145,574	96,190	440,978	1,667,175

Compared with the corresponding period of 1915 there was an increase of 13·1 per cent. in the value of other buildings, additions and alterations, but a decrease in the value of every other class of building for which plans had been passed. There was a considerable decrease in all the districts as compared with last year. The most marked decreases were Outer London (61·4 per cent.), Northern Counties (76·1 per cent.), and Wales and Monmouthshire (77·6 per cent.).

The following Table shows, for each class of building and for each district, the increase or decrease in the quarter ended 30th June, 1916, compared with the corresponding quarter of 1915:—

CLASS OF BUILDING:	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	Amount.	Per cent.
Dwelling Houses ...	£ 502,636	- 64·2
Factories and Workshops ...	126,774	- 15·3
Shops and Other Business Premises ...	170,044	- 53·9
Churches, Schools and Public Buildings ...	120,180	- 55·5
Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations	+ 51,062	+ 13·1
TOTAL	- 868,472	- 34·3
DISTRICTS:		
Outer London ...	£ 195,636	- 61·4
Northern Counties ...	160,146	- 76·1
Yorkshire ...	80,791	- 18·0
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	114,891	- 23·2
Midlands ...	196,373	- 33·7
Other Districts in England ...	34,722	- 29·9
Wales and Monmouthshire ...	29,150	- 77·6
Scotland ...	43,538	- 17·1
Ireland ...	13,225	- 18·4
TOTAL	- 868,472	- 34·3

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN JUNE.*

INSURANCE CLAIMS AND PAYMENTS.

THE total number of claims to unemployment benefit made at Labour Exchanges and other local offices of the Unemployment Fund during the five weeks ended 30th June, 1916, was 10,674, as compared with 9,513 during the four weeks ended 26th May, 1916, and with 22,867 during the four weeks ended 25th June, 1915. Of the total of 10,674 claims, 7,105 (or 67 per cent.) were claims for the direct payment of benefit, and 3,569 (or 33 per cent.) were claims for payment of benefit through associations of workpeople in the insured trades having arrangements with the Board of Trade under Section 105 of the National Insurance Act. The number of claims made during each of the five weeks was 1,999, 2,078, 2,110, 2,169 and 2,318, the average being 2,135, as compared with 2,378 in the four preceding weeks and with 5,717 in June, 1915.

The total amount of unemployment benefit paid direct for the five weeks ended 30th June, 1916, was £1,642, and through associations during the five weeks ended 24th June, 1916, £908.

Districts.	Average Weekly No. of Claims Made.			Average Weekly Amount of Benefit Paid.		
	June, 1916.	May, 1916.	June, 1915.	June, 1916.†	May, 1916.	June, 1915.
London ...	920	880	1,706	£ 110	£ 149	£ 232
South-Eastern ...	143	145	484	31	44	108
South-Western ...	177	224	401	35	70	80
West Midlands ...	72	85	154	13	18	28
East Midlands ...	84	68	264	14	18	53
Yorkshire ...	97	113	400	21	27	84
North-Western ...	217	293	809	44	61	199
Northern ...	42	25	256	4	9	57
Scotland ...	77	99	438	22	33	80
Wales ...	26	31	164	5	7	36
Ireland ...	280	415	642	208	329	421
UNITED KINGDOM	2,135	2,378	5,718	510	768	1,378

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES.

FOUR WEEKS ENDED 9TH JUNE, 1916.

THE total number of workpeople remaining on the Registers† of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges (385 in number) on 9th June was 126,947, as compared with 135,603 on the 12th May, 1916, and 92,025 on 11th June, 1915. These comprise workers in professional, commercial, clerical, as well as in industrial occupations.

Excluding cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, there were on the Register at some time or other during the period 423,578 workpeople (men 123,103, women 246,446, boys 24,364, and girls 29,665), as compared with 377,393 in the previous four weeks, and 297,935 in the four weeks ended 11th June, 1915.

The number of vacancies filled was 127,141; a daily average of 5,298, as compared with 4,777 in the previous four weeks and with 4,156 in the four weeks ended 11th June, 1915.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
On Register at beginning of period	32,218	88,373	5,956	9,056	135,603
Registrations during period	95,036	162,001	18,859	20,958	296,854
Individuals registered	90,898	158,112	18,407	20,596	288,013
Re-registrations	4,138	3,859	452	363	8,812
On Register at end of period	31,451	82,062	5,454	7,980	126,947
Vacancies notified during period	68,844	69,045	11,666	11,497	161,052
Vacancies filled during period	51,081	57,570	9,526	8,964	127,141
Applicants placed in other districts.	16,005	12,379	1,747	1,607	31,738

In the following Table are shown, for men and women, the proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified,

* The percentages unemployed in the insured trades will be found on page 236.

† Figures for association payments relate to the five weeks ended 24th June, 1916.

‡ Excluding workmen in certain occupations of a more or less casual nature (i.e. dock labourers and cloth porters); these are dealt with in the last paragraph but one.

§ Of the women on the Register over 12 per cent. were known to be in employment, and a further 16 per cent. were reported never to have been in employment.

and of vacancies filled to registrations (including those on the Registers at the beginning of the period) in the principal groups of trades:—

Trades.	Proportion of Vacancies filled to Vacancies notified.		Proportion of Vacancies filled to Registrations.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Insured Trades—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Building, Construction of Works and Sawmilling	83·5	96·7	48·9	152·6
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Construction of Vehicles	77·1	94·0	53·2	114·8
Uninsured Trades—				
Textiles ...	47·6	65·5	44·0	27·3
Dress ...	34·4	76·3	18·4	22·1
Transport ...	67·4	85·2	35·4	19·6
Agriculture ...	39·3	45·6	27·5	25·5
Paper, Prints, &c. ...	39·9	79·3	20·7	23·9
Chemicals, Explosives, &c.	125·4	99·5	44·9	14·7
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	48·5	78·0	34·9	35·6
Commercial and Clerical	66·4	82·0	13·6	17·9
Domestic ...	50·4	69·0	26·2	24·6
General Labourers ...	79·2	—	24·6	—
TOTAL	64·8	79·6	28·4	17·2

The average daily number of registrations and vacancies filled for the periods stated are shown below:—

District or Department.	Insured Trades.			Uninsured Trades.		
	4 weeks ended 9 June, 1916.	4 weeks ended 12 May, 1916.	4 weeks ended 11 June, 1915.	4 weeks ended 9 June, 1916.	4 weeks ended 12 May, 1916.	4 weeks ended 11 June, 1915.
REGISTRATIONS						
London ...	476	451	659	2,964	2,747	1,892
South-Eastern ...	179	181	205	740	704	539
South-Western ...	208	208	247	542	513	357
West Midlands ...	266	242	198	769	670	509
East Midlands ...	132	125	117	454	393	294
Yorkshire ...	218	208	232	688	689	542
North-Western ...	366	420	384	1,347	1,310	1,082
Northern ...	117	104	215	547	569	354
Scotland ...	260	285	255	1,022	932	711
Wales ...	166	139	248	353	301	211
Ireland ...	221	96	158	344	211	296
Men ...	2,181	2,088	2,833	1,779	1,620	2,040
Women ...	342	294	78	6,408	5,901	3,559
Boys ...	75	69	53	711	677	504
Girls ...	11	9	4	862	841	744
TOTAL	2,609	2,460	2,968	9,760	9,039	6,847
VACANCIES FILLED.						
London ...	505	260	271	1,046	1,003	778
South-Eastern ...	153	152	113	238	243	182
South-Western ...	132	106	191	216	207	174
West Midlands ...	260	235	124	270	231	176
East Midlands ...	162	138	72	128	112	115
Yorkshire ...	205	163	155	197	194	193
North-Western ...	291	266	127	402	377	370
Northern ...	140	128	160	118	109	114
Scotland ...	410	295	162	313	306	344
Wales ...	115	101	163	114	107	74
Ireland ...	30	13	21	53	31	77
Men ...	1,408	1,298	1,459	721	619	898
Women ...	706	483	53	1,693	1,639	1,122
Boys ...	64	58	45	333	305	270
Girls ...	25	18	2	348	327	307
TOTAL	2,203	1,857	1,559	3,095	2,920	2,597

INSURED TRADES.*

Registrations.—The number of registrations effected during the period was 59,925 (men 49,779, women 8,108, boys 1,769, and girls 269). The total number of workpeople on the Register was 80,974 (men 63,652, women 14,626, boys 2,281, and girls 415). These figures exclude 2,694 cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed during the period, and represent separate individuals.

Of the registrations among men, 49·7 per cent. were in building and construction works, 40·0 per cent. in engineering, and 6·6 per cent. in shipbuilding.

The number of workpeople remaining on the Register at 9th June was 19,404, as compared with 21,098 on 12th May, 1916, and 20,229 on 11th June, 1915.

Vacancies Notified and Filled.—The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges during the period

* The figures for these trades relate to workpeople who are insured against unemployment under the provisions of Part II. of the National Insurance Act.

was 62,527, a daily average of 2,605, as compared with 2,393 in the previous four weeks and 2,026 in the four weeks ended 11th June, 1915. The number of vacancies filled was 52,870, a daily average of 2,203, as compared with 1,857 in the previous four weeks and 1,559 in the four weeks ended 11th June, 1915.

Building and construction of works account for 46·4 per cent. of the total vacancies notified for men, and 48·7 per cent. of the total vacancies filled by men, the corresponding figures for engineering and shipbuilding being 43·8 and 7·7 per cent. of the vacancies notified, and 42·7 and 7·3 per cent. of the vacancies filled.

UNINSURED TRADES.

Registrations.—The number of registrations during the period was 228,117 (men 41,119, women 150,034, boys 16,638, and girls 20,326). The total number of workpeople on the Register at some time or other during the period was 342,604 (men 59,451, women 231,820, boys 22,083, and girls 29,250). These figures exclude 6,118 cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, and represent separate individuals.

Among men 21·7 per cent. of the total registrations were in the transport, &c., trades, and 35·1 per cent. as general labourers, while of the women registered 20·3 per cent. were in domestic offices or services and 36·6 per cent. in explosives, &c. Commercial and clerical occupations accounted for 8·3 per cent. of the registrations among men and 5·9 per cent. among women.

The number of workpeople on the Register at 9th June was 107,543 (men 18,924, women 75,781, boys 5,012, and girls 7,826), as compared with 114,505 on 12th May, 1916, and 71,796 on 11th June, 1915.

Vacancies Notified and Filled.—The number of vacancies notified during the period was 98,525, a daily average of 4,105, as compared with 3,908 in the previous four weeks and 3,858 in the four weeks ended 11th June, 1915. The number of vacancies filled was 74,271, a daily average of 3,095, as compared with 2,920 in the preceding four weeks and 2,597 in the four weeks ended 11th June, 1915.

Of the vacancies notified for men 25·7 per cent. were in the transport, &c., trades, and 22·6 per cent. as general labourers. The corresponding figures for vacancies filled were 26·6 per cent. and 27·0 per cent. Among women 32·9 per cent. of the vacancies notified were in domestic offices or services, 5·5 per cent. in the textile trades, and 26·0 per cent. in explosives, &c. The corresponding figures for vacancies filled were 28·5 per cent., 4·5 per cent., and 32·4 per cent.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES—FOUR WEEKS ENDED 9th JUNE, 1916.
Registrations and Vacancies Filled in the Four Weeks ended 9th June, 1916.
A.—INSURED TRADES.

OCCUPATION GROUPS,†	ADULTS.				JUVENILES.			
	REGISTRATIONS.		VACANCIES.		REGISTRATIONS.		VACANCIES.	
	Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.*	Live Register at End of Period.	Filled during Period.	Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.*	Live Register at End of Period.	Filled during Period.
Building:—								
Carpenters, Joiners, &c.	2,040	5,714	1,812	3,084	14	25	7	20
Bricklayers	762	2,099	697	872	—	2	—	1
Masons	602	750	480	101	—	1	—	1
Painters, Decorators, &c.	683	2,861	509	1,851	1	13	3	15
Plumbers, Glaziers	348	803	274	322	3	9	4	10
Other skilled occupations	470	983	413	216	1	1	—	3
Labourers	1,326	7,255	1,261	2,750	10	30	10	41
Works of Construction	1,009	5,325	995	7,160	1	22	—	17
Sawmilling...	144	449	122	145	1	11	—	46
Shipbuilding:—								
Platers, Riveters	230	1,257	206	724	10	38	7	30
Shipwrights	44	715	42	595	1	2	1	5
Labourers	360	2,328	384	1,144	44	133	30	149
Mechanical Engineering—								
Moulders (Iron and Steel)	474	1,022	407	327	7	27	9	24
Smiths	208	614	160	249	2	10	—	12
Erectors, Fitters, Turners	1,775	6,586	1,520	4,983	173	599	189	410
Metal Machinists	814	2,381	670	1,235	103	403	67	341
Wiremen	250	707	196	370	19	37	11	36
Other skilled occupations	547	2,274	610	1,056	40	110	29	116
Labourers	1,309	6,802	1,440	6,178	78	281	60	228
Making of Vehicles	328	1,073	291	221	10	27	12	34
Cabinet Making, &c.	154	354	138	95	1	12	3	6
TOTAL MALES ...	13,877	52,352	12,527	33,778	519	1,793	442	1,545
TOTAL FEMALES †	6,556	8,205	6,281	16,946	146	269	154	601
GRAND TOTAL ...	20,433	60,557	18,808	50,724	665	2,062	596	2,146

* Including cases in which persons who obtained employment during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed.
† Occupations are grouped according to the industry with which they are mainly connected.
‡ These figures are mainly in respect of the Engineering and Vehicle Trades.

B.—UNINSURED TRADES.

OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS.	ADULTS.									JUVENILES.		
	On Register at Beginning of Period.			Registrations during Period.*			On Register at End of Period.			Vacancies Filled during Period.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Mining and Quarrying	130	174	204	238	22	260	140	43	183	181	14	195
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	192	596	788	527	1,353	1,880	134	534	668	525	857	1,382
Textile:—												
Cotton	147	916	1,063	489	2,306	2,795	133	868	1,001	291	847	1,138
Wool and Worsted	34	281	315	193	616	809	46	196	242	118	273	391
Silk, Flax, Linen, &c.	106	827	933	280	1,766	2,046	112	710	822	140	712	852
Dress:—												
Boot and Shoe Workers	92	156	248	293	377	670	97	133	230	93	176	269
Tailors	113	428	541	225	1,370	1,595	117	443	560	34	264	298
Dressmakers and Milliners	—	365	365	—	756	756	—	288	288	—	308	308
Seamstresses	—	968	968	—	2,759	2,759	—	966	966	—	879	879
Others	13	205	218	44	600	644	14	198	212	16	139	155
Conveyance of Men, Goods, &c.:—												
On Railways	92	—	—	182	—	—	78	—	—	519	—	5,822
On Roads, Seas, Rivers, &c.	3,123	2,030	5,245	9,636	4,142	13,960	3,324	1,863	5,265	4,091	1,212	5,822
Agriculture	386	1,334	1,720	1,035	2,728	3,763	427	1,721	2,148	391	1,035	1,426
Paper, Prints, Books and Stationery	139	417	556	348	910	1,258	133	297	430	101	314	415
Wood, Furniture, Fittings, &c.	217	96	313	688	354	1,042	250	109	359	197	243	440
Chemicals, Explosives, Oil, Grease, &c.	1,617	34,334	35,951	3,647	55,215	58,862	1,596	30,156	31,752	2,369	13,175	15,544
Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass...	91	213	304	124	426	550	73	209	282	79	116	195
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging:—												
Bread, Biscuit, &c., Makers	52	83	135	154	348	502	62	95	157	38	280	418
Waiters	75	766	841	174	1,913	2,087	77	722	799	61	718	779
Others (Jam, Cocoa, Tobacco, &c., manufacture)	121	739	860	181	1,278	1,459	106	602	708	165	724	889
Skins, Leather, Hair, Feathers	63	270	333	166	561	727	77	173	250	45	217	262
Precious Metals, Jewels, Watches, Instruments and Games	123	32	155	187	103	290	91	32	123	50	135	185
Gas, Water, Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service	20	74	94	87	115	202	16	65	81	168	36	204
Commercial and Clerical	2,939	5,548	8,487	3,452	8,905	12,357	2,847	5,066	7,913	866	2,591	3,457
Domestic:—												
Laundry and Washing Service	—	631	631	—	1,726	1,726	—	576	576	—	90	90
Private Indoor Servants	—	1,276	1,276	—	2,405	2,405	—	697	697	—	148	148
Other Indoor Servants	—	3,315	3,315	—	7,076	7,076	—	2,928	2,928	—	3,026	3,026
Charwomen, Day Girls, Day Servants	868	8,746	14,960	1,804	21,317	34,758	808	8,145	13,645	698	6,657	12,286
Others...	—	144	144	—	430	430	—	212	212	—	113	113
General Labourers	4,138	—	4,138	14,833	—	14,833	4,445	—	4,445	4,678	—	4,678
Shop Assistants	280	3,058	3,338	388	5,098	5,486	282	2,757	3,039	56	680	736
Government and Professional	2,653	4,281	6,934	1,739	7,162	8,901	2,916	4,821	7,737	851	1,617	2,368
All Others	517	9,614	10,131	1,560	19,659	21,219	523	9,877	10,400	482	1,474	1,956
TOTAL ...	18,341	81,817	100,158	42,684	153,796	196,480	18,924	75,781	94,705	17,303	40,624	57,927
Casual Employments	319	—	319	211	—	211	453	—	453	3,052	—	3,052

* Including cases in which persons who obtained employment during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed.

PAUPERISM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in June, 1916, in the 35 urban districts named below corresponded to a rate of 153 per 10,000, a decrease of 2 per 10,000 on a month ago and of 19 per 10,000 on a year ago.

Compared with the previous month, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 2,686 (or 0.9 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 2,242 (or 1.6 per cent.) and the number of outdoor paupers by 444 (or 0.3 per cent.). Every district—except Bolton, Oldham, &c., Wigan District, Cardiff and Swansea, which showed no change, and Dundee and Dunfermline and Dublin Districts, where there was an increase of 3 and 11 per 10,000 of population respectively—showed a decrease. The largest decreases were in the Cork, Waterford and Limerick District (7 per 10,000 of population) and in the Central Metropolitan District (6 per 10,000).

Compared with June, 1915, the total number of paupers decreased by 32,797 (or 10.4 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 11,598 (or 8.0 per cent.) and the number of outdoor paupers by 21,199 (or 12.5 per cent.). Every district (except Galway, which showed no difference) showed a decrease in the rate per 10,000 of population; the largest decreases were in the Central Metropolitan District (39) and in Stockton and Tees (38). Twelve districts showed a decrease of 20 and under 30 per 10,000, and 20 under 20 per 10,000.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in June, 1916.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
	ENGLAND & WALES.*					
Metropolis.						
West District	9,605	1,727	11,332	140	- 1	- 14
North District	12,190	5,429	17,619	175	- 3	- 23
Central District	3,575	1,170	4,745	333	- 6	- 39
East District	11,245	4,310	15,555	233	- 2	- 27
South District	19,560	11,571	31,131	165	- 1	- 21
TOTAL, Metropolis	56,175	24,207	80,382	178	- 2	- 22
West Ham	4,130	9,462	13,592	178	- 3	- 24
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,019	3,552	5,571	115	- 1	- 22
Stockton & Tees District	1,030	2,814	3,844	153	- 5	- 38
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	3,673	3,056	6,729	83	—	—
Wigan District	1,759	4,514	6,273	142	—	—
Manchester District	8,340	5,306	13,706	133	- 2	- 17
Liverpool District	9,613	10,285	19,898	174	- 2	- 19
Bradford District	1,891	1,527	3,418	92	- 1	- 8
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,076	2,212	3,288	85	- 2	- 14
Leeds District	2,263	2,707	4,970	103	- 3	- 16
Barnsley District	789	2,807	3,596	116	- 1	- 8
Sheffield District	2,627	3,028	5,655	114	- 4	- 20
Hull District	1,690	4,908	6,598	208	- 1	- 18
North Staffordshire	1,878	4,373	6,251	154	- 3	- 22
Nottingham District	1,804	3,699	5,503	118	- 1	- 15
Leicester District	1,286	2,333	3,639	155	- 1	- 24
Wolverhampton District	3,238	5,735	8,973	129	- 2	- 26
Birmingham District	6,121	3,700	9,891	116	- 2	- 25
Bristol District	2,570	3,454	6,034	154	- 1	- 15
Cardiff & Swansea	2,160	5,033	7,193	161	—	- 22
TOTAL, "Other Districts" ...	55,897	75,133	131,030	131	- 1	- 19
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District	2,998	17,201	20,199	212	- 1	- 15
Paisley & Greenock District	615	2,447	3,062	160	- 4	- 15
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,257	4,622	5,879	146	- 1	- 10
Dundee and Dunfermline	603	2,051	2,654	132	+ 3	- 5
Aberdeen	428	2,516	2,944	176	- 3	- 15
Coatbridge and Airdrie	239	1,480	1,719	166	- 1	- 17
TOTAL for the above } Scottish Districts	6,140	30,317	36,457	180	- 1	- 13
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District	5,485	4,923	10,408	253	+ 11	- 7
Belfast District	2,467	801	3,268	76	- 2	- 6
Cork, Waterford and Limerick District	3,131	3,999	7,130	287	- 7	- 13
Galway District	295					

Rice from the British East Indies showed a substantial increase. The quantity of eggs received from Russia during June, 1916, was only 10 per cent. of the quantity received in June, 1914. Raw cotton imported from the United States totalled 731,000 cwt. in June, 1914, but in June, 1916, the amount was 1,235,000 cwt. The Egyptian imports, on the other hand, declined by 94,000 cwt. In the case of sheep's or lambs' wool decreased quantities from France, the Argentine, the British East Indies, New Zealand, and the Falkland Islands were almost compensated for by increases from British South Africa and Australia. The total quantity re-exported in June, 1914, was over 32 million lb., compared with only 2½ million lb. in June, 1916. Imports of silk broadstuffs (wholly of silk) from France declined greatly, but broadstuffs of mixed material from the same country showed a great increase. In the case of petroleum there were increases under the headings motor spirit, lubricating and gas oils, but a marked decrease under fuel oil.

II.—IMPORTS IN JANUARY—JUNE, 1916.

During the six months ended June, 1916, the total value of the imports (less re-exports) was £420,080,065, compared with £377,536,862 for the six months ended June, 1915, and with £316,626,641 for the six months ended June, 1914.

III.—EXPORTS IN JUNE.

(a) VALUES.

The value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom during June, 1916, amounted to £47,274,563, an increase of £14,040,995 (or 42·2 per cent.) compared with June, 1915, and of £7,401,587 (or 18·6 per cent.) compared with June, 1914.

Compared with both June, 1915, and June, 1914, there were large increases in the value of the exports of coal, metal manufactures and cotton and woollen manufactures. Compared with June, 1914, exports of machinery showed a large decline in value.

Groups.	Increase in June, 1916, compared with	
	June, 1915.	June, 1914.
Food, Drink and Tobacco	£ 2,605,287	£ 439,427
Raw Materials and Articles mainly unmanufactured	5,834,181	1,451,502
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	36,982,377	11,474,928
Miscellaneous	1,802,718	675,138
TOTAL	47,274,563	14,040,995

(b) QUANTITIES.

Particulars regarding some of the principal articles are given in the following Table:—

Principal Articles.	June, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) in June, 1916, compared with	
		June, 1915.	June, 1914.
Coal and Metals and Metal Manufactures:			
Coal—Steam tons	2,363,036	– 131,599	– 1,749,031
" Other sorts tons	902,662	– 160,009	– 719,491
Total of Coal—tons	3,265,698	– 291,608	– 2,468,522
Iron and Steel and Manufactures thereof:—			
Pig Iron tons	77,487	+ 38,360	– 11,082
Railroad Materials tons	7,542	– 23,703	– 48,274
Plates and Sheets (except galvanised and tinned) tons	45,014	+ 20,701	+ 27,397
Galvanised Sheets tons	10,861	+ 14,230	+ 36,999
Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets tons	30,351	– 3,635	– 6,214
Tubes and Pipes and Fittings, wrought and cast tons	13,620	– 6,938	– 8,814
Steel Bars, Angles, Rods and Shapes or Sections tons	59,188	+ 16,211	+ 42,492
Other Iron and Steel Manufactures tons	56,975	+ 5,400	– 15,606
Total Iron and Steel and Manufactures thereof } tons	301,038	+ 32,166	– 57,100
Copper and Manufactures thereof tons	2,579	+ 595	– 1,211
Lead, Tin, Zinc and Manufactures thereof tons	4,437	– 580	– 1,154
Cutlery and Hardware tons	42,591	– 3,594	– 42,237
Machinery tons	28,722	– 3,871	– 33,556
Textiles:—			
Wool, Sheep's or Lambs' lb.	567,100	– 1,046,500	– 2,503,100
Cotton Yarn lb.	17,964,300	– 625,700	+ 731,300
" Piece Goods yds.	500,831,600	+ 75,885,200	+ 1,326,700
Woollen Tissues yds.	12,510,300	+ 4,509,400	+ 2,564,500
Worsted Tissues yds.	5,249,100	+ 244,000	+ 1,780,400
Jute Piece Goods yds.	11,228,700	– 2,489,000	– 862,900
Linen Piece Goods yds.	14,175,700	+ 2,849,600	– 662,200
Miscellaneous:—			
Tobacco and Snuff lb.	4,090,237	+ 703,316	+ 1,455,230
Boots and Shoes pairs	167,836	– 70,602	– 44,194
Chemical Manures tons	30,815	– 13,431	– 11,390
Painters' Colours cwt.	181,028	+ 36,568	– 33,618
Paper cwt.	244,164	+ 10,273	– 37,308

Compared with June, 1915, pig iron exports to France showed an increase of 47,000 tons. Ship, bridge and boiler plates to France increased, but to all other destinations there was a marked decrease. Black sheets to France rose from 1,800 tons to nearly 16,000 tons. The quantity of cotton piece goods sent to the Dutch East Indies, Chile, Brazil and the Argentine showed large increases, and to many other countries there were less substantial increases. In the case of woollen tissues the increases were mainly to the Netherlands, the Argentine, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Exports of worsted tissues to France, United States and Canada showed a drop, but there were good increases to China and Japan, the Argentine, Egypt, British East Indies, Australia and New Zealand. Jute piece goods to France, the Argentine and Canada dropped considerably. A marked falling off in the exports of linen piece goods to France and other countries was more than compensated for by large increases to Denmark, United States and South America. Compared with June, 1914, exports of rails to British South Africa, British India, and Australia showed marked reduction. As regards galvanised sheets the principal decreases were in the quantity sent to Dutch East Indies, British South Africa, British India, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. The great reduction in the exports of sheep's or lambs' wool was due almost entirely to the absence of exports to Germany, Belgium, Russia, and the United States.

IV.—EXPORTS IN JANUARY—JUNE, 1916.

During the six months ended June, 1916, the value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom amounted to £241,807,881, an increase of £58,184,993 compared with the first six months of 1915, and a decrease of £13,649,730 compared with the first six months of 1914.

V.—EXPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE.

During June, 1916, the total value of the re-exports was £8,872,694, a decrease of £477,645 compared with June, 1915, and an increase of £119,260 compared with June, 1914.

During the six months ended June, 1916, the total value was £54,121,101, an increase of £2,798,081 compared with the first half of 1915 and a decrease of £5,155,315 compared with the first half of 1914.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN JUNE.

The total number of Distress Committees under the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, whose registers were open at the end of June, 1916, was 15, compared with 52 at the end of June, 1915. The total number of persons who received employment relief during June was 570, as compared with 224 a year ago, an increase of 346 persons. The aggregate duration of employment relief was 10,656 days in June, 1916, compared with 4,177 days in June, 1915, and the average duration of employment for those employed was 18·7 days, compared with 23·9 days a year ago. The total amount of wages paid in June, 1916, was £893, compared with £514 in June, 1915; the average earnings were 31s. 4d., compared with 45s. 11d. a year ago; those not employed on piece-work received an average of 1s. 7d. a day, compared with 2s. 6d. a day in June, 1915.

Districts.	No. of Applicants given Employment Relief.		Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief.		Total Amount of Wages Paid.	
	June, 1916.	June, 1915.	June, 1916.	June, 1915.	June, 1916.	June, 1915.
London:						
County ... ..	...	...	Days.	Days.	£	£
Outer ... ..	...	22	...	384	...	50
Total, London ... ..	...	22	...	384	...	50
Northern Counties ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lancs. and Cheshire ... ..	...	133	...	2,299	...	323
Yorkshire ... ..	...	12	...	39	...	8
Midlands ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eastern Counties ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Southern Counties ... ..	...	7	...	161	...	28
Wales and Monmouth ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
ENGLAND AND WALES ... ..	...	174	...	2,883	...	409
Scotland	36	50	826	1,294	97	105
Ireland	534*	...	9,830	...	796	...
UNITED KINGDOM	570	224	10,656	4,177	893	514

* Including 26 women on piece-work earning £23.

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, &c.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

(1) WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

WHAT IS AN ACCIDENT? PNEUMONIA FROM CHILL.

A workman who is injured in the course of his employment is not entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, unless his injury was caused by an accident arising out of the employment.

A miner employed on a night shift at a colliery proceeded to the bottom of the shaft one morning in November last, in order to go home. Owing to a temporary failure of part of the raising machinery, the man had to wait for about an hour for the cage to take him up. There was a strong current of cold air at the bottom of the shaft, and the consequence of his delay was a chill which developed into pneumonia and caused his death. His widow claimed compensation, but her claim was resisted by the employers on the ground that the deceased had not been injured by an accident.

The Sheriff-Substitute accepted the contention of the employers and refused an award of compensation. The widow appealed.

The Court of Session held that the workman had not been injured by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment and dismissed the appeal.—*Lyons v. Woodilee Coal and Coke Co.—Court of Session.—30th May, 1916.*

(2) COAL MINES ACTS.

EIGHT HOURS ACT: TIME CHECKER: APPOINTMENT: IRREGULARITY OF PROCEDURE: INJUNCTION AGAINST ACTING.

By the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, it is provided that a workman shall not be below ground in a coal mine for the purpose of his work, or of going to and from his work, for more than eight hours in any consecutive twenty-four hours. The men employed in a mine may, at their own cost, appoint a person, whether holding the office of check weigher or not, for the purpose of observing the times of lowering and raising-workmen. Such time checker is to be subject to the provisions of the Acts with regard to check weighers.

A check weigher must be appointed by a majority of the men qualified to vote, which majority is to be ascertained by ballot. A meeting must be held to appoint, and the chairman of the meeting must make a statutory declaration to the effect that he presided at a meeting for the purpose of appointing a check weigher, and that the person named in the declaration was duly elected by that meeting. This statutory declaration must then be delivered to the owner, agent or manager of the mine, and is prima facie evidence of the appointment.

A meeting of the men employed at a colliery was held, and a resolution was passed to appoint a time checker. A person was then nominated for the position, and a few days later a ballot was taken for or against his appointment, no other person being nominated. A majority was in favour of the appointment, and the person began to perform the duties of his office. No meeting was held after the ballot formally to make an appointment, nor was any statutory declaration delivered to the colliery company.

In these circumstances the company applied for an interdict forbidding the person appointed from acting as time checker at the mine.

The Court granted the interdict asked for, and the person appointed appealed.

The Court of Session held that as the formalities prescribed by the Acts in the case of the appointment of check weighers had not been followed, the person appointed was not entitled to perform the duties of a time checker, and the company were entitled to refuse to allow him to act. The appeal was therefore dismissed and the interdict confirmed.—*Robert Addie & Sons' Collieries, Ltd., v. Sullivan.—Court of Session.—9th June, 1916.*

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

CASES UNDER CONCILIATION ACT, 1896, AND MUNITIONS OF WAR ACTS, 1915 AND 1916.

WOMEN MUNITION WORKERS.—The Board of Trade have referred to the Special Arbitration Tribunal constituted under Sections 6 and 8 of the Munitions of War (Amendment) Act, 1916, a claim made by the National Federation of Women Workers on behalf of their members employed at the Pembrey factory of Messrs. Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd.

DOCK LABOURERS, LIVERPOOL.—A difference having been reported to the Board of Trade under the Munitions of War Acts as existing between the Employers' Association of the Port of Liverpool and the National Union of Dock Labourers and Riverside Workers, the Board, in accordance with their powers under the Acts, referred the matter for settlement by the Liverpool Dock Labour Joint Committee. The decision of the Joint Committee was issued on 26th June, confirming the rates and working conditions under existing agreements

and awards with certain amendments, the first of which amendments gave a further increase of 1s. all round on existing day rates, night rates and Sunday rates, with a proportionate increase on hourly rates.

DOCK WORKERS, DUBLIN.—A difference having arisen between the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company, Limited, and their quay porters, wagon men and storemen in connection with the rate of wages to be paid by the company, and the parties being themselves unable mutually to arrive at a settlement in the matter, it was agreed, following on a stoppage of work and prolonged negotiations, to refer the question to Sir George Askwith for decision.

Sir George accordingly heard representatives of the parties on 27th June, and issued his award on the same day, fixing the rates of wages to be paid to the workpeople concerned.

POTTERY WORKERS, LONDON.—In an award, dated 26th June, Mr. Ernest Moon, K.C., C.B., granted an advance of wages of 10 per cent. to the members of the National Amalgamated Society of Male and Female Pottery Workers employed by Messrs. Doulton & Co., Ltd., Lambeth, as small ware throwers, but disallowed the claim made by the Society on behalf of other classes of workpeople, including turners, moulders and finishers in the company's employ.

MESSRS. RICHARDSONS, WESTGARTH & CO., LTD., HARTLEPOOL.—Application for an advance of wages having been made to the firm by their foremen and underforemen, and no settlement being arrived at between the parties, it was referred to the arbitration of Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C. The arbitrator issued his award on 4th July, giving an advance of wages of 5 per cent., such advance to merge in whole or in part (as the case may be) in the event of any general advance being made to the workers in the engineering trades in the district.

MESSRS. WILLIAM DOXFORD & SONS, LTD., SUNDERLAND, AND BOILERMAKERS' AND IRON AND STEEL SHIPBUILDERS' SOCIETY.—Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen between the firm and the society acting on behalf of the journeymen riveters employed on destroyers, in connection with a claim by the firm that the condition of pay should be altered from a time-piece rate to a piece rate. On 6th June Mr. Mackenzie issued his award, deciding that the circumstances are now such that the alteration may be made with advantage to the parties, and will result in a larger output.

MESSRS. WILLIAM DOXFORD & SONS, LTD., SUNDERLAND, AND THE SHIPBUILDERS' AND SHIPWRIGHTS' ASSOCIATION.—Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., having been appointed to act as the arbitrator to determine a dispute that had arisen between the above parties as to the revision of certain piece rates for drillers on torpedo boat destroyers, issued his award on 1st July, deciding that the rates should be reduced, for table drilling with machine from 4·3d. to 2·25d., and for ship drilling with machine from 6·04d. to 4·50d. per dozen all sizes.

MESSRS. PARTINGTON STEEL AND IRON COMPANY, LTD., IRLAM, AND THE ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION.—Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to determine a difference arising between the above parties relative to an application for an advance of wages to the company's maintenance electricians, issued his award on 9th June, deciding that the rate should be 60s. per week.

MESSRS. MANN, EGERTON & CO., AND ELECTRICAL WIREMEN.—Mr. Charles Doughty, the arbitrator appointed to determine a difference that had arisen at Wareham, Dorset, between the union and the firm (who are members of the London Electrical Masters' Association), owing to the refusal of the wiremen to wire tubes erected by pipe fitters who were not paid the same rates as wiremen, issued his award on the 15th June, deciding that the firm are entitled to employ pipe fitters in accordance with the rates and conditions laid down by the "Working Rules for the London District."

CARGO FLEET IRON COMPANY, LTD., MIDDLESBROUGH, AND EXCAVATORS, CONCRETES AND YARDMEN.—Mr. Charles Doughty, the arbitrator appointed to determine a dispute between the above firm and certain of their workpeople employed as concreters and yardmen, issued his award on 19th June, granting an advance of 1d. per hour, which, in the event of a further general advance or additional war bonus being granted to engineering employees on the North-East Coast, shall be merged therein.

THE CARGO FLEET IRON COMPANY, LTD., AND THE ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION.—Mr. Charles Doughty, having been appointed arbitrator to decide a difference that had arisen between the above parties in connection with a claim made by the Union for balance of wages said to be due to one of their members in respect of work which he was called upon to do, such balance being the difference over a certain period between the wages paid to an electrician and those paid to chargemen, the workman in question having been temporarily required to act in the latter capacity, issued his award on 20th June, and decided that the Union had substantiated their claim.

MESSRS. DARLINGTON RAILWAY PLANT AND FOUNDRY COMPANY, LTD., AND THE IRON, STEEL AND METAL DRESSERS' SOCIETY.—In connection with a difference arising between the above parties respecting the conditions of work of the men concerned, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed to act as arbitrator. At the hearing, on 13th June, a settlement was arrived at satisfactory to the parties, and embodied in the award.

CRANEDRIVERS, DOWLAYS.—Messrs. Guest, Keen & Nettles, Ltd., and the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union, being unable to agree upon a claim made by the latter for an advance of wages on behalf of their members employed by the firm as cranedrivers at the Dowlais Wharf, it was agreed to refer the matter to an arbitrator to determine whether the men were entitled to any further increase beyond that of 3s. per week offered by the company in respect of this particular claim.

Mr. Charles Doughty was accordingly appointed, and issued his award on 20th June, deciding that a further increase of 1s. per week should be paid.

BRICKLAYERS AND LABOURERS, PETERBOROUGH.—Certain bricklayers and labourers in the employ of Messrs. Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough, made an application for an advance of wages, and the parties themselves being unable mutually to agree upon the matter, it was reported to the Department and duly referred to Mr. Charles Doughty for decision.

In his award, dated 27th June, Mr. Doughty decided that the wages of bricklayers shall be 8½d. per hour, and the wages of labourers 6d. per hour, and that the existing war bonus should continue. Mr. Doughty also fixed the rate of payment for overtime.

MESSRS. BOWERMAN & SONS, LIMITED, AND MESSRS. GEORGE RANDLE & SON, BRIDGWATER.—Mr. Charles Doughty having been appointed arbitrator to determine a dispute between these two firms and certain of their employees in regard to an application for increased wages made by the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union on behalf of the men, issued his award on 27th June, deciding that the existing war bonus of 2s. a week shall be increased to 5s. a week for able bodied men, and to 3s. for the others; the existing bonus of 1s. paid to youths and boys under twenty-one to be increased to 2s.

MESSRS. HOFFMANN MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LTD., CHELMSFORD, AND THE WORKERS' UNION.—Mr. Charles Doughty, having been appointed to act as arbitrator to determine a dispute between the above parties, presided at a meeting on 29th June, when the firm intimated that they would make certain proposals to meet the Union's application. These proposals, which gave extra war wage advances of ¼d. per hour to all persons at present rated at 4½d. per hour or less, and ¾d. per hour to all persons rated at 5d. per hour or more, were submitted to Mr. Doughty and approved by him and embodied in his award.

PONTYCYMMER CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—A difficulty having arisen in connection with the dismissal of an employee from the society's boot department, Mr. Doughty was appointed to act as arbitrator to determine the matter. The man in question has since his dismissal been receiving unemployment benefit from his Union, and the society agreed, in settlement of the claim, to make up the amounts so received to 33s. per week from 22nd April to 1st July, 1916.

SOAPWORKERS, IRLAM, DUNSTON AND SILVERTOWN.—As a result of arbitration proceedings before Mr. E. Forbes Lankester, K.C., members of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees employed in the soap works of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., at Irlam, Dunston and Silvertown, received, under an award dated 16th June, the following advances of wages: 10 per cent. to those earning up to 40s. per week; 7 per cent. to those earning more than 40s. per week and up to £200 per annum; and 10 per cent. on all piece work.

BRICKLAYERS IN CHEMICAL WORKS, ALLHUSEN.—Mr. E. Forbes Lankester, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to decide an application for an advance of wages of 1d. per hour made by the bricklayers employed at the Allhusen works of the United Alkali Company, Ltd., in rebuilding furnaces, &c., and in such new work as is from time to time required, found in an award, dated 14th June, that no alteration should be made in the wages of the men concerned.

BLACKSMITHS' STRIKERS, BRISTOL.—Mr. E. Forbes Lankester, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to decide a claim made by the Workers' Union for an advance of wages on behalf of their members employed by Messrs. John Lysaght, Ltd., Bristol, as blacksmiths' strikers and hydraulic smiths or pressmen, decided, in an award dated 3rd July, that no alteration be made in the wages paid to strikers, but that the wages paid to hydraulic pressmen be increased by 1s. per week. The award also decided a point in connection with the wages of strikers when working as labourers.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES, READING.—Sir William Robinson, the arbitrator appointed to determine an application for increased standard rates of wages in the building trade in the Reading District, issued his award on 9th June, deciding that the rate be raised for carpenters, joiners, bricklayers and plumbers to 9½d. per hour, plasterers to 10½d. per hour, painters to 8½d. per hour, labourers to 6½d. per hour, workmen employed as hoisters and scaffolders to

7d. per hour (in addition to the war bonus already granted to labourers and scaffolders), the increases awarded to be regarded as war wages.

MESSRS. ISAAC NASH & SONS, LTD., AND OTHER FIRMS IN THE SPADE AND SHOVEL TRADE, STOURBRIDGE, AND THE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF GAS, MUNICIPAL AND GENERAL WORKERS.—Sir William Robinson, having been appointed arbitrator in connection with differences that had arisen in respect of a claim for a 15 per cent. increase of wages made by the Union on behalf of all workers engaged in the Spade, Shovel, &c., trades in Stourbridge, issued his award on 10th June, deciding that a war bonus of 7½ per cent. per week be granted to the men whose wages do not exceed 40s. per week, payment to be dependent on good time-keeping, any time lost through breakdowns or owing to circumstances over which the men have no control to be counted in calculating the standard hours of the week's work.

FARRIERS, LIVERPOOL.—Consequent upon arbitration proceedings before Sir William Robinson, the National Amalgamated Society of Farriers obtained, under an award dated 3rd July, a war wage advance of 2s. 6d. per week on behalf of the firmen and doormen in the employ of members of the Liverpool Branch of the Master Farriers' Association.

LABOURERS IN STEEL WORKS.—The labourers employed in the Bar Mills of Messrs. John Spencer & Sons, Ltd., near Newcastle-on-Tyne, made application to their employers for an advance of wages of 1d. per hour. The firm refused to concede the request, and no settlement being arrived at between the parties, the matter was reported to the Department, who appointed Sir William Robinson to arbitrate thereon.

Sir William met representatives of the parties at Newcastle on 29th June, when an agreement was arrived at as to the rates to be paid.

MESSRS. BROWN, BAYLEY'S STEEL WORKS, SHEFFIELD.—A difference having arisen between this firm and the pressmen in their employ in connection with an application for an advance of wages, Sir William Robinson was appointed to act as arbitrator to determine the matter. The arbitrator issued his award on 5th July, giving an advance in wages of 7½ per cent.

RUSSIAN ARMY WELLINGTON OR COSSACK BOOT CONTRACT, 1916.—Mr. Alderman T. Smith was appointed umpire in a dispute which had arisen between the employers and operatives in the boot and shoe trade of Leicester in regard to the prices for cutting the uppers of this boot. A conference was summoned, representatives from all the chief centres of the shoe trade in England and Scotland being present, when a committee of employers and workmen was appointed to fix uniform piece-work wage rates and general working conditions. The umpire issued his award on 23rd June, embodying the prices and conditions agreed to by the majority of the committee, and deciding that the same shall be paid and observed and be applicable to all contractors in each centre or district in which this boot is made.

MESSRS. G. TUCKER & SON, LTD., BRICK AND TILE MANUFACTURERS, LOUGHBOROUGH, AND THEIR WORKMEN.—Mr. Alderman T. Smith, the arbitrator appointed to determine a dispute between the above firm and their workpeople in connection with an application for an advance of wages, presided over a meeting of the parties on 29th June, when an agreement was arrived at providing for the abolition of the existing war bonus and for certain adjustment of time and piece rates of wages.

NATIONAL UNION OF GASWORKERS AND GENERAL LABOURERS AND BUILDING EMPLOYERS IN LEEK DISTRICT.—Mr. W. A. Willis, the arbitrator appointed to determine a difference between the parties in connection with an application for an increase of wages of 1d. per hour made by the Union on behalf of the builders' labourers (including bricklayers' labourers, navvies and general labourers) in the Leek District, issued his award on 21st June, deciding that the rate shall be raised to 6½d. per hour, being an increase of ¼d. per hour.

PAINTERS, STOURBRIDGE.—On 20th May joint application was made to the Department by the master and operative painters at Stourbridge for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide differences that had arisen between them in connection with an application made by the operatives for an advance of wages and an alteration of working rules.

Mr. W. A. Willis was accordingly appointed to act in that capacity, and issued his award on 28th June, deciding that the standard rate of wages for skilled painters in the Stourbridge district shall be 8½d. per hour. Mr. Willis also decided the questions of difference in respect of the working rules.

CHEMICAL WORKERS, LONDON.—In an award, dated 9th June, Mr. W. A. Willis, the arbitrator appointed to decide an application made to Messrs. Spencer, Chapman & Messel, Ltd., and William Pearce & Sons, Ltd., by the National Union of Gasworkers and General Labourers for an advance of wages of 1s. per shift for shift workers and 1s. per day for day workers, granted war wage advances of 7d. per shift to shift workers, and 4s. for a full working week to day workers.

MESSRS. E. F. BLAKELEY & Co. (LIVERPOOL), LTD., AND THE NATIONAL AMALGAMATED UNION OF ENGINEERS, ETC.—Mr. F. N. Keen, having been appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen between the above parties in connection with an application of the Union for an increase of rates

of wages and overtime for day workers, issued his award on 16th June, granting certain increases of wages and revising the overtime rates of payment.

ENGINEERS, PAISLEY.—A difference arose between the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and Messrs. Bow, MacLachlan & Co., Ltd., Paisley, in respect of a claim made by the former that the firm should recognise the local Paisley holiday, popularly known as "Sma' Shot Day," as a trades holiday. Sir Thomas Munro, to whom the matter was referred for arbitration, issued his award on 28th June, finding in favour of the Society.

MESSRS. THOMAS HUDSON, LTD., AND EMPLOYEES AT SHEPHERD.—Mr. Condie Sandeman, K.C., the arbitrator appointed in connection with a dispute between Messrs. Thomas Hudson, Ltd., and certain of their employees, viz. boiler-makers, labourers, holders, hammermen and machine men, respecting an application for an increase of wages of 1d. per hour, issued his award on 8th June, 1916, deciding that the applicants had not shown any good reason why the rate of wages paid should be increased. An offer to pay a bonus of 2s. per week, conditional upon good time-keeping, had been made by the employers, but was not accepted by the men.

MESSRS. CARRON COMPANY AND ASSOCIATED BLACKSMITHS AND IRONWORKERS SOCIETY.—Differences having arisen between the above parties regarding claims of the Society for alterations in the rates of wages and conditions of employment, Sheriff A. J. Louttit-Laing was appointed to act as arbitrator. In awards issued on 20th May and 27th June, the arbitrator determined the matters in dispute.

CLYDE SHIPBUILDERS' ASSOCIATION AND THE ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION.—Sheriff A. J. Louttit-Laing, having been appointed arbitrator in connection with a difference that had arisen with reference to the adjustment, at the present time, of general working rules proposed by the Union, issued his award on 27th June, deciding that the present time is not inopportune for such adjustment. He further awarded that the parties should meet as soon as can be conveniently arranged for the purpose of considering and endeavouring to adjust such rules.

GLAZIERS, GLASGOW.—Professor Richard Lodge, the arbitrator appointed to determine certain differences between the Glasgow Master Glaziers' Association and the operatives' Society, issued his award on 22nd June, granting a war wage advance of 1d. per hour. At the hearing the parties came to an agreement as to the amendment of the working rule in regard to overtime rates of payment.

HOSIERY WORKERS, KILMARNOCK.—In April the Workers' Union made application to Messrs. Fraser Frasers & Co., Kilmarnock, for an increase in the piece prices for certain sizes of pants paid to their female members in the firm's hand-machine knitting departments. The firm refused to concede the claim, and the matter was reported to the Department, and by them referred to Professor R. Lodge for decision.

Professor Lodge issued his award on 24th June, disallowing the claim made by the Union.

CLYDESDALE DISTRICT MASTER WRIGHTS' ASSOCIATION AND OPERATIVE JOINERS, CLYDESDALE DISTRICT.—Professor J. M. Irvine, K.C., having been appointed arbitrator in connection with a difference respecting the standard rate of wages for operative joiners in this district, issued his award on 21st June, deciding that the rate shall be 11d., being an advance of 1d. per hour.

OIL MILLERS, ABERDEEN.—Differences having arisen between three firms at Aberdeen and the men employed in their oil mill departments in regard to applications for advances of wages, Professor J. M. Irvine, K.C., was appointed to determine the differences. The arbitrator issued his awards on 19th June (the awards being identical in the three cases as regards wages), conceding the several classes of workmen concerned an advance of wages of 2s. per week. In the case of one of the firms, the arbitrator decided a further point in regard to wages payable when the presses were "off."

MESSRS. SIR W. G. ARMSTRONG, WHITWORTH & Co., LTD., WALKER-ON-TYNE.—A difference having arisen between the above firm and the employees in their naval yard at Walker-on-Tyne (with the exception of certain classes of workpeople) as to the number of hours overtime to be worked during the week and what those hours should be, Mr. Jas. Macdonald was appointed to act as arbitrator, and issued his award on 17th June, determining the questions of difference.

MESSRS. SIR W. G. ARMSTRONG, WHITWORTH & Co., LTD., ALEXANDRIA, AND THE SCOTTISH TINPLATE AND SHEET METAL WORKERS' SOCIETY.—Mr. Jas. Macdonald, having been appointed arbitrator to determine a difference between the above parties in reference to the piecework prices for the various operations in the manufacture of powder cases, issued his award on 22nd June, fixing the piecework prices for the various operations at the prices proposed by the employers.

BLACKSMITHS AND STRIKERS IN THE WORKS OF MESSRS. G. AND J. WEIR, LTD., GLASGOW.—Mr. James Macdonald, having been appointed to act as arbitrator to settle a dispute between the blacksmiths and the strikers employed by the firm in connection with the division of piecework earnings, issued his award on 14th June, deciding that the furnace strikers should receive a 5 per cent. advance and the fire strikers a 2½ per cent. advance on their present rate of wages, the advance to be a minimum wage.

CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES, GLASGOW.—On 17th June joint application was made to the Department by the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide a difference that had arisen between them in respect of the length of time required by an average adult worker to perform certain operations in connection with the making of a particular garment.

Mr. James Macdonald was accordingly appointed to act in that capacity, and issued his award on 1st July, determining the matter in dispute.

CARRON COMPANY, FALKIRK, AND THE FIFE AND KINROSS MINERS' ASSOCIATION.—In connection with a difference arising between the above parties as to the rates to be paid at the company's Newbigging limestone mine, Professor Daniel Burns was appointed to act as arbitrator, and issued his award on 20th June, deciding that the company should pay the standard rate of coal miners' wages to their employees in this mine.

COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION.

The Committee appointed by His Majesty's Government to inquire into the best steps to be taken to ensure the fullest productive power of employees in engineering and shipbuilding establishments, and whose reference was subsequently extended to deal with the avoidance of stoppages on work for Government purposes (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1915, p. 83, and August, 1915, p. 280), have issued decisions on further cases referred to them. The following are summaries of the Committee's findings issued during June:—

COREMAKERS, WIGAN (ISSUED 5TH JUNE).—In March, 1915, the coremakers at Wigan were conceded by agreement a war bonus of 2s. per week, and in the following May a further war bonus of 1s. per week. Application having been made for an advance of wages of 7s. 6d. per week, the Committee decided that in lieu of the war bonuses amounting to 3s. per week previously given, the men should be given an advance of wages of 4s. per week.

COREMAKERS, PRESTON (ISSUED 5TH JUNE).—In April, 1915, the coremakers at Preston were conceded by agreement a war bonus of 3s. per week in addition to their wage rate of 32s. per week. Application having been made for an advance of wages of 5s. per week and having been referred to the Committee, it was decided (a) that the wages should be advanced from 32s. to 33s. per week, and (b) the existing war bonus of 3s. per week should be converted into a war wage advance of 4s. per week.

MESSRS. A. HARPER, SONS, & BEAN, LTD., DUDLEY (ISSUED 5TH JUNE).—Application having been made to the firm by the Workers' Union for a rate of 6½d. per hour for general labourers and 7d. per hour for fitters' labourers and revised rates of payment for overtime and night-shift work, the matter was referred to the Committee on Production, who decided that the union had not established their claim.

IRONFOUNDERS, LIVERPOOL (ISSUED 5TH JUNE).—In May, 1916, application for an advance of wages of 2d. per hour was made to the Liverpool and District Ironfounders' Association by the Liverpool and Birkenhead district branches of the Friendly Society of Ironfounders. The matter being referred to the Committee, it was decided that the wages should be advanced 1s. per week.

MESSRS. MACFIE & SONS, LIVERPOOL (ISSUED 5TH JUNE).—Application for an advance of wages was made to Messrs. Macfie & Sons, sugar refiners, Liverpool, by their employees; application was also made by the sugar-house sections of the men for extra payment for extra shifts. An offer of an advance of wages was made by the firm, but not accepted by the men, and the matter proceeded to arbitration. The Committee decided that in settlement of all the claims made, the wages of the men concerned should be advanced 2s. per week.

MESSRS. INCE FORGE Co., LTD., WIGAN (ISSUED 5TH JUNE).—Application was made to this firm by the National Union of Gasworkers and General Labourers for an advance of wages to their members, and negotiations took place between the parties, but failed to result in a settlement. The Committee awarded an advance of wages of 1s. per week.

BLACKSMITHS AND HAMMERMEN, MESSRS. A. & J. MAIN & Co., LTD., POSSILPARK (ISSUED 7TH JUNE).—This finding related to an application for advance of wages and for overtime allowance to piece-workers made by the Associated Blacksmiths and Ironworkers' Society to Messrs. A. & J. Main & Co., Ltd., a firm in the Glasgow district engaged on bridge building and structural engineering work. The Committee decided that (a) piece-workers working overtime should receive extra payment at half their time rate (full time rate on Sundays), such extra payment to be made only after the full normal weekly hours have been worked, and (b) that in lieu of and in substitution for the existing war bonus of 3s. per week, the men concerned shall be given in the case of time workers, an advance of 4s. per week and in the case of piece-workers 10 per cent. on piece rates.

IRONMOULDERS, MESSRS. SCOTT'S SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING Co., LTD., GREENOCK (ISSUED 7TH JUNE).—This finding relates to a difference between the firm and the Associated Ironmoulders of Scotland as to the rate of wages to be paid to certain ironmoulders. Prior to the employment of the men

in question it was the practice of the firm to employ brass-moulders and not ironmoulders in their brass foundry. In June, 1915, and subsequently, a number of ironmoulders accepted employment in the firm's brass foundry at the recognised brassmoulders' rate of 10d. per hour. The union claimed that these men should be paid the ironmoulders' rate of 10½d. per hour. The Committee decided that the claim had not been established.

MESSRS. PARNALL & SONS, BRISTOL (ISSUED 7TH JUNE).—This finding related to an objection raised by the Bristol District United Trade Committee of Carpenters and Joiners to the employment of women by the above firm in the manufacture of aeroplanes and seaplanes. The Committee decided that the objections of the operatives' Committee had not been established.

SHOPMEN, CALEDONIAN, GLASGOW AND SOUTH-WESTERN, AND NORTH BRITISH RAILWAY COMPANIES (ISSUED 9TH JUNE).—By a finding of the Committee of September, 1915, the men concerned received (in lieu of and in substitution for a war bonus given in February, 1915) an advance of wages of 3s. per week on time rates and 7½ per cent. on piece rates. Applications for further advances of wages were made by the Railway Shops Organisation Committee of Craft Unions (representing 28 craft unions) and by the National Union of Railwaymen. It was decided that the advances previously awarded should be increased by 1s. per week on time rates and 2½ per cent. on piece rates.

SHOPMEN, GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY CO. (ISSUED 9TH JUNE).—Applications for advances of wages to men employed in the shops of the Great Western Railway Co. having been made to the Company by (1) the Railway Shops Organisation Committee of Crafts Unions, (2) the National Union of Railwaymen, and (3) the Workers' Union, the matter was referred to the Committee on Production for decision. The award was that the advance of wages of 3s. per week on time rates and 7½ per cent. on piece rates given to the men in May, 1915 (in lieu of a war bonus previously given), should be increased by an advance of 1s. per week on time rates and 2½ per cent. on piece rates.

SHOPMEN, NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE RAILWAY CO. (ISSUED 9TH JUNE).—The Committee similarly awarded an advance of 1s. per week on time rates and 2½ per cent. on piece rates in respect of applications for advances of wages to men employed in the shops of the North Staffordshire Railway Co. made to the Company by the Railway Shops Organisation Committee of Craft Unions and the National Union of Railwaymen.

PLUMBERS, CAMMELL LAIRD AND CO., LTD., BIRKENHEAD (ISSUED 9TH JUNE).—This finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the firm by the United Operative Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association. Following the practice of Messrs. Cammell Laird's establishment, the men, on whose behalf the present application was made, had received an advance of 3s. per week in January, 1915, and a further advance of 1s. in June, 1915. The Committee decided that the union had not established their claim.

IRONFOUNDERS, CHESTER (ISSUED 9TH JUNE).—This finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the Chester Engineering Employers' Association by the Friendly Society of Ironfounders. The Committee decided that the men concerned should receive a war wage advance of 2s. per week.

SMITHS' STRIKERS, MERSEY DISTRICT (ISSUED 9TH JUNE).—Following the termination of a three years' agreement made in March, 1913, the Liverpool and District Hammermen's Society, the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and the Smiths and Strikers' Society made application for an advance of wages and payment of outworking allowance on behalf of smiths' strikers to the Mersey Ship Repairers' Federation and the Steamship Superintendent Engineers' Committee, which was referred to the Committee on Production for decision. The Committee decided that the wages of the men concerned should be advanced 2s. per week and that an outworking allowance of 4d. per day should be paid to strikers as and when outworking allowance is paid to smiths.

GAS PLANT EMPLOYEES AND SHIPYARD LABOURERS, CAMMELL LAIRD & CO., LTD., BIRKENHEAD (ISSUED 9TH JUNE).—Claims were made to Messrs. Cammell Laird & Co. by the National Union of Gasworkers and General Labourers on behalf of the gas plant attendants for an advance of wages and increased overtime rates, and on behalf of the shipyard labourers for an advance of wages. The men in question had received in 1915 advances of wages of 4s. per week, under agreements which covered the employees of the establishment generally. The matter was referred to the Committee on Production, who decided that the union had not established their claims.

ENGINEERING LABOURERS AND SEMI-SKILLED MEN, HUDDERSFIELD (ISSUED 9TH JUNE).—The Workers' Union applied to the Huddersfield Engineering Employers' Association for a minimum rate of wages of 30s. per week for mechanics' shop labourers and of 32s. per week for foundry labourers, and an increase of 3s. per week to semi-skilled workers. The matter was referred to the Committee on Production, who decided that the claim advanced had not been established.

ENGINEERING LABOURERS AND SEMI-SKILLED MEN, HALIFAX (ISSUED 9TH JUNE).—Application was made to the Halifax District Engineering Employers' Association by the Workers' Union for a minimum rate of 30s. per week for labourers and

a proportionate advance to semi-skilled men. The finding of the Committee is that a war wage advance of 1s. per week should be given.

BUNDLERS, MESSRS. STEWARTS & LLOYDS, LTD. (ISSUED 13TH JUNE).—Prior to the war the bundlers in the Buttwell Department of Messrs. Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., were paid on time rates; in July, 1915, they were put on piece rates, thereby increasing their earnings. The prices fixed were 15d. per ton for bottom men and 16d. per ton for top men, which rates included bundling, loading, painting, lifting out and putting into stock and dispatching.

The finding of the Committee, in settlement of the claims advanced by the men, is (1) that when men are put on work other than that described above they shall be put on time rates; (2) that when piece work is not available the men shall accept work on time rates, if such work is offered to them; and (3) that men temporarily put on time work shall be rated at 30s. per week.

MESSRS. BOLCROW, VAUGHAN & CO., LTD., MIDDLESBROUGH (ISSUED 20TH JUNE).—A proposal to amend an agreement of 1889, which fixed the wages of the men in the manufacturing department of the Eston Steel Works of this company, was referred to the Committee by the Minister of Munitions. The agreement provided that wages should be at standard when the ascertained average selling price of steel rails was less than £3 10s. 6d. per ton, increasing to the maximum rate of 20 per cent. above standard when the selling price was £5 per ton. The proposal was that from the 12th March, 1916, the maximum should be removed, the sliding scale to remain otherwise operative. The finding of the Committee was that the maximum increase under the sliding scale shall be 60 per cent., the provisions of the scale to be otherwise unaltered, and the selling price to be based upon the prices of ordinary rails.

BLACKSMITHS AND STRIKERS, JOHNSTONE AND PAISLEY (ISSUED 21ST JUNE).—A claim was made by the Associated Blacksmiths and Ironworkers' Society to the North-West Engineering Trades Employers' Association for payment of their members in the Johnstone and Paisley districts on an hourly instead of a weekly basis. The employers offered to extend to them, as from the first full pay after the approval of the Minister of Munitions had been obtained, the terms of the finding of the Committee in respect of a similar claim made by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, which finding, as from the first full pay in April, 1916, placed the war wage advance on an hourly basis, and accordingly increased it by 6d. per week. Difficulty arising as to the date from which the extension to the blacksmiths and strikers should be made, the Committee decided that it should be as from the first full pay following 6th May, 1916.

METAL DRESSERS, ST. HELENS (ISSUED 22ND JUNE).—Application for an advance of wages was made to the St. Helens Engineering Employers' Association by the Iron, Steel and Metal Dressers' Society. The finding of the Committee is that the time rates of dressers rated up to and including 33s. per week shall be advanced 2s. per week; those rated in excess of 33s. and less than 35s. shall receive such advance as may be necessary to bring them up to 35s.; and those rated at or over 35s. per week shall be advanced 1s. per week.

ENGINEERS, STEEL WORKS, SCOTLAND (ISSUED 22ND JUNE).—Application for an advance of wages was made by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers on behalf of their members employed in steel works connected with the Scottish Steelmakers' Wages Association. The men are time workers, the nature of the employment not permitting of the application of a piece-work system, and the Committee decided that a war wage advance of 1d. per hour should be given.

LABOURERS, WHITEHEAD TORPEDO WORKS (WEYMOUTH), LTD. (ISSUED 23RD JUNE).—The Workers' Union made an application that a bonus of 4s. per week now being paid to the labourers in the firm's employ should be converted, as regards one half of it, into an advance on the rate of wages, the remaining 2s. to be continued as a bonus. The finding of the Committee is that the suggested change should not be made.

LABOURERS, &C., D. & W. HENDERSON & CO., LTD. (ISSUED 27TH JUNE).—The finding in respect of an application for an adjustment of wages made by the National Amalgamated Union of Labour on behalf of the carpenters' labourers and riggers' helpers employed by the firm (who are members of the Clyde Shipbuilders' Association) is that the wages of the former shall be advanced ¼d. per hour and of the latter ¼d. per hour.

ENGINEERS, BRITON FERRY, &C. (ISSUED 27TH JUNE).—Application for an advance of wages was made to the Welsh Engineers' and Founders' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. The finding of the Committee is that the engineers receive a war wage advance of 1s. per week.

MESSRS. BRITISH INSULATED AND HELSBY CABLES, LTD., PRESCOT (ISSUED 29TH JUNE).—The Prescott District Joint Committee of Associated Unions, acting on behalf of the workpeople employed at the firm's Prescott Works, made application for an increase of wages of 5s. per week on existing rates and 2s. 6d. per week to all bona-fide apprentices and workers under 17 years of age, together with time and a half for all overtime and double time for bank holidays, the present overtime rates being time and a quarter up till 11 P.M. on ordinary week days and up till 5 P.M. on Saturdays, and then time and a half. For Sundays and Bank holidays double

time is paid. In settlement of the claims advanced, the Committee's finding is that the wages of adult men shall be advanced by 2s. per week and the wages of boys and youths by 1s. per week, such advances to be regarded as war wages.

ENGINEERING TRADES (NIGHT SHIFT WORK), BLACKBURN DISTRICT.—In the summary of this finding of the Committee, which appears on p. 231 of the June issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE, the word "quarter" in the twelfth line should read "half."

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

UNDER the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Bill, now before Parliament, it is proposed to extend the State system of Unemployment Insurance to:

- Workmen engaged on or in connection with munitions work as defined by the Munitions of War Acts, 1915 and 1916; and
- Workmen employed in any of the trades mentioned in the First Schedule to the Bill.

The trades mentioned in the First Schedule, all of which would be insured under the Bill, whether the workmen are engaged on munitions work or not, are as follows:

- The manufacture of ammunition, fireworks, and explosives.
- The manufacture of chemicals, including oils, lubricants, soap, candles, paints, colours, and varnish.
- The manufacture of metals and the manufacture or repair of metal goods.
- The manufacture of rubber and goods made therefrom.
- The manufacture of leather and leather goods.
- The manufacture of bricks, cement, and artificial stone and other artificial building materials.
- Saw milling, including machine woodwork, and the manufacture of wooden cases.

Power is to be given to the Board of Trade to extend the provisions of the Bill by order to any trade or branch of a trade in which a substantial amount of munitions work or other work for war purposes is being carried on.

The contributions and rates of benefit under the Bill are to be the same as those under the State scheme of Unemployment Insurance contained in Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911. Under that scheme, the normal weekly contributions for adult workmen are 2½d. from the workman, and 2½d. from the employer; the contributions being paid by means of Unemployment Insurance stamps affixed by the employer to an unemployment book issued in the name of the workman. The employer is responsible for seeing that contributions are properly paid.

The Bill is to come into force on 4th September, 1916, or such later date (not being later than 1st January, 1917) as the Board of Trade may direct. It is to continue in operation as regards payment of contributions for such period as the Board of Trade may determine, not being more than five years from its coming into operation or three years after the end of the war, whichever is the longer period. The right of the workman to receive benefit is to continue for a further six months, or such longer period as the Board may fix.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACTS, 1911 to 1915. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

APPLICATIONS TO THE UMPIRE.

In pursuance of Regulations made by the Board of Trade and dated 26th day of March, 1912, notice is hereby given that the Umpire (Unemployment Insurance) has received application for a decision as to whether contributions are payable or not in respect of the following class of persons:—

361. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of canopies for perambulators.

DECISIONS BY THE UMPIRE.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Board of Trade hereby give notice of the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

- The Umpire has decided that contributions are payable in respect of:—
 1550. Workmen employed by timber merchants to erect fences under a sub-contract from builders when the erection of the fences would have been insured work if done direct by the builders.
- The Umpire has decided that contributions are not payable in respect of:—
 1549. Charwomen engaged in cleaning offices.

Note.—Where no reference is given to an application, the question has been decided by the Umpire, without notice, as a matter not admitting of reasonable doubt, in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations.

Decisions relating to individual workmen which raise no question of general interest, or which merely apply a principle laid down in a previous decision, are not published.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

PAPER BOX TRADE.

IRELAND.

VARIATION OF MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES FOR FEMALE WORKERS.*

The Paper Box Trade Board (Ireland) have issued a notice, dated 19th June, 1916, stating that they have varied the minimum time-rate of wages for female workers other than learners (which was fixed on 4th November, 1912, and made obligatory by order of the Board of Trade on 5th May, 1913) from 2½d. to 3d. per hour.

The Trade Board have also given notice that they have varied certain of the minimum time-rates for female learners.

Further particulars regarding the above-mentioned variation of minimum rates may be obtained from the Secretary of the Paper Box Trade Board (Ireland), Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

HOLLOW-WARE TRADE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

OBLIGATORY ORDER.

In pursuance of their powers under the above Act, the Board of Trade have made an order, dated 3rd July, 1916, making obligatory, in cases in which they are applicable, the minimum rates of wages for male and female workers, fixed by the Hollow-ware Trade Board (Great Britain), which came into limited operation on 1st January, 1916.†

Any agreement for the payment of wages at less than the above-mentioned minimum rates, clear of all deductions (except those made in accordance with the National Insurance Acts), will henceforth be void. The penalty for paying wages after 3rd July, 1916, at rates less than those which have now been made obligatory by the Board of Trade is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence. In certain circumstances, however, the Trade Board may, in the case of time-workers who are affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time-rates.

TAILORING TRADE.

IRELAND.

OBLIGATORY ORDER.

In pursuance of their powers under the above Act, the Board of Trade have made an order, dated 4th July, 1916, making obligatory, in cases in which they are applicable, the minimum rates of wages for female workers, as varied by the Tailoring Trade Board (Ireland), which came into limited operation on 3rd January, 1916.‡

Any agreement for the payment of wages at less than the above-mentioned minimum rates, clear of all deductions (except those made in accordance with the National Insurance Acts), will henceforth be void. The penalty for paying wages after 4th July, 1916, at rates less than those which have now been made obligatory by the Board of Trade is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence. In certain circumstances, however, the Trade Board may, in the case of time-workers who are affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time-rates.

GREAT BRITAIN.

FILLING OF ANNUAL VACANCIES ON THE DISTRICT TRADE COMMITTEES.

One-third of the representatives of local employers and one-third of the representatives of local workers on the seven District Trade Committees established by the Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain) were drawn to retire on 22nd May, in accordance with the regulations as to the constitution of District Trade Committees. After considering names supplied by employers and workers respectively, the Board of Trade have selected members of the Committees for the period commencing 22nd May, 1916, to fill the vacancies thus caused.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS.

JUNE, 1916.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination.‡
Chirnside (Berwick)	W. H. Robertson, Chirnside.	Wednesday, 8.30-9 a.m.
Levenwick (Shetland)	A. E. Browne, Levenwick.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Ollaberry (Shetland)	G. Hendry, Voe, Delting.	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.

Note.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the Certifying Surgeon.

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1916, page 79.

† See LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1915, page 427.

‡ See LABOUR GAZETTE for December, 1915, page 462.

§ Of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING JUNE.

[All the United Kingdom Official Publications, including Consular Reports, may be purchased either directly or through any Bookseller from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and 54, St. Mary Street, Cardiff; H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 23, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Colonial and Foreign Agencies of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.]

UNITED KINGDOM.

Railway Accidents. Returns of Accidents and Casualties as reported to the Board of Trade during the year ending 31st December, 1915. [Cd. 8254: price 4½d.]

Report on the Working of the Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 and 1890, during the year ending 30th June, 1915. Board of Trade. [Cd. 8267: price 2d.]

Fortieth Annual Report of H.M. Inspectors of Explosives, 1915. Home Office. [Cd. 8272: price 2½d.]

Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops, 1915. Home Office. [Cd. 8276: price 2d.]

Forty-fourth Annual Report of the Local Government Board, 1914-15. Part III. Public Health and Local Administration, County Council Administration, Local Taxation and Valuation. [Cd. 8197: price 6d.]

Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, 1914. Part A. Appendix (A). Particulars of Valuation Returns. [H.C. 139—I.: price 4d.] **Part D. Building Societies.** [H.C. 139—IV.: price 1s. 3d.]

Memorandum on the Teaching of Coal Mining in Part-Time Schools. Board of Education. Circular 953. [Stationery Office Publication: price 4d.]

Metropolitan Police. Accounts of the Metropolitan Police and Police Pension Funds. Year ended 31st March, 1916. [H.C. 66: price 2½d.]

BRITISH DOMINIONS.

CANADA.—*The Labour Gazette, May, 1916.* Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Acts, disputes, prices, changes in wages, industrial accidents, distribution of labour in Canada, &c.—*Census and Statistics Monthly, April, 1916.* Stocks of wheat in Canada on 31st March, 1916, production of beetroot sugar in Canada, &c. [Ottawa: J. de L. Taché, King's Printer.]

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—*Labour Bulletin No. 12, October-December, 1915.* Investigation into cost of living in 150 towns in the Commonwealth, prices, disputes, wages, accidents, free employment bureaus, arbitration proceedings, &c.—*Monthly Summary of Australian Statistics, March, 1916.* Wages, disputes, trade unions, prices, house rent and cost of living, &c. [Melbourne: McCarron, Bird & Co., Printers.]

NEW SOUTH WALES.—*The Industrial Gazette, March, 1916.* Employment and unemployment, dislocations in industries, arbitration proceedings, labour exchanges, &c.—*The Industrial Arbitration Reports, 1916. Vol. XIV. Part 6.* [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer.]

VICTORIA.—*Wages Board Determinations, 1916,* showing in brackets the dates of those cancelled thereby. *Motor Drivers, 29th March (14th September, 1915).* *Country Fuel and Fodder, 11th April (11th July, 1914).* *Plumbers, 30th March (12th November, 1915).* *Paper, 6th April (14th May, 1914).* *Perambulator, 17th April. Bricklayers, 4th May (30th March, 1914).*

QUEENSLAND.—*Industrial Peace Act Awards, 1916,* showing in brackets the dates of those cancelled thereby. *Brisbane Chemists' Assistants, 2nd March (6th February, 1914).* *Gas Working Industry, South Eastern Division, 28th March. Coal Working and Lightering, Brisbane—submission.*

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