

# Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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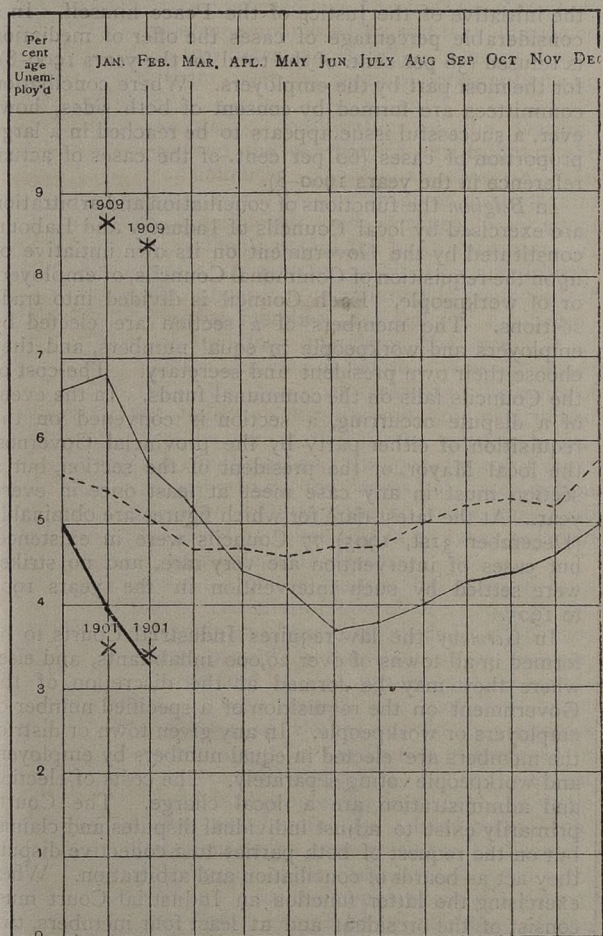
PRICE ONE PENNY.

## EMPLOYMENT CHART

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF  
TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve=1911. — Thin Curve=1910.  
----- Dotted Curve=Mean of 1901-1910.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1901-1910.



NOTE TO CHART.

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

## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN FEBRUARY.

**Employment.**—Employment generally improved in February and was much better than a year ago.

The Shipbuilding and Engineering industries continued to improve and are now well employed. There was also an increase of employment in all the textile trades (except linen), and in the porcelain, china and earthenware industry. The coal and iron mining industries continued to be well employed. The brick, building, woodworking and furnishing trades showed an improvement which was partly seasonal.

The improvement in February as compared with a year ago was especially marked in the iron and steel, tinplate, engineering, shipbuilding, cotton, glass, furnishing and woodworking trades. There was little change in coal and iron mining, and there was a decline in the jute and lace trades.

In the 398 Trade Unions with a net membership of 757,430 making returns, 25,030 (or 3.3 per cent.) were returned as unemployed at the end of February, 1911, compared with 3.9 per cent. at the end of January, 1911, and 5.7 per cent. at the end of February, 1910.

Returns from firms employing 468,037 workpeople in the week ended 25th February, 1911, showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago and of 6.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The changes taking effect in February affected 77,000 workpeople, of whom 71,000 received increases and 6,000 sustained decreases. Amongst those whose wages were increased were 20,000 iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands and 33,000 workpeople in shipyards in various parts of England and Scotland. The reductions affected 3,650 deputies, mechanics, enginemen and firemen in the coal mining industry in Northumberland and 2,200 ironstone quarrymen and blastfurnacemen in North Lincs. The computed effect of the changes was a net increase of £5,000 per week.

**Trade Disputes.**—The most important disputes in progress during the month were those involving 13,000 coal miners in the Rhondda Valley, 3,400 coal miners at Burnley, 4,500 cotton operatives at Padiham, 4,500 jute workers at Dundee, and 3,000 compositors, &c., in

London. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress during February, 1911, was 46,646, or 10,412 more than in January, 1911, and 11,128 more than in February, 1910. The time lost during the month by these workpeople amounted to 586,300 working days, or 26,300 more than in January, 1911, and 47,500 more than in February, 1910.

**Conciliation and Arbitration.**—Six fresh cases were reported under the Conciliation Act, involving tramway workers at Manchester, carpenters and joiners at Wigan, the printing trades in London, colliery enginemen in Scotland, Jewish tailors at Leeds, and boot and shoe operatives at Wigston. Arbitration awards were issued relating to painters at Leicester and steel melters at Stoke-on-Trent.

### EMPLOYMENT RETURNS FOR FEBRUARY.

(This summary is based on 3,097 Returns from Employers covering 1,278,436 workpeople, and 2,929 from Trade Unions covering 757,430 workpeople).

#### I.—TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Trade.	Member-ship of Unions reporting.	Percentage Unemployed at end of Feb., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Building ...	56,015	8.3	- 1.6	- 2.3
Coal Mining ...	153,417	1.0*	...	+ 0.1
Engineering ...	174,850	3.3	- 0.6	- 4.0
Shipbuilding ...	60,794	4.6	- 1.8	- 10.0
Other Metal ...	44,096	2.4	- 0.3	- 3.0
Textiles ...	121,246	2.1*	- 0.1	- 0.6
Printing, &c. ...	62,268	5.1	...	- 0.3
Woodworking, &c. ...	34,400	4.1	- 1.9	- 3.1
Miscellaneous ...	50,344	4.0	- 0.6	- 0.2
Total ...	757,430	3.3	- 0.6	- 2.4

\* In addition to the ordinary short time which occurs in all trades, it should be noted that in the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is more generally met by a reduction in the time worked per week by a large number of workpeople than by the discharge of a smaller number.

#### II.—EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Feb., 1911.	February, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining ...	647,609	5.56	...	- 0.04
Iron ..	16,525	5.88	- 0.02	- 0.06
Shale ..	3,154	5.84	+ 0.02	+ 0.13
Pig Iron ...	22,800	No. of Furnaces in Blast.	No.	No.
		308	+ 1	+ 3
Tinplate & Steel Sheet	26,050	Mills Working	+ 3	+ 46
		521		
Iron and Steel...	94,261	Shifts Worked (One Week)	Per cent.	Per cent.
		517,800	+ 0.1	+ 5.5
		Earnings in one week.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ...	133,940	130,939	+ 1.4	+ 18.3†
Woolen ...	29,494	28,109	+ 1.8	+ 5.0
Worsted ...	47,000	35,912	+ 1.6	+ 3.2
Linen ...	46,235	27,854	- 0.9	- 0.9
Hosiery ...	20,801	16,188	+ 1.1	+ 2.3
Other Textiles ...	40,282	31,515	+ 1.3	- 1.9
Bleaching, Printing, &c. ...	36,477	41,842	+ 2.4	+ 6.0
Boot and Shoe ...	65,305	63,113	+ 1.2	+ 0.7
Brick ...	12,435	13,526	+ 1.7	+ 7.3
Porcelain, &c. ...	21,131	20,104	+ 3.8	+ 3.3
Other Trades ...	14,937	14,479	- 0.4	+ 5.3
Total ...	468,037	423,641	+ 1.4	+ 6.9

Note.—For further details see Articles on pp. 90-102.

† During February, 1911, organised short time to the extent of 15½ hours weekly was worked in mills spinning American cotton.

### CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

THE Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics\* contains particulars as to methods of conciliation and arbitration in the principal countries of Europe and in certain States of the American Union. The information relates exclusively to statutory methods of conciliation and arbitration, but it may be observed that the voluntary boards and committees which play so large a part in the settlement of industrial disputes in the United Kingdom are rarely found in other countries; on the other hand, it may be noted that only in a few cases does power to enforce an award exist, although the award may generally be published. The main features of the laws in operation in different countries may be summarised as follows:—

In *France* either party to a collective dispute, or both parties jointly, may apply to the local Justice of the Peace for the appointment of a conciliation committee, or the Justice may himself take the initiative in the case of a strike or lock-out. These committees are nominated by employers and workpeople in equal numbers, and the Justice presides. Should the conciliation committee fail to bring about an agreement the Justice invites the parties to accept arbitration, either by each side naming one or more arbitrators, or by a joint arbitrator agreed upon. Should the arbitrators fail to agree, they may call in an umpire or may request the President of the local Civil Tribunal to make the appointment. Disputing parties are subject to no compulsion at any stage of the proceedings. It appears that where the law is put in operation it is almost invariably on the requisition of the workpeople, or on the initiative of the Justice of the Peace himself. In a considerable percentage of cases the offer of mediation is refused (36 per cent. of the total for the years 1900-8), for the most part by the employers. Where conciliation committees are formed by consent of both sides, however, a successful issue appears to be reached in a large proportion of cases (60 per cent. of the cases of actual reference in the years 1900-8).

In *Belgium* the functions of conciliation and arbitration are exercised by local Councils of Industry and Labour, constituted by the Government on its own initiative or upon the requisition of Communal Councils, of employers or of workpeople. Each Council is divided into trade sections. The members of a section are elected by employers and workpeople in equal numbers, and they choose their own president and secretary. The cost of the Councils falls on the communal funds. In the event of a dispute occurring, a section is convened on the requisition of either party by the provincial Governor, the local Mayor, or the president of the section, but a section must in any case meet at least once in every year. At the latest date for which figures are obtainable (December 31st, 1905) 77 Councils were in existence, but cases of intervention are very rare, and no strikes were settled by such intervention in the years 1903 to 1905.

In *Germany* the law requires Industrial Courts to be formed in all towns of over 20,000 inhabitants, and elsewhere they may be formed at the discretion of the Government on the requisition of a specified number of employers or workpeople. In any given town or district the members are elected in equal numbers by employers and workpeople voting separately. The costs of election and administration are a local charge. The Courts primarily exist to adjust individual disputes and claims, but on the request of both parties to a collective dispute they act as boards of conciliation and arbitration. When exercising the latter function an Industrial Court must consist of the president and at least four members, two being employers and two workpeople. When either side to a dispute appeals to the Court to arbitrate the other side can be required to appear, but not to negotiate, and the Court only gives a formal decision when both sides agree to accept its mediation. In the event of failure the Board embodies its conclusions as to the terms upon which it considers the parties should agree in the form

of a "decision," and calls upon the disputants to declare their acceptance or rejection within a certain time. There were 483 Industrial Courts in Germany at the end of 1909. During the years 1900-9 the Courts acting as Conciliation Boards were able to settle 73 per cent. of the disputes referred to them, the extremes being a maximum of 92 per cent. (1909) and a minimum of 27 per cent. (1902).

In *Holland* the official boards of conciliation are known as Chambers of Labour, and are formed by Royal Decree in accordance with a law of May 2nd, 1897, either for separate communes, for several communes together, for single industries, or for several industries together. They are composed of employers and workmen in equal numbers and are elected for five years at a time, and both the employers and the workpeople on a Chamber elect presidents, who hold office for six months in turn. The Chambers must meet at least four times a year, and also when convened by the president, either on his own initiative or acting on requisition. Whenever a dispute occurs, or is threatened, a Chamber may intervene on the application of either party or at the request of the local Mayor or provincial Commissioner. The Executive Committee first endeavours to obtain a settlement, and in case of failure the matter is referred to the full Chamber. Should the latter consider that intervention may lead to a settlement, it may appoint a council of conciliation, consisting of a chairman (who need not be a member of the Chamber) and of members of the Chamber, employers and workpeople being selected in equal numbers. The conclusions arrived at by such a council and the means of settlement which it recommends must be notified in writing to both parties. The law makes no specific provision for arbitration proceedings. In 1908 the Chambers of Labour in existence numbered 83, and they intervened in 5 disputes, in two cases successfully. During the six years 1903-8 there were 69 cases of intervention, 29 being successful.

*Italy* has adopted a combination of the German Industrial Court and the old French institution of the Conseil de Prud'hommes. The Italian *Collegi di Probi Viri* are formed by Royal Decree for given districts, and are composed of employers and workpeople in equal numbers, with presidents nominated by Government. A court has separate sections for conciliation and arbitration. As a rule, a board of conciliation is composed of the president and two members, the court of arbitration of the president and four members, the principle of equal representation applying as before. When attempts at conciliation fail the case goes forward to the court of arbitration, but collective disputes are only determined summarily when the jurisdiction of the court is voluntarily accepted by both parties. In 1908, for 106 Courts of Probi Viri reporting, the cases of intervention numbered only three. During the 10 years 1899-1908 the Courts intervened 75 times, and in 65 cases, equal to 87 per cent. of the whole, with success.

In *Switzerland* some of the Cantons have passed laws for the creation of conciliation boards of various kinds. As a rule, the machinery of the Conseils de Prud'hommes is used, but laws passed in the Cantons of Geneva, Basle-Town, Berne and St. Gall provide special boards of conciliation. These boards are not permanent except in the Canton of Berne, nor do they possess compulsory powers except in the Canton of Geneva; in the latter case the compulsion applies only to the extent that employers and workpeople can be required to settle by written agreements, binding for a fixed period, conditions of employment which have given rise to dispute.

In *Denmark*, under one of two new laws of April 12th, 1910, provision is made for the appointment of a permanent Arbitration Court, composed of members of the existing National Federation of Employers and Workpeople and a President and Vice-President possessing the qualifications of an ordinary judge. It is the business of the Court to endeavour to make parties to a dispute respect any agreement concerning arbitration which the parties may have made. The Court has power to inflict fines on the party or parties adjudged guilty of violating the terms of an agreement. Witnesses summoned before the Court are bound to appear, and its awards are final

and enforceable as verdicts of the ordinary courts. The second of the two new laws provides for the appointment of a Government Conciliator holding office for two years at a time. Whenever a serious strike or lock-out has either taken place or appears likely to do so, and negotiations between the disputants have proved unavailing, the official conciliator may, on his own initiative, or on the application of one of the parties, summon them to a conference. The parties are bound to obey the summons.

In *Sweden* the country is divided into arbitration districts, and the Government appoints an official for each, whose duty it is to offer his services whenever a dispute occurs or is threatened. After preliminary negotiations have taken place, the official may, if he thinks it necessary, or if a requisition is received from either party, appoint an arbitration committee of experts to act with him, but the parties need not appear before this committee unless they wish. If an agreement cannot be effected by the arbitration official or the committee, the parties may be invited to choose their own arbitrators, the official now standing aside. Judgment in such a case is given in writing, provided the parties have previously agreed to accept the award.

In the *United States* industrial conciliation is regulated by State law, with the exception of disputes occurring in Inter-State undertakings, such as railways, in which event the President of the Inter-State Commerce Commission and the Federal Commissioner of Labour are required, on the petition of either side, to endeavour to mediate, no power of independent initiative being reserved to the Government. Should such mediation prove unsuccessful, the conciliators are to endeavour to induce the disputants to accept arbitration as provided by the law, the arbitrating body consisting of three persons, one each named by the parties and the third chosen by these two, or, failing that, by the conciliators. An award is final and holds good for at least a year.

The machinery of conciliation and arbitration which has been created by the special laws of the different States of the Union may be grouped in four classes:—

(1) Local arbitration without standing tribunals. The disputing parties usually seek the summary decision of a conciliation board appointed *ad hoc* by the local Judge or Justice of the Peace or the local court of common pleas. An alternative proceeding is for the parties to choose arbitrators without resort to intermediaries. Employers and workpeople have equal representation on all boards of conciliation and arbitration.

(2) Standing District or County Boards, appointed on the petition either of employers or workpeople (or both together) for a year, by licence of the local Civil Courts. The two sides have equal representation on the Boards and choose an umpire jointly. Reference of disputes is voluntary on both sides, but provision is made for the enforcement of awards in certain cases.

(3) Conciliation and arbitration by the mediation of the State Commissioner of Labour. There is no obligation on the part of disputing parties to use his offices, but in the event of refusal from one or both, he requires a statement of the reasons for such refusal, and this is published.

(4) Central State Boards or Commissions. This is now the commonest method of settling collective disputes in the United States and it has been adopted in form at least by 19 States, most of which had previously tried one or more of the other methods. A Board consists, as a rule, of three members, appointed by the Governor of the State, one being the representative of the employers and another the representative of the workpeople, and the term of election varies from one to four years. A Board may intervene on its own initiative and it must intervene at the request of either or both of the parties to a dispute. In most cases the Board has power to summon witnesses, and in some, even to compel their attendance. As a rule the findings of a Board are only binding when it acts on a joint requisition; but in Missouri they are also binding when only one side has appealed to the Board, failing objection by the other side within a specified time. In some of the States the local mayor, judges, or other public officials are required to notify the Central





FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS IN 1910.

The total number of deaths from accidents reported in 1910 was 4,523, an increase of 450 on 1909, and of 240 on the mean for the five years 1906-1910. The largest increase in the number of deaths, compared with 1909, occurred in mines, where there was an increase of 303 in the number of deaths from accidents underground; this increase is more than accounted for by the disasters in Cumberland and Lancashire which occurred in May 1910 and December 1910 respectively.

Industry.	Total Number of Deaths from Industrial Accidents in					Mean for the 5 years 1906-10.
	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	
Shipping:—						
Deaths by Wreck ...	459	633	625	585	506	562
Other Causes ...	741	730	658	567	596	658
Total ...	1,200	1,363	1,283	1,152	1,102	1,220
Mines:—						
Underground ...	1,036	1,130	1,194	1,354	1,657	1,274
Surface ...	142	149	151	139	155	147
Total ...	1,178	1,279	1,345	1,493	1,812	1,421
Quarries (over 20 feet deep)	97	89	92	84	84	89
Railway Service:—						
Companies' Servants ...	469	498	413	364	419	433
Contractors' Servants ...	14	11	19	8	7	12
Factories and Workshops:—						
Textile Trades (except Printing, Dyeing and Bleaching)	68	95	82	64	82	78
Metal Trades	167	198	148	152	155	164
Engineering, Shipbuilding, Machinery, &c.	239	244	236	200	267	241
Other Non-Textile Trades (including Laundries)	310	315	301	284	318	306
Total Factories and Workshops	804	852	767	700	822	789
Works under Sections 104-5 of Factory Act, 1901 (Docks, Warehouses, Buildings, &c.)	312	327	275	246	258	283
Under Notice of Accidents Act	44	57	32	26	19	36
Total ...	4,118	4,476	4,226	4,073	4,523	4,283

The total number of seamen killed during 1910 was 1,102, a decrease of 50 on the total for 1909 and of 118 on the mean for the five years 1906-1910. Of the total for 1910, 998 deaths occurred among seamen employed on trading vessels and 104 among those employed on fishing vessels. The corresponding figures for 1909 were 1,019 and 133 respectively.

Of the 1,812 deaths from accidents to miners in 1910, 155 occurred on the surface, and of the remainder 656 were due to falls of ground, 234 to men being run over and crushed by trams and tubs, 500 to explosions of firedamp, and 95 to shaft accidents. Owing to the disasters referred to above the number of deaths in 1910 was higher than in any of the years 1905-1909, and exceeded the mean number for 1906-1910 by 391.

The number of fatal accidents to railway servants (excluding contractors' servants) was 419 in 1910, an increase of 55 on 1909, and a decrease of 14 on the mean for 1906-1910. Of the accidents in 1910, 384 were "accidents connected with the movement of railway vehicles." The greatest number of accidents in any one occupation was, as usual, among permanent way men, the deaths among these men (excluding labourers) numbering 90.

Of the 822 factory and workshop operatives killed by accidents in 1910, 15 were women, 2 were children, 86 were "young persons," and 719 were men; the total number was 122 more than in 1909, and 33 more than the mean number in the five years 1906-1910. There were 82 fatal accidents in the textile industries as compared with 64 in 1909; in the metal group, 155, as compared with 152; and in shipbuilding, 111 as compared with 78.

The 258 fatal accidents reported under Sections 104-5

of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, included 136 at docks, wharves, and quays, as compared with 117 in 1909, and 92 in connection with the construction and repair of buildings as compared with 98 in 1909.

In comparing the figures of the several trades it is important to bear in mind the proportion which the number of fatal accidents bears to the total number of workpeople engaged in the several industries. Accordingly, the results have been reduced as far as possible to ratios showing for the five years 1906-1910 the mean annual death rate from accidents per 10,000 employed in each group of trades, and these are given in the following Table:—

	Mean annual death rate from accidents per 10,000 employed.
Seamen ...	46.1
Miners ...	14.2
Quarrymen ...	10.3
Railway Servants ...	7.1
Non-Textile Factory and Workshop Operatives ...	2.2
Textile Factory Operatives ...	0.7
For all occupations enumerated above ...	6.2

It must be understood that these ratios are only approximately correct, as accurate figures respecting the numbers employed are not available for each of the years covered. The industries included in this Table employed nearly 6,500,000 workpeople.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

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

Canada.

The following regulations are important as affecting emigrants:—All emigrants landing in Canada between March 1st and October 30th must possess 25 dols. (£5 4s.) and children 12.50 dols. (£2 12s.) each, and between November 1st and the last day of February 50 dols. (£10 8s.), and children 25 dols. (£5 4s.) each, and sufficient travelling money; except that the following need have sufficient travelling money only, viz. (1) farm labourers and female servants, if going to assured employment as such; (2) approved railway construction labourers who are guaranteed employment by railway contractors or companies; and (3) certain relatives of residents in Canada. All emigrants sent to Canada by British Charitable Societies or Public Funds must obtain certificates from the Canadian Emigration Authorities, Charing Cross, London, and must be guaranteed farm work (in which they must continue) or female domestic service in Canada, or must be members of a family going out to their husband or father, who is able and willing to care for them on arrival. Any emigrant, who, within three years of landing in Canada, becomes a public charge or an inmate of a penitentiary, gaol, or hospital or other charitable institution, may be deported with those dependent on him or her.

The busy season in Canada is now commencing, and emigrants should start as soon as they are ready. There is a good demand for farm labourers, strong men for railway construction, female servants for town or country, and, to a less extent, for mechanics, mainly those in the building trades. But all emigrants must fulfil the above regulations.

Commonwealth of Australia.

Free, nominated or assisted passages are granted by New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia to agriculturists, dairy hands, and female servants, for whom there is a good demand.

In New South Wales competent farm labourers—including a limited number of married men with families

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

—have no difficulty in getting good places; and there is also a good opening for mechanics in the building, iron, and other trades, most of which are very busy.

In Victoria the special demand is for farmers with capital, and experienced farm labourers; the manufacturing trades also are very prosperous, and there has been some shortage of labour, both in Melbourne and in some country towns.

In South Australia all industries continue to make steady progress, and employment can be found in almost any branch of trade—masons, bricklayers, plasterers, painters, and boilermakers being amongst those who are most in demand. Several important public works also are under construction or are authorized. Indeed, there is so much demand for more labour, that the South Australian Government is reviving the system of assisted passages, which have been stopped for a great many years; but details are not yet available.

Queensland.—Some hundreds of miles of railway construction are being undertaken by the Queensland Government, and free passages are being offered to strong men who are accustomed to this kind of work. Application is made through local representatives of the Queensland Government in this country. Owing to this new work the demand for labour in other industries will be increased. The long-continued strike of moulders has at last ceased; wages being increased to 11s. a day and upwards.

In Western Australia there is a good demand for country workers, and for carpenters, blacksmiths, bricklayers, &c.

New Zealand.

Reduced passages to New Zealand at £8 to £12 third class and £27 second class are offered to agriculturists with a little money, landing between September and January, and at £2 16s. to £6 16s. third class to female domestic servants who will have £2 on landing at any time, and for these classes of emigrants there is a good demand. The latest report shows that there has been plenty of employment for all competent workers, as is usual in the summer season. There is always a demand for good milkers in country districts, and for women and girls in laundries, clothing factories, &c.

Union of South Africa.

Female servants are wanted in many parts of South Africa; they should apply for assistance to the South African Colonization Society, 115, Victoria Street, London, S.W. In the Transvaal the building trade continues brisk at Johannesburg; in Pretoria bricklayers have struck for an increase of wages from 2s. 6d. an hour to 2s. 9d. In the other Provinces there is no demand for more male labour; except for a few saddlers, harness makers, cabinet makers, boiler makers, and engineering smiths at Cape Town, a few coachbuilders at King William's Town, and a few engine fitters and bootmakers at Port Elizabeth.

LABOUR ABROAD.

[NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on p. 81 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries. (For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, see p. 104 of Cd. 2337 of 1904, pp. 521-4 of Cd. 4032 of 1908, and pp. xxv.—xxvi. of Cd. 5415 of 1911.)]

FRANCE.\*

Employment in January.—In the building trades the usual seasonal decline in employment was experienced. Employment continued good in the metal trades. The state of the textile trades was satisfactory on the whole, but there was a decline in some of the Nord centres, attributed to the increased cost of raw material. As regards the silk industry, power-loom weavers in the Lyons district were still fully employed, but with hand-loom weavers employment was rather scarce; in the ribbons and trimmings branch in the Loire and Haute Loire it was still bad. Employment continued good on the whole in the

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

printing trades. The leather trades still showed no change. There was a noticeable decrease in the number of unemployed vineyard workers in the south. In a large number of forestry centres woodmen had been taken on, and there was a marked revival in employment. Employment continued good for gardeners in the district around Paris.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed on a given date in January were received by the French Labour Department from 1,012 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 249,388. Excluding returns from the miners' unions in the Pas-de-Calais Department 7.7 per cent. of the members were described as unemployed, as compared with 6.5 per cent. in the previous month, and 7.5 per cent. in January, 1910.\*

Coal Mining in January.—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground in coal mines in France was 5.82 in January, compared with 5.63 in the previous month and 6.00 in January, 1910. Taking surface and underground workers together 47.82 per cent. worked full time (six days or over per week), and 52.11 per cent. from five to six days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 0.61 and 0.814, and in January, 1910, 0.701 and 2.14.

Labour Disputes in January.—Ninety-five disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in January, compared with 69 in the previous month and 83 in January, 1910. In the new disputes 7,272 workpeople took part, as compared with 5,598 who took part in 66 disputes in the previous month and 7,785 in 71 disputes in January, 1910. The trades in which the greatest number of disputes occurred were those belonging to the textile (37), building (11) and transport (10) groups. Of 117 new and old disputes reported to have terminated, 20 ended wholly in favour of the workpeople, and 63 wholly in favour of the employers, while 34 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in January.—Twelve instances of recourse to the law of December 27th, 1892, on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department in January. In four cases the employers declined the proposed mediation. In the eight other cases committees of conciliation were formed, which settled four of the disputes.

GERMANY.

Employment in January.—According to the Reichs-Arbeitsblatt (the journal of the German Labour Department), the state of the labour market in January showed no material change from the previous month, except in trades dependent on Christmas business, which naturally declined considerably. The building trades, though quiet for the time of year, are stated to have been satisfactory on the whole. In coal mining the improvement of the two previous months in the Ruhr district was followed by a decline in January; in the Saar district the output was but little behind that for December; in Upper Silesia employment was still somewhat slack. In the lignite mining industry of Central Germany employment was generally satisfactory. In the Rhine district employment in the briquette making industry was not bad on the whole. The metal trades were to some extent unfavourably influenced by the uncertainty as to the formation of syndicates, but the engineering trades were satisfactory on the whole. In the textile trades cotton spinning mills continued badly employed, while the state of the cloth weaving industry left much to be desired. The electrical trades were satisfactorily, and the chemical trades well employed. Business was again considered good in the potash industry.

HOLLAND.†

Employment in January.—There was again general slackness accompanied by unemployment in the building trades. In the iron and steel trades employment was steady in some localities, but suffered from seasonal slackness in others; scarcely any total unemployment was, however,

\* These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom given on page 81. See also General Note above. † Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek. (Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office.)



The sheet mills working at the same dates numbered 62, 66, and 54 respectively. A scarcity of millmen was again reported. The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire and employ about 26,050 workpeople.

The following Table shows the number of works open and the number of mills in operation at the end of February, 1911, together with the increase or decrease as compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Table showing Number of Works open and Number of Mills in operation. Columns include At end of Feb., 1911, Increase on a Month ago, Year ago, At end of Feb., 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Tinplate Works, Steel Sheet Works, and Total.

Exports.—The Table below shows the exports of tinplates and tinned sheets, and of black plates for the months stated:—

Table showing Exports of Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets, and Black Plates. Columns include Tons for Feb. 1911, Jan. 1911, Feb. 1910, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include To United States, British East Indies, Germany, France, Netherlands, China and Japan, Australia, Canada, Other Countries, and Total.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

(Based on 203 Returns—188 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondents, 2 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued good, and was better than a year ago. According to Returns covering 94,261 workpeople, the volume of employment (i.e., number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended February 25th, 1911, showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. on a month ago, and of 5.5 per cent. on a year ago.

Compared with a month ago, employment showed some improvement in Northumberland and Durham and Yorkshire, and a decline in Staffordshire and Scotland. In the departments the most noticeable changes were an improvement at steel forges and a decline at Bessemer converters.

As compared with a year ago, employment showed an improvement in every district except Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, where there was a decline. The most marked increases occurred in Northumberland and Durham, Yorkshire, and in Wales and Monmouth. The departments chiefly affected by the improvement were iron and steel rolling mills, iron foundries, and steel forges; at iron forges, crucible furnaces and Bessemer converters there was a decline.

Table showing Workpeople and Average Number of Shifts worked per man. Columns include Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Departments (IRON, STEEL), Districts, and Grand Total.

Table showing Districts. Columns include No. of Workpeople, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Northumberland & Durham, Cleveland, Sheffield and Rotherham, Leeds, Bradford, and other Yorkshire Towns, Cumberland, Lancs. & Ches., Staffordshire, Other Midland Counties, Wales and Monmouth, Total, England and Wales, Scotland, and Grand Total.

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during February, 1911, amounted to 136,479 tons, or 7,272 tons more than in January, 1911, and 39,401 tons more than in February, 1910.

The Exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron and tinned plates, and black plates) during February, 1911, amounted to 215,717 tons, or 38,947 tons less than in January, 1911, but 1,430 tons more than in February, 1910.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 369 Returns—6 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 348 from Trade Unions, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued to improve, and was much better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 60,794 reported 4.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, compared with 6.4 per cent. a month ago, and 14.6 per cent. a year ago.

Table showing Districts for Shipbuilding Trades. Columns include No. of Members, Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of Feb., Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Tyne and Blyth, Wear, Tees and Hartlepool, Humber, Thames and Medway, South Coast, Bristol Channel Ports, Mersey, Clyde, Dundee, Leith and Aberdeen, Belfast, Other Districts, and United Kingdom.

As compared with a month ago, every district showed a decrease in the number unemployed, except the Bristol Channel Ports.

As compared with a year ago, there was a decrease in all the districts which was most marked on the North-East Coast, the Mersey, East Coast of Scotland and at Belfast.

\* Exclusive of superannuated members.

Employment continued to improve in the Tyne and Wear districts, and was much better than a year ago, particularly in the Wear district, where the percentage unemployed was 18.0 per cent. less than in February, 1910; shipwrights were well employed in both districts, overtime in new and old work being reported in the Tyne district. Employment was fair on the whole in the Tees and Hartlepool district, though still moderate on repair work at Middlesbrough; it was better than a month ago and much better than a year ago.

Employment was fair and better than a month ago and a year ago on the Humber.

In the Thames and Medway district employment was generally good, particularly in the Royal Dockyards; it showed an improvement on both a month ago and a year ago. Employment continued good on the South Coast. Ship-repairing work at the Bristol Channel ports was slack and worse than a month ago; at Pembroke Dock employment continued good.

Employment continued good on the Mersey and was much better than a year ago.

Employment again improved on the Clyde, and was much better than a year ago.

There was also a marked improvement on a year ago on the East Coast of Scotland, where employment was good at Dundee, and fair on the whole at other ports.

At Belfast employment continued very good.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

(Based on 1,074 Returns—4 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 1,022 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 48 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during February was good. It was better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago.

Returns from Trade Unions with a total membership of 174,850 show that the percentage unemployed at the end of February was 3.3, as compared with 3.9 a month ago and 7.3 a year ago.

With two slight exceptions, all districts showed a decrease in the percentage unemployed as compared with a month ago, while as compared with a year ago all districts showed a substantial decrease. The decrease compared with a year ago was greatest on the North-East Coast, in Lancashire, the West Riding, Scotland, and Ireland, in all of which districts the percentage unemployed a year ago had been high.

Table showing Districts for Engineering Trades. Columns include No. of Members, Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of Feb., Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include North East Coast, Manchester and Liverpool, Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn, West Riding Towns, Hull and Lincolnshire, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry, Notts, Derby, and Leicester, London and Neighbouring, South Coast, South Wales and Bristol, Glasgow and District, East of Scotland, Belfast and Dublin, Other Districts, and United Kingdom.

On the North-East Coast most of the men were fairly well employed and a considerable amount of overtime was worked, but the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed was still high. Employment on repair work on the Tyne was not good.

Employment continued fairly good at Manchester, Liverpool and Barrow. At Crewe short time was still in operation. At Oldham and Bolton employment was still slack, with short time common in textile machinery works. Employment remained fair in general engineering works at Oldham. At Blackburn, Preston, Rochdale, Bury, Ashton and Hyde employment was fair generally.

\* Exclusive of superannuated Members.

Employment was fairly good on the whole in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, though at Leeds, Hull and Grimsby a number of engineers were still out of employment.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment was very good, a considerable amount of overtime being worked, especially in the motor industry. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment remained moderate on the whole. With bobbin and carriage makers at Nottingham it was slack and worse than a year ago. In the Eastern Counties employment was good.

In London, on the South Coast, in the Royal Dockyards, and in the South Wales and Bristol district employment continued good generally. A slight decline in repair work was reported at the Bristol Channel Ports.

In the Glasgow district employment continued good, with much overtime. In the East of Scotland it was fairly good, except at Dundee, where it remained quiet. In both the Glasgow district and the East of Scotland, however, there was a considerable percentage of iron-moulders who were still unemployed.

Employment was very good at Belfast and quiet at Dublin.

The Imports of machinery in February, 1911, amounted to £451,193, or £17,474 more than in January, 1911, and £136,054 more than in February, 1910.

The Exports of machinery in February, 1911, amounted to £2,228,363, or £257,720 less than in January, 1911, but £308,548 more than in February, 1910.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

(Based on 83 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations, 57 from Trade Unions, and 24 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally and was better than a year ago.

Trade Unions with a total membership of 24,463 reported 2.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 2.1 per cent. a month ago, and 3.7 per cent. a year ago.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, &c.—Employment was fair on the whole with brassworkers, not so good as a month ago, but better than a year ago. It continued good with bedstead makers at Birmingham.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment was fair, and better than a month ago and a year ago, in the nut and bolt trade in Darlaston and district; it continued good in the spike, rivet and rough bolt trades at Blackheath and Halesowen (Staffs.). At Birmingham it was fair with nut, bolt, rivet and cut nail makers, and good with wire nail and shoe rivet makers.

Wire.—Employment remained good on the whole, but was still moderate at Ambergate. The improvement noted last month at Birmingham was maintained.

Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.—Employment continued good with hollow-ware makers at Wolverhampton and fair at West Bromwich. With lock and latch makers at Wolverhampton and Willenhall it continued fair and was better than a year ago.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment with stove-grate workers in England remained bad on the whole, and was worse than a year ago. At Falkirk it continued good with moulders in the stove trade, and was better than a year ago; it remained fair with range and stove fitters.

Cutlery, Tools, &c.—At Sheffield employment continued good with most branches, fair with edge tool grinders, saw handlers, file forgers and hardeners, and moderate with joiners' tool makers and saw makers and grinders. It was good and better than a month ago with edge tool makers at Birmingham and Wednesbury. It continued good at Redditch in the needle trade, and fair in the fish-hook trade. It continued quiet in the Coventry watch trade.

Tubes.—Employment continued good in South Staffordshire and at Birmingham.

Chains, Anchors, and Springs.—Employment was fair, and better than a month ago, with block and cable chain makers and strikers at Cradley Heath; it was still moderate, but better than a month ago, with anchormen on the Tyne and Wear. It was fair, and again better

than a month ago in the anvil and vice trade at Dudley. It continued slack with railway spring fitters and vicemen at Sheffield.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment with braziers and sheet metal workers was good on the whole, better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago; it continued bad, however, at Dublin. It continued good with tinplate makers-up generally, and fair with tinsmiths at Edinburgh. It was good in the ironplate trade in the Lye district, and fair at Dudley, Bilston and Wolverhampton.

Gold, Silver, and Britannia Metal.—Employment with silversmiths and electroplate operatives in London was fair and better than a year ago; with goldsmiths and jewellers there was a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago, and short time was worked. At Birmingham employment was quiet generally and about the same as a month ago; with Britannia metal workers it was fair. At Sheffield employment continued fair generally, and better than a year ago.

Farmers.—Employment was quiet but better than a year ago, except in London where there was a decline.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns: Description, Feb. 1911, Jan. 1911, Feb. 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

COTTON TRADE.

(Based on 497 Returns—421 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 69 from Trade Unions, and 7 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued good in the spinning and weaving branches, and the improvement shown in the previous month was maintained. It was considerably better than a year ago, when organized short time was being worked. Returns from firms employing 133,940 workpeople in the week ended February 25th, 1911, showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 3.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 18.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns: Description, Workpeople (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Per cent., £, Per cent.).

Compared with a month ago, every department (except preparing, in which there was a slight decrease in the number employed) showed an increase both in the numbers employed and in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago, the numbers employed showed an increase in each department, whilst the amounts of wages

paid showed considerable increases. In five districts the increase in the amount of wages paid was over 20 per cent.

Employment with both spinners and weavers in the Oldham district was good and much better than a year ago. With spinners at Ashton, however, there was a little falling off as compared with a month ago.

In the Bolton district employment was fairly good and much better than a year ago; in the Blackburn district employment with spinners and weavers was stated to be good. At Burnley and Nelson employment with weavers continued good, and all the operatives were fully employed.

Prices of Raw Cotton at Liverpool.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on March 10th, 1911, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 1,290,920 bales, as compared with 891,190 bales on March 11th, 1910.

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

Table with columns: Description of Cotton, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

Exports.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

(Based on 373 Returns—346 received from Employers and Employers' Associations, 21 from Trade Unions, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

Woolen Trade.

EMPLOYMENT was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 29,404 workpeople in the week ended February 25th showed an increase of 0.2 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 an increase of 4.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In all the principal districts employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. Overtime and nightwork were common.

LINEN TRADE.

(Based on 111 Returns—102 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 4 from Trade Unions, and 5 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good, and showed little change as compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 46,235 workpeople in the week ended February 25th, 1911, showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was no change in the number employed, and a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns: Description, Workpeople (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Per cent., £, Per cent.).

Employment continued fairly good generally in Ireland, but showed some decline as compared with a year ago in Belfast; with flax dressers employment was dull. In Fifehire there was a slight decline as compared with a month ago, but an improvement as compared with a year ago. In England employment was better than both a month ago and a year ago.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

JUTE TRADE.

(Based on 34 Returns—30 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 2 from Local Correspondents.)

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

Returns from firms employing 17,427 workpeople in the week ended February 25th, showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 3.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Of the 17,427 workpeople reported on, 14,904 (86 per cent.) were employed in the Dundee district.

Table with columns: Description, Workpeople (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Per cent., £, Per cent.).

Table with columns: Departments, Workpeople (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Per cent., £, Per cent.).

Worsted Trade. Employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 47,000 workpeople in the week ended February 25th showed an increase of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Bradford district employment improved in wool-sorting, combing and spinning; the weaving branch showed a decline compared with a year ago. In the Huddersfield district all branches, except spinning, showed a slight decline compared with a year ago. (A deficiency of labour was reported, chiefly in the Halifax district.)

Table with columns: Departments, Workpeople (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Per cent., £, Per cent.).

Prices of Wool and Tops in Bradford.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.



Imports and Exports.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

LACE TRADE.

(Based on 75 Returns—67 from Employers, 4 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued moderate on the whole, although there was some improvement in the levers branch. It was not so good as a year ago, the levers and plain net branches both showing a decline.

Returns from firms employing 6,802 workpeople in the week ended February 25th showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 1.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 7.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns: Description, Workpeople (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago).

At Nottingham employment continued bad in the levers branch with much short time, and was worse than a year ago; in the curtain branch it was good and better than a year ago; in the plain net branch it continued fair. In the Long Eaton district employment in the levers branch showed an improvement compared with a month ago, but was worse than a year ago. In the West of England employment in the plain net branch showed a further decline compared with both a month ago and a year ago. In Scotland employment continued good in the curtain branch, and was slightly better than a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

SILK TRADE.

(Based on 53 Returns—50 from Employers, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good and was better than both a month and a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 8,105 workpeople in the week ended February 25th, 1911, showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Workpeople.

Table with columns: Branches, Districts, Description, Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Earnings (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago).

Employment at Macclesfield was good with throwsters, power loom weavers and hand loom weavers working in factories; moderate with spinners and bad with outside hand loom weavers. At Leek employment was fair with throwsters and spinners, and better than a month ago; with trimming weavers it was bad, but with braid workers it was good. At Congleton employment was good with throwsters and spinners, and moderate with trimming weavers. Employment in the Bradford district was fairly good. In the Eastern Counties employment was fair, and better than both a month and a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

HOSIERY TRADE.

(Based on 107 Returns—98 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 20,891 workpeople in the week ended February 25th showed an increase of 0.7 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, there was an increase of 4.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns: District, Workpeople (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago).

At Leicester employment was fairly good, especially in the fancy hosiery department; at Loughborough it was moderate; at Hinckley it continued good, except in the fashioned hose branch. With power frame workers in Nottingham and Derbyshire some short time was reported, but employment was, on the whole, better than a year ago; with hand frame workers in the country districts it was fairly good. In Scotland employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

LEATHER TRADES.

(Based on 32 Returns—18 from Trade Unions and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was moderate; it was better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with 3,086 members reported 5.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 6.3 per cent. a month ago and 4.7 per cent. a year ago.

Skinner, Tanners, Curriers and Dressers.—Employment with skinners was slack at Birmingham, bad and worse than a month ago, in London; it was fair, but slightly worse than a month ago, at Leeds. With curriers it was quiet at Birmingham, Leeds, Walsall and Glasgow, bad in London, and fair at Edinburgh. With leather workers generally employment was bad at Leeds and fair at Manchester, Bolton, Bury and Wigan.

Saddle and Harness Makers.—At Walsall employment was fair with gig saddlers, and bad with brown saddlers. In London it was bad with harness makers and not quite so good as a month ago with brown saddlers. With saddlers at Glasgow and Dublin it continued quiet.

Miscellaneous Leather Trades.—In London employment continued fair with portmanteau and trunk makers, and was better than a year ago. With fancy leather and morocco finishers it was good and better than a month ago and a year ago.

CARPET TRADE.

(Based on 33 Returns—24 from Employers, 4 from Trade Unions, and 5 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during February was good and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 7,948 workpeople and paying £6,782 in wages in the week ended February 25th, 1911, showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. As compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 2.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

(Based on 370 Returns—355 from Employers, 7 from Trade Unions, and 8 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT generally was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 36,477 workpeople in the week ending February 25th, showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 6.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns: Description, Workpeople (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago).

Bleaching.—Employment with cotton bleachers continued fairly good in Lancashire, and was better than a year ago. At Basford it was quiet; in Dundee it continued fair and was about the same as a year ago.

Printing.—Employment with machine calico printers continued good, and was better than a year ago. With calico printers' engravers in Derbyshire it continued good. In Scotland it continued good with printers and engravers, some overtime being reported.

Dyeing.—Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in the West Riding was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. About one-fifth of the Trade Union dyers worked short time, and about two-thirds worked overtime. With cotton dyers in Lancashire employment was fairly good and better than a year ago. With silk dyers employment was fair at Macclesfield and at Leek; at Congleton it was good. At Nottingham it was fair with lace dyers.

Trimming, Finishing, etc.—At Leicester and Loughborough employment with hosiery trimmers, etc., showed an improvement; at Hinckley it was good. At Basford it continued fair. With calenderers it was dull at Glasgow, and worse than a month ago and a year ago; at Dundee it was fair and about the same as a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(Based on 458 Returns—444 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 4 from Trade Unions, and 10 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fair, and slightly better than a month ago and a year ago.

Table with columns: District, Workpeople (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended Feb. 25th, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago).

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

Returns from firms employing 65,305 workpeople in the week ended February 25th, showed an increase of 0.5 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 an increase of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Leicester employment showed a further improvement compared with a month ago, but was not quite so good as a year ago. At Northampton employment showed little change compared with a month ago, but was better than a year ago; with army bootmakers in Northamptonshire it was still very slack. At Bristol employment was fairly good. In the heavy boot trade at Kingswood and Leeds there was the usual seasonal slackness, and short time was reported. In Scotland employment was moderate, and not so good as a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

Table with 6 columns: Description, Feb. 1911, Jan. 1911, Feb. 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago. Includes sub-tables for Imports (less re-exports) and Exports (British & Irish).

TAILORING TRADE.

(Based on 106 Returns—75 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 28 from Local Correspondents.)

Bespoke Branch.

London.—Employment during February showed a seasonal improvement, and was slightly better than a year ago.

Returns from firms paying £9,794 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended February 25th showed an increase of 10.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 1.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

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

Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment was good, and slightly better than a year ago.

Leeds.—Employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago; a deficiency of machinists was reported. Returns from firms employing 9,629 workpeople in their factories (in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops) in the week ended February 25th showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—At Bristol and Manchester employment was fair, and better than a year ago. At Norwich and Glasgow it was moderate, but showed an improvement compared with a month ago.

The Imports of apparel, not waterproofed, in February, 1911, were valued at £270,780, as compared with £203,883 in January, 1911, and £248,406 in February, 1910; and the Exports for the same months at £675,954, £691,520 and £575,443 respectively.

HAT TRADE.

(Based on 11 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations, 8 from Trade Unions, and 1 from a local Correspondent.)

EMPLOYMENT during February in the Silk hat trade was quiet, and short time was reported.

In the Felt hat trade employment was fair, and better than a month ago, but not so good as a year ago. The decline compared with a year ago was in the ladies' hat branch. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of February was 4.8, compared

with 6.9 a month ago, and 2.1 a year ago. At Denton employment was fair; at Stockport it was moderate. In Warwickshire employment continued fair; a scarcity of skilled trimmers (women) was reported.

Imports and Exports.

Table with 6 columns: Description, Feb. 1911, Jan. 1911, Feb. 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago. Includes sub-tables for Imports (All kinds) and Exports (Felt, Straw, Other sorts).

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

(Based on 216 Returns—209 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in London in the dressmaking trades was fair with retail firms, and moderate with court and private dressmakers; in both branches it was better than a month ago and a year ago. In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, etc. trades employment was fairly good. Employment generally in the shirt and collar trade was fair; in the corset trade it was fairly good.

Dressmaking, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.—Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West-End, employing 1,536 dressmakers in the week ended February 25th, showed an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 4.8 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fair. With court and private dressmakers employing 1,289 workpeople in the week ended February 25th there was an increase of 12.7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 7.1 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was reported as moderate. With milliners in the West-End employment was fair.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, under-clothing and infants' millinery trades, firms in London employing 3,480 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended February 25th showed an increase of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good. A number of firms reported a deficiency of labour.

In Manchester employment in the mantle trade was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the costume, skirt and blouse trades, firms employing 3,664 workpeople in the week ended February 25th showed an increase of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 3.0 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair. A deficiency of labour, principally of machinists, was reported.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was fair, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland and Ireland, employing 7,012 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) and paying £4,781 in wages in the week ended February 25th, showed an increase of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 4.0 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment generally was fair.

Corset Trade.—Returns from corset manufacturers employing 5,847 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended February 25th showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 3.4 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

(Based on 423 Returns—132 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 273 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 18 from Local Correspondents.)

PAPER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good and was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 21,301 workpeople in the last week of the month showed that there was an increase in the total number of workpeople employed by them of 0.2 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 2.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Table with 4 columns: Description, Workpeople paid Wages in last week of Feb., 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago. Includes sub-tables for Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards, and Hand-made Paper.

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 1,420 members had 2.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, 1911, as compared with 2.1 per cent. at the end of January, 1911, and 2.7 per cent. at the end of February, 1910. In the hand-made paper trade Trade Unions with 572 members had 6.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, 1911, as compared with 5.8 per cent. a month ago and 7.0 per cent. a year ago.

The Imports of paper in February, 1911, amounted to £473,938, as compared with £533,656 in January, 1911, and £458,557 in February, 1910; and the Exports for the same months amounted to £260,533, £261,258, and £227,348 respectively.

PRINTING TRADES.

Employment with letterpress printers remained quiet and showed little change on the whole as compared with a month ago and a year ago. With lithographic printers it continued fair and was better than a year ago.

London.—Employment with letterpress printers was slack and worse than a month ago and a year ago. With lithographic printers it remained fair and was better than a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment with letterpress printers was moderate on the whole, and rather better than a month ago and a year ago. At Edinburgh, Sheffield and Nottingham it was good. At Liverpool, Manchester and Dublin it was slack. With lithographic printers employment remained fair, and was better than a year ago.

Table with 6 columns: Districts, No. of Members of Unions at end of Feb., 1911, Percentage Unemployed at end of Feb., 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago. Lists districts like London, Northern Counties, Yorkshire, etc.

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment in London was quiet and worse than a month ago. In other districts it was fairly good and rather better than a month ago. Compared with a year ago, a general improvement was shown.

Table with 6 columns: Districts, No. of Members of Unions at end of Feb., 1911, Percentage Unemployed at end of Feb., 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago. Lists London and Other Districts.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

(Based on 180 Returns—5 from Employers' Associations, 135 from Trade Unions, and 40 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fair on the whole and better than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 34,400 reported 4.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 6.0 per cent. a month ago, and 7.2 per cent. a year ago.

Furnishing Trades.

Employment in these trades was moderate on the whole, but better than both a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions reported 5.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 9.2 per cent. a month ago, and 11.5 per cent. a year ago. Employment was fair in London and at Birmingham. It was also fair at Glasgow except with carvers. It was bad at Newcastle, Sunderland, Middlesbrough and Dublin.

The Imports of furniture and cabinetware in February, 1911, were valued at £31,599 as compared with £31,252 in January, 1911, and £26,474 in February, 1910; and the Exports for the same months were valued at £92,113, £100,854, and £54,478 respectively.

Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment continued moderate, but was better than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of February was 4.3, as compared with 5.9 a month ago, and 5.4 a year ago. Employment was good at Belfast, and was fair and better than a month ago at Glasgow and Middlesbrough. Short time was reported on the Tyne and at Dublin and Nottingham, and employment was bad at Liverpool and Leicester.

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

Table with 6 columns: Description, Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago. Includes Timber, hewn and sawn, and House Frames, Fittings and Joiners' Work.

Coopers.

Employment was still fair on the whole. Short time, however, was worked at Burton and Liverpool, where employment was bad and worse than in the previous month. Employment was still bad at Manchester.

Coachbuilding.

Employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions reported 2.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 3.6 per cent. a month ago, and 4.0 per cent. a year ago.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment was fair, and better than a month ago. Trade Unions reported 3.8 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 5.2 per cent. a month ago and 3.8 per cent. a year ago.

Other Trades.—Employment with packing-case makers continued fair. It continued moderate with general wheelwrights and smiths. With basket and skip makers it was fair generally.

The Imports of brushes and brooms in February, 1911, were valued at £34,972, as compared with £30,680 in January, 1911, and £34,368 in February, 1910; and the Exports for the same months were valued at £20,015, £18,622, and £16,400, respectively.

BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 2,731 Returns—1,286 from Employers and Employers' Associations, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 1,382 from Trade Unions and their Branches, and 63 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in February continued slack, but was better than a month ago and a year ago.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of February was 7.5 as compared with 9.5 a month ago and 11.3 a year ago; and for plumbers at the same dates the percentages were 10.8, 11.2, and 8.5 respectively. In the case of carpenters and joiners, the improvement, as compared with both a month ago and a year ago, was common to nearly all districts, but was most marked in the Northern Counties, Scotland and Ireland.

Returns from Trade Unions of bricklayers, masons, painters, plasterers and labourers showed a general improvement compared with both a month ago and a year ago.

For London the Trade Union returns showed that 5.6 per cent. of carpenters and joiners were unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 8.0 per cent. a month ago, and 8.9 per cent. year ago. The corresponding percentages for plumbers were 11.8, 12.5, and 11.4 respectively. Employment with masons and plasterers in London was reported as fair.

Returns received from 1,226 firms employing 59,905 workpeople at the end of February showed that as compared with a month ago there was an increase in the total number employed by them of 11.4 per cent. in London, and of 2.5 per cent. in other districts.

Table with columns: District, Skilled Tradesmen, Labourers, Lads and Boys, Total. Rows include London, Northern Counties and Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, etc.

Employment was slack, but better than a month ago, in all the large centres, except as stated below.

Employment was moderate on the whole in the Tees district. It was good with painters at Doncaster and moderate with carpenters at Huddersfield.

With plumbers in Lancashire and Cheshire employment showed a general decline. Employment at Manchester declined with bricklayers and plasterers; with painters it was moderate. Employment was worse than a month ago with bricklayers at Blackburn and Northwich. It was fair with masons at Blackburn, with carpenters at Northwich, Warrington and Blackpool, and with painters at Blackpool, Stockport, Ashton, and Altrincham.

At Coventry, the Potteries, Shrewsbury, Northampton and Ipswich employment was fair generally. At Nottingham it was fair with masons; with plumbers it was worse than a month ago. At Lincoln it was fair with bricklayers and painters, but worse than a month ago with carpenters. Painters at Leicester and plumbers

at Birmingham were fairly well employed. A decline was reported by bricklayers at Rugby and Burton.

Employment was good with bricklayers at Plymouth. It was fair with bricklayers at Cheltenham, with painters at Bath, and with carpenters at Exeter, Gloucester, Southampton, Maidstone, Oxford and Watford. At Bristol it was fair with bricklayers, but worse than a month ago with painters and plasterers. At Cardiff it was fair with bricklayers, painters and plumbers.

At Glasgow employment was fair with bricklayers, slaters, carpenters and plasterers. Employment was fair with bricklayers at Motherwell, with painters at Edinburgh, and with plasterers at Aberdeen. At Dundee employment showed a general decline.

Employment at Belfast was fairly good with bricklayers, painters and plumbers. At Dublin it declined with bricklayers, painters and slaters, but with plasterers it was fair. Bricklayers, masons and plasterers at Cork were fairly well employed.

GLASS TRADES.

(Based on 81 Returns—53 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 17 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fair on the whole, but showed a further slight decline as compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago, especially with glass bottle makers.

Returns received from firms employing 7,925 workpeople in the week ended February 25th, 1911, showed a decrease of 0.8 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 5.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 10.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, these increases being mainly accounted for by improvement in the glass bottle industry.

Table with columns: Branches, Districts, Workpeople, Earnings. Rows include Glass Bottle, Plate Glass, Flint Glass Ware, etc.

Employment with glass bottle makers was moderate on the whole in the North of England; in Yorkshire, a considerable amount of short time was worked; it was good at Leeds, Castleford and Wakefield. It continued fair at St. Helens, with some short time, and good at Bristol. It was also good at Portobello, while at Dublin it was bad and worse than a month ago. Employment with glass bottle makers generally was much better than a year ago, when it was bad. With flint glass makers employment continued good at Birmingham, Wordsley and Stourbridge; with flint glass cutters it was good and better than a month ago at Birmingham, and continued good at Wordsley and Stourbridge, some overtime being worked at all three places. Employment continued moderate with sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens, and the improvement shown a month ago with pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear was continued, though short time was still general. Employment continued good with plate glass bevellers at Birmingham. It was bad and worse than both a month ago and a year ago with glass blowers in London.

Table with columns: Description, Feb. 1911, Jan. 1911, Feb. 1910, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Imports: Window and German Sheet Glass, Plate, Flint, etc.

PORCELAIN, CHINA AND EARTHENWARE INDUSTRY.

(Based on 99 Returns—94 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 2 from Trade Unions, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was fairly good and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 21,131 workpeople in the week ended February 25th showed an increase of 1.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 3.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns: Branches, Districts, Workpeople, Earnings. Rows include China Manufacture, Earthenware Manufacture, etc.

In the Potteries employment was fairly good in all branches, and better than both a month ago and a year ago; the decline shown in the earthenware branch in December and January was succeeded by a considerable improvement. In Scotland employment showed little change as compared with a month ago. It was quiet with tobacco pipe makers at Glasgow.

The Imports of chinaware and earthenware in February, 1911, were valued at £74,006 as compared with £66,572 in January, 1911, and £54,134, in February, 1910; and the Exports for the same months were valued at £232,329, £246,708, and £190,362 respectively.

BRICK TRADE.

(Based on 152 Returns—142 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 1 from a Trade Union, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued moderate on the whole; it was better than a year ago in most districts.

Table with columns: Districts, Workpeople, Earnings. Rows include Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, etc.

Returns from firms employing 12,435 workpeople in

the week ended February 25th showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 1.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 2.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 7.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Employment continued fair on the whole in the Northern Counties, but was only moderate in the Tees and Hartlepool district. It was moderate in Yorkshire, and in Lancashire and Cheshire. In the Midland Counties it continued moderate on the whole, but was better than a year ago; it was good in Shropshire and continued fair in South Staffordshire, and bad in the Nottingham district. It was fair in Bedfordshire, though not quite so good as a month ago; it was slack in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk, but showed an improvement in Suffolk and Essex. It continued fairly good and was much better than a year ago in the Southern and South-Western Counties; it was fair in Wales. It was fair and better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago, in Scotland.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

(Based on 247 Returns from Correspondents in various districts.)

EMPLOYMENT was generally fairly good during February, the fine weather which prevailed during the greater part of the month enabling farmers to offer a fair amount of employment to men outside the ordinary farm staff on such work as threshing, carting manure, hedging and ditching. There was generally an ample supply of such extra men, but mention of any marked surplus was exceptional in the reports. Men for permanent situations were again reported as scarce in parts of the Midland and Southern and South Western Counties.

Northern Counties.—Agricultural employment was generally regular in these counties, except in the western districts, where stormy weather during the last half of the month caused loss of time to extra labourers. There was a moderate demand for extra men for hedging, ditching, threshing, etc., in most parts of Yorkshire, but the supply was in excess of the demand in the Bridlington, Driffield, Shirburn, and Wortley Rural Districts; in the other counties but few of these men were required at any period during the month. Little or no change was reported in wages at the Candlemas hiring fairs in Cumberland.

Midland Counties.—For the time of the year there was a fairly good demand for extra men in these counties, the weather being fine on the whole. The demand was chiefly on account of carting and spreading manure, hedging, ditching, and threshing. It was more than met by the supply in Oxfordshire, but in the other counties the supply and demand were generally fairly well balanced. A demand for men for permanent situations was reported from certain districts.

Eastern Counties.—Threshing operations were somewhat hindered at times by wind and rain, but otherwise employment generally suffered little interruption from the weather, and farm work was reported to be in a fairly forward state at the end of the month. Hedging, ditching, carting manure, besides threshing, provided work for extra men, and the supply of such men was usually taken up by the demand. A scarcity of single men and of milkers was reported in the Brigg Rural District in Lincolnshire.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—With the exception of two or three days at the end of the month, outdoor work suffered little or no interruption in these counties, and extra men had a fair amount of employment at such seasonal operations as threshing, carting manure, and hedging. The supply of and demand for these men were generally about equal, an excess in the supply being reported only in the Epsom (Surrey) and the Devizes (Wiltshire) Rural Districts. An excess of men for permanent situations was reported in the Wareham and Purbeck (Dorset) Rural District, while there was some scarcity of such men in the Godstone (Surrey) and the Petworth and Uckfield (Sussex) Rural Districts, in the Aldershot district (Hampshire) and in the Wantage

(Berkshire), Axbridge (Somerset), Stow-on-the-Wold and Thornbury (Gloucestershire), Torrington (Devon) and West Penwith (Cornwall) Rural Districts.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

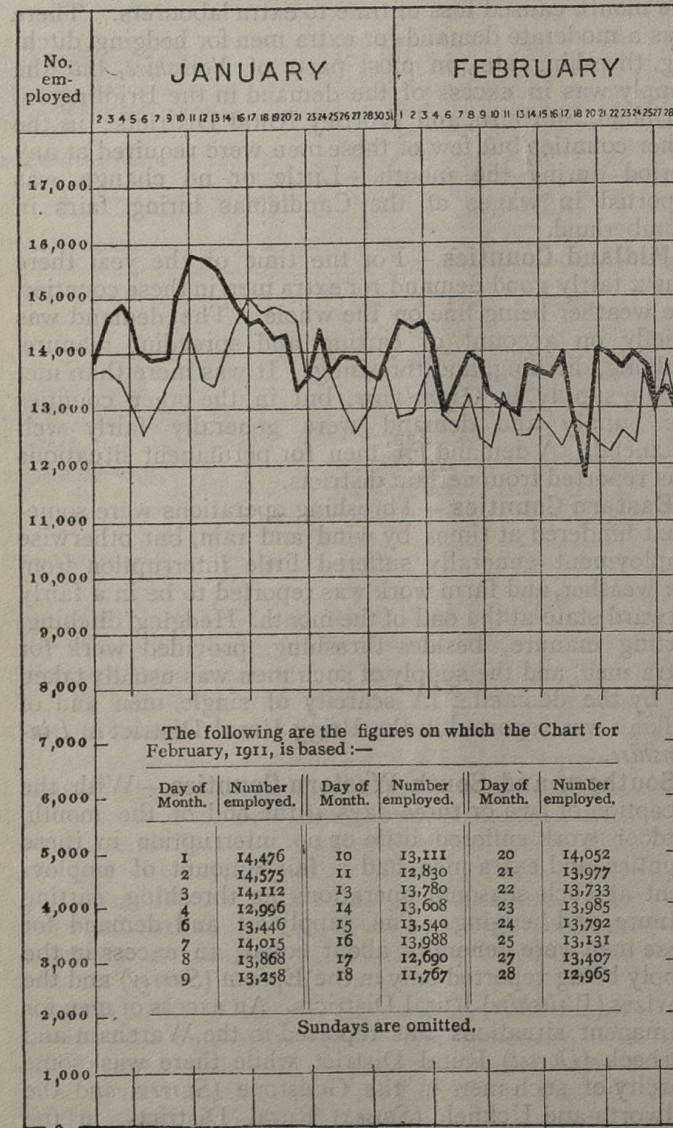
(Based on 134 Returns—116 from Employers, 5 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fair in London and Liverpool; it was not so good as a month ago, but was better than a year ago. At the other principal ports it continued fair on the whole and was better than a year ago.

London.\*—Employment was fair, particularly in the first week, during the wool sales, it was worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended February 25th, 1911, was 13,641, a decrease of 5.2 per cent. as compared with a month ago, but an increase of 6.1 per cent. as compared with February, 1910.

Table with columns: Period, In Docks (By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors, By Shp-owners, &c., Total), At 107 Wharves making Returns, Total Docks and Principal Wharves.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed at all the Docks, and at 107 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of January and February, 1911. The corresponding curve for January and February, 1910, is also given for comparison.



The following are the figures on which the Chart for February, 1911, is based:—

Table with columns: Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed.

\* Exclusive of Tilbury.

The daily numbers employed during February, 1911, ranged from 11,767 on the 18th to 14,575 on the 2nd. During February, 1910, the daily numbers ranged from 12,271 on the 22nd to 13,837 on the 28th.

The mean daily number employed at Tilbury Dock was 1,377 during February, 1911, as compared with 1,508 during the previous month, and 1,357 during February, 1910.

Employment with dock labourers at Liverpool was good generally; at the North-end (Bootle) docks, however, a decline was reported, and employment was slack. With quay and railway carters employment was fair, and better than a month ago.

Other Ports.—Employment on the Tyne and Wear was fair generally with dock and riverside labourers and moderate with trimmers and teamers; there was an improvement with dock labourers on the Tyne, but a decline on the Wear, while trimmers and teamers were not so well employed as a month ago on either river. An improvement was reported at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, at which ports employment was generally good. It was moderate at Hull, slack at Grimsby and fair at Goole. Employment continued slack at Yarmouth and Lowestoft, and good at Parkeston. It was quiet generally at Plymouth, but rather better than a month ago. At Bristol it was bad and worse than a month ago. There was an improvement at the South Wales ports, where employment was fairly good. A decline on a month ago was reported at Leith; at Grangemouth employment continued slack. It was fair and slightly worse than a month ago at Dundee. Employment was bad at Belfast.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN FEBRUARY.

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

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade was entered and cleared) show that during February, 36,269 seamen\*, of whom 3,527 (or 9.7 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. As compared with February, 1910, there was a net increase of 4,527; the chief increases were at Liverpool, the Tyne Ports, and at London.

During the two months ended February, 1911, the total number of seamen shipped was 76,186, an increase of 9,384 on the total for the corresponding period of 1910. At Liverpool, the Tyne Ports, London and Bristol there were marked increases. The largest decreases were at Middlesbrough and Sunderland.

Lascars are not included in these figures.

Table with columns: Principal Ports, February (1910, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1911), Two months ended February (1910, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1911). Rows include ENGLAND & WALES, Bristol Channel, Other Ports, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

\* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.

† Including Avonmouth and Fortishead. ‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Based on 17 Returns—2 from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 8 from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics of England and Wales and the Fishery Board for Scotland, 1 from the Department of Agriculture, Ireland, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

THE fish landed in February, 1911, showed an increase in quantity, but a decrease in value as compared with February, 1910.

Table with columns: Quantity (Feb., 1911, Feb., 1910), Value (Feb., 1911, Feb., 1910). Rows include Fish (other than Shell), England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Total, Shell Fish, Total Value.

Employment at the principal ports during February, 1911 was moderate. At Grimsby employment was good with fishermen, fair with fish dock labourers, and bad with fish curers: it was worse than a year ago. At Yarmouth it was moderate with fishermen, and bad with fish dock labourers and fish curers. At Hull employment was moderate with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and fair with fish curers. At Lowestoft it was moderate with all classes. Employment at Aberdeen was good with fishermen and moderate with fish dock labourers and curers. At Fraserburgh it was moderate with fishermen, bad with fish dock labourers, and fair with fish curers. Employment at Macduff was moderate generally. At Peterhead it was good with fishermen, fair with fish dock labourers, and moderate with fish curers. Fishing operations off the South-western Coasts of England were but moderately successful.

The Exports of herrings, cured and salted, in February, 1911, were valued at £83,642, as compared with £87,786 in January, 1911, and £70,528 in February, 1910.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

WHAT IS AN ACCIDENT? HEART DISEASE: BURDEN OF PROOF. Compensation is payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, only where personal injury is caused by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment.

A workman employed in a colliery had to keep the road in repair, and to help in pushing empty trucks up an incline and to do other odd jobs. One day when he had been engaged in assisting other men in getting an empty truck off the rails, he proceeded to sharpen some props. After working at this for some ten minutes he was taken ill, and died at home later in the same day from angina pectoris. His dependants claimed compensation under the Act. Medical evidence was given to the effect that the deceased had heart disease of long standing and that angina pectoris might be brought on by several causes, and might be due to circumstances which could not be called accidents. It might be due to very slight exertion and did not always immediately follow exertion. There was no evidence that the work of the deceased subjected him to any extraordinary strain. The County Court Judge decided that the deceased, who was an elderly man, over exerted himself while pushing a truck, and thereby brought on an attack of heart trouble from which he died. He consequently made an award in favour of the claimants.

The employers appealed. The Court of Appeal held that it was not sufficient to prove that a man met with his death in a colliery unless it could be proved that the cause of death was an accident arising out of as well as in the course of the employment. The burden of proof is on the claimants and they must do something more than show a state of facts consistent either with one view or another. Here it was not possible to say that the attack of angina pectoris was due to the work the man was doing in the colliery. There was no evidence sufficient to prove this, and the County Court Judge was not entitled to come to the conclusion to which he came. Therefore the appeal was allowed.—Hawkins v. Powells Tillery Coal Company.—Court of Appeal, 24th February, 1911.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT: INJURY WHILE "LARKING."

Compensation is not payable unless the accident causing injury was one arising out of as well as in the course of the employment. A boy was employed by a company of manufacturing chemists. In the course of his employment he was set to clean a machine

which had been stopped for the purpose. While he was so employed he had a discussion with another boy as to whether if a sovereign were under a cylinder when the machine was in motion, they could get it out. By way of experiment the boy cleaning the machine started it and put his hand into the machine to show how he would get out a sovereign. His hand was caught and so injured that it had to be amputated. An action for damages was brought by the boy on the ground that the machinery was not properly protected, and that the employers had allowed him to clean the machine while in motion. The jury however decided all points in favour of the employers, and it was found that the boy had started the machine for his own purpose. The action for damages having failed application was made to the judge to assess compensation, which he did. The employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that the accident did not occur while the claimant was trying to do his master's work but while he was "larking," having started the machine for the purpose of trying whether he could get out an imaginary sovereign while it was in motion. The accident arose in the course of the employment but did not arise out of the employment. The appeal was therefore allowed, and the award of compensation set aside.—Cole v. Evans Leacher & Webb, Limited.—Court of Appeal, 22nd February, 1911.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT: JUMPING OFF WAGON AFTER DROPPED PIPE.

A man in the employment of a traction engine proprietor was employed in taking waggon loads with stone along a highway. While sitting on one of these waggon loads in the course of his employment, and while in the act of lighting his pipe he let the pipe fall. He jumped off the wagon to recover his pipe, but lost his balance and fell, the wheels of the wagon going over his leg. His injuries were so serious that he died the next day. His widow claimed compensation.

The Sheriff-Substitute refused to make an award in favour of the claimant on the ground that the deceased had got off the wagon for his own purpose, and not for any object connected with his employment, and therefore the accident did not arise out of the employment. The claimant appealed.

The Court of Session allowed the appeal, holding that a workman might reasonably smoke a pipe in the circumstances, and that having dropped it he might reasonably pick it up, and therefore the accident was one arising out of as well as in the course of the employment.—M'Laughlan v. Anderson.—Court of Session, 18th February, 1911.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT: ACTING IN DISOBEDIENCE TO RULES.

A miner in the employment of a colliery company having finished his day's work was on his way to the pit bottom to go home. A train of hutches was going in the direction in which he wished to go, and he jumped on to one of them in order to get a ride to the bottom of the shaft. In so doing he was directly disobeying the rules of the employers, who had forbidden any of the men to ride on these hutches. His head came in contact with the roof of the pit and he was seriously and permanently injured. He claimed compensation.

The Sheriff-Substitute held that the accident did not arise out of the employment, and that the claimant therefore was not entitled to compensation. The claimant appealed.

The Court of Session dismissed the appeal, approving of the decision of the Sheriff-Substitute, and holding that the accident had happened through the claimant doing a thing for his own pleasure and convenience which was directly against the terms of his employment and a breach of the rules of which he was well aware.—Cane v. Merry & Cunninghame, Limited.—Court of Session, 7th February, 1911.

NOTICE OF ACCIDENT TO BE GIVEN: MISTAKE OR OTHER REASONABLE CAUSE: PREJUDICE IN DEFENCE.

It is provided by the Act that proceedings for compensation shall not be maintainable unless notice of the accident has been given as soon as practicable after the happening thereof and before the workman has voluntarily left the employment in which he was injured, and unless the claim for compensation has been made within six months of the accident or, in case of death, within six months of death. But the want of any such notice is not to be a bar to proceedings if it is found that the employer is not prejudiced in his defence by such want, or when the want was occasioned by mistake, absence from the United Kingdom or other reasonable cause. The failure to make a claim within six months is not to be a bar to the claim if it is found that the failure was occasioned by mistake, absence from the United Kingdom or other reasonable cause.

A workman employed in weaving mills was alleged to have injured his back in the course of his employment on the 30th May, 1910. No notice of any accident, however, was served on the employers until the 18th November, nor did they ever hear of any accident till 5th November. He was paid full wages up till the 4th July, and £1 a week from that date till 16th September. He claimed compensation. At the hearing it was proved that he did not consult a doctor till September and that he had previously suffered from lumbago. The County Court Judge found that notice was not given as soon as practicable after the accident; that failure to give such notice was not due to mistake or other reasonable cause, and that the employers were prejudiced in their defence by such failure. Compensation was therefore refused. The claimant appealed. The Court of Appeal in Ireland held that the evidence amply supported the finding of the County Court Judge. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—Shannon v. Banbridge Weaving Company.—Court of Appeal (Ireland), 20th February, 1911.

(2) Trade Union Acts.

RESTRAINT OF TRADE; LAWFUL OR UNLAWFUL SOCIETY; LEGALITY OF RULES; EXPULSION OF MEMBER; JURISDICTION OF COURTS.

It is provided by the Trade Union Act, 1871, that the purposes of any trade union shall not, by reason merely that they are in restraint of trade, be unlawful so as to render void or voidable any agreement or trust.

By the rules of a certain trade union any member found guilty of attempting to injure the society, or to break it up otherwise than as allowed by the rules, should be expelled from the society and forfeit all claims on the funds and benefits of the society.

When the action came on for hearing a preliminary objection was successfully taken that the society was illegal at common law as being in restraint of trade: and that the court had no jurisdiction to entertain the action, which was brought with the object of directly enforcing an agreement for the application of the funds to provide benefits to members.

The Court of Appeal on the construction of these rules held that the society was not an unlawful one. They also held that the action was not one to enforce directly a contract to provide benefits to the plaintiff but to enforce the contract of membership, and that there was nothing in the Act to prevent a member threatened with expulsion on unjustifiable grounds from obtaining the aid of the court to restrain such expulsion.

PROHIBITION OF NIGHT-WORK FOR WOMEN IN SWEDEN.\*

On and after January 1st of the present year the employment of women at night in industrial establishments is prohibited in Sweden, under a law enacted on the 20th of November, 1909, of which the principal provisions are as follows: In industrial establishments, in which more than 10 workpeople are employed, women must be allowed 11 consecutive hours of rest in any twenty-four hours, such period of rest to comprise the hours between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

In seasonal trades and trades liable to periods of pressure the statutory interval of rest can be reduced by

\* Meddelanden fran K. Kommerskollegiets Afdelning for Arbetstatistik (Journal of the Swedish Labour Department), No. 1, 1911.

one hour on 60 days (but no more) in any year. Before availing himself of this concession, the employer must notify the inspector of his intention, specifying the days on which, and the reasons for which, the regular practice is to be departed from.

By Royal Decree, special exemptions from the provisions of the law may be enacted in the case of trades the raw materials of which are subject to rapid deterioration.

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

RETURNS have been received from the principal Co-operative Societies and Master Bakers' Associations in Great Britain, and from local correspondents, showing the price of bread on March 1st, 1911.

The figures in the following Table are based on Returns from 228 Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 132 in Scotland.

Table showing predominant prices per 4 lbs. on 1st March, 1911, and 1st Dec., 1910, for bread in various districts including England and Wales, and Scotland.

The mean of the prices on March 1st, 1911, shows little change as compared with December 1st, 1910. As compared with March 1st, 1910, a decrease of .31d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

Returns showing the predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on March 1st, 1911, have been received from 140 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom and 30 from other sources.

Table showing predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on March 1st, 1911, and 1st Dec., 1910, for wheat and flour in various districts.

Compared with a month ago, the mean of the predominant prices remains unaltered. Compared with a year ago, a decrease of .3d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

In the next Table the predominant price is shown for 27 of the principal towns.

Table showing predominant price per 4 lbs. on March 1st, 1911, and last change for various towns including London, Birmingham, Bolton, Bristol, Cardiff, Derby, Hull, Ipswich, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldham, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Potteries, Southampton, and Wolverhampton.

In London, though the predominant price is 5 3/4d., a large quantity of bread is sold at 5d. per 4 lbs. The predominant price in Birmingham is now 5 1/2d.; on 1st February it was 5 1/2d. and 6d. per 4 lbs.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The imports of wheat during September, 1910,—February, 1911, amounted to 47,729,976 cwts., or 1,337,904 cwts. less than in the corresponding months of 1909-10.

Table showing imports of wheat and flour (Average Declared Value) for various months from 1910 to 1911.

Appointment of Certifying Surgeons during February, 1911.

Table listing District, Certifying Surgeon, and Place and time for examination for various locations including Ballyward, Co. Down; Broughton Astley; Creden; Creesh St. Michael; Dunfermline; Dumoon; Glenavy, Co. Antrim; Hexham; Kinghorn; Sheffield (Hillsboro); Oughtibridge; Southampton; and Wednesbury.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the Certifying Surgeon. \* i.e., Of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during February, 1911, was 52, consisting of 46 cases of lead poisoning, 1 of mercurial poisoning, and 5 of anthrax.

The number of deaths reported during February, 1911, was 3 (2 due to lead poisoning and 1 to anthrax), as compared with 5 in February, 1910 (all due to lead poisoning).

In addition to the above, 12 cases of lead poisoning (2 of which proved fatal), were reported in February, 1911, among house painters and plumbers, as compared with 15 (including 5 deaths) in February, 1910.

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

Table showing cases and deaths for various industries including Brass Works, Sheet Lead and Lead Piping, Plumbing and Soldering, Printing, File Cutting, Tinning of Metals, White Lead Works, Red and Yellow Lead Works, China and Earthenware, Litho-Transfer Works, Glass Cutting and Polishing, Vitreous Enamelling, Electrical Accumulator Works, Paint and Colour Works, Coachmaking, Shipbuilding, Paint used in other Industries, and Other Industries.

Table showing other forms of poisoning including Mercurial Poisoning, Arsenic Poisoning, and Anthrax.

Table showing total reported under Factory and Workshop Act, and Grand Total for various diseases.

United States Immigration.—According to the January Immigration Bulletin of the United States Department of Commerce and Labour the total number of aliens admitted into the United States in the seven months July, 1910—January, 1911, was 572,983, as compared with 561,415 in the corresponding period of 1909-1910, and 361,140 in the corresponding period of 1908-1909.

\* Of the 6 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry 4 were females.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN FEBRUARY.

(Based on information supplied by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.)

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during February, 1911, was 211, a decrease of 40 as compared with January, 1911, and of 20 as compared with February, 1910.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines and quarries in February, 1911, was 90, compared with 114 in January, 1911, and 107 in February, 1910.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in February, 1911, was 275, as compared with 127 in January, 1911, and 71 in February, 1910.

During the two months ended February, 1911, the total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment (exclusive of seamen), was 462, as compared with 489 in 1910.

Table with columns: Trade, Number of Workpeople killed during (Feb., 1911, Jan., 1911, Feb., 1910), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1911, on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Factories, Workshops, Accidents reported under Factory Act, Seamen, and Total including Seamen.

BELGIAN PERMANENT ROYAL COMMISSION ON UNEMPLOYMENT.

IN the preamble to a Royal Decree of January 30th, 1911,\* establishing in Belgium a Permanent Commission of Recognised Trade Unions, Labour Exchanges, and Unemployment Funds, it is pointed out that for some years past serious efforts have been made in that country and other countries to mitigate the effects of involuntary unemployment by the establishment of labour exchanges, unemployment funds, etc., on the part of private persons, trade unions, and municipal and provincial administrations.

The Commission, which will meet four times a year, though further sittings may be authorised or ordered by the Minister of Labour, is composed of 15 nominated members, selected for the most part from persons actively engaged in the organisation and administration of the institutions referred to above, and, in addition, the President of the Council of Mines and the Director of the Belgian Labour Department as ex-officio members.

The first appointments were made by Royal Decree of January 31st, 1911.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN FEBRUARY.

THE total number who received employment-relief was 11,305, of whom 4,508 were in London and "Outer London," 4,881 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 1,583 in Scotland, and 333 in Ireland.

The net total number of applicants remaining on the registers at the end of February (after deduction of persons disqualified, those who had found work, &c.), was 56,762, of whom 29,286 were in London and "Outer London," 21,577 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 2,864 in Scotland and 3,035 in Ireland.

During the month registration was resumed at York, and the register was closed to new applicants at Birkenhead, Hyde, Tynemouth, West Hartlepool, and Paisley.

The following Table affords a comparison between the work done by Distress Committees in February, 1911, January, 1911, and February, 1910:—

Table with columns: No. of Distress Committees in operation, No. of applicants given Employment-relief, Aggregate Duration of Employment-relief, Total Amount of Wages Paid. Rows include London, Other Places in England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and United Kingdom.

\* Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

The Table given below summarises the information received from the various Distress Committees as to their operations in February, 1911.

Table with columns: Distress Committees, Net No. of Applicants on Registers at end of Feb., 1911, No. given Employment-relief, Aggregate duration of Employment-relief, Total Amount of Wages paid. Rows include London Central Unemployed Body, Provincial Towns in England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and Total, United Kingdom.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

CERTIFYING FACTORY SURGEONS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

The Home Office has published a list of the names, addresses and districts of Certifying Factory Surgeons in England and Wales. The duties of the Certifying Surgeon have since 1907 been extended to industries outside the Factory Act by the provisions in the Workmen's Compensation Act with respect to compensation for industrial disease, under which a worker in those industries before he can claim compensation for disease has to obtain a certificate from the certifying surgeon; and this list has been prepared as a ready means of reference for workers and their representatives desiring to ascertain the name and address of the Certifying Surgeon to whom application must be made in any particular case.

The list is published at rs., and can be obtained, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman and Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C. Similar lists for Scotland and Ireland will be published in due course.

PAUPERISM IN FEBRUARY.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in February, 1911, in the 35 urban districts named below, corresponded to a rate of 205 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with January, 1911, the total number of paupers relieved increased by 2,210 (or 0.6 per cent.), and the rate per 10,000 by 2. The number of indoor paupers relieved increased by 1,596 (or 0.9 per cent.) and the number of outdoor paupers by 614 (or 0.3 per cent.). There were increases in 24 districts, the greatest being in the Central District of the Metropolis (10 per 10,000) and in the Dublin district (9 per 10,000). There were decreases in 9 districts, the most marked being in the Stockton and Tees district (28 per 10,000).

Compared with February, 1910, the rate per 10,000 decreased by 30. The number of indoor paupers decreased by 4,897 (or 2.5 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 46,812 (or 19.8 per cent.). Every district showed a decrease, the most marked being in the Stockton and Tees district (125 per 10,000), in the Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (66 per 10,000), and in the Wolverhampton district (56 per 10,000).

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of Feb., 1911 (Indoor, Outdoor, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include ENGLAND & WALES, METROPOLIS, Other Districts, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

\* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals, and Licensed Houses. † Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able bodied.

TRADE DISPUTES IN FEBRUARY.\*

Number and Magnitude.—The total number of disputes commencing during the month was 43, as compared with 35 in January, 1911, and 20 in February, 1910. In these disputes 17,630 workpeople were directly and 7,593 indirectly involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in old disputes which began before February and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 46,646 workpeople involved in trade disputes in February, 1911, as compared with 36,234 in January, 1911, and 35,518 in February, 1910.

New Disputes in February, 1911.—In the following Table the new disputes in February are summarized by trades affected:—

Table with 4 columns: Groups of Trades, No. of Disputes, No. of Workpeople Involved (Directly, Indirectly, Total). Rows include Building, Coal Mining, Engineering and Shipbuilding, Textile, Clothing, Transport, Printing, Employees of Local Authorities, Other Trades, and Totals for February 1911, January 1911, and February 1910.

Causes.—Of the 43 new disputes, 8, directly involving 1,170 workpeople, arose on demands for increased wages, 8, directly involving 2,011 workpeople, on other wages questions, 3, directly involving 3,470 workpeople, on demands for reduction in hours of labour, 15, directly involving 8,837 workpeople, on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, 4, directly involving 1,104 workpeople, on details of working arrangements, and 5, directly involving 1,038 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principles.

Results.—Definite results were reported in the case of 30 new disputes, directly involving 11,907 persons, and 8 old disputes, directly involving 4,696 persons. Of

these new and old disputes, 13, directly involving 5,976 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 16, directly involving 3,414 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and 9, directly involving 7,213 persons, were compromised. In the case of one other dispute terminated during the month, work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in February of disputes which began or were settled in that month was 223,900 working days. In addition 362,400 working days were lost during February, owing to disputes which began before that month and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus, the total duration in February of all disputes, new and old, was 586,300 working days, as compared with 560,000 in the previous month, and 538,800 in the corresponding month of 1910.

Summary for the First Two Months of 1910 and 1911.—Summarized by Trades, the number of disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the aggregate duration in working days for the two months, January and February, 1910 and 1911, respectively, were as follows:—

Table with 6 columns: Groups of Trades, No. of Disputes, Number of Workpeople Involved, Aggregate Duration in Working Days (Jan.-Feb., 1910, Jan.-Feb., 1911), No. of Disputes, Number of Workpeople Involved, Aggregate Duration in Working Days.

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Table with 7 columns: Occupations, Locality, Number of Workpeople Involved (Di-rectly, Indi-rectly), Date when Dispute began, Duration in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days. † In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information. ‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Wages.—Changes taking effect in February.—The net result of all the changes taking effect in February, 1911, was an increase of £5,181 per week, as compared with an increase of £11\* per week in January, 1911, and an increase of £98 per week in February, 1910. The number of workpeople affected was 77,275, of whom 71,425 received increases amounting to £5,301 per week, and 5,850 sustained decreases amounting to £120 per week. The total number affected in January, 1911, was 83,046,\* and in February, 1910, 4,173.

Two changes, affecting 350 workpeople, were settled by arbitration; two changes, affecting 33,000 workpeople, were arranged by conciliation; and seven changes, affecting 27,697 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 16,228 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives. In the case of 2,500 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the two completed months of 1911.—The total number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose rates of wages were changed, so far as reported, during the two months ended February 28th, 1911, was 160,321 as compared with 168,642 in the corresponding period of 1910. The changes arranged gave 89,000 workpeople a net increase of £6,085 per week and 71,321 workpeople a net decrease of £893 per week. The net effect of all the changes was thus an increase of £5,192 per week, as compared with a decrease of £7,381 per week in the corresponding period of 1910.

Summarized by trades, the number of workpeople

affected by the changes, and the net effect on their weekly wages, were as follows:—

Table with 4 columns: Groups of Trades, 1910 (No., £), 1911 (No., £). Rows include Building, Coal Mining, Iron, &c., Mining, Quarrying, Pig Iron Manufacture, Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering and Shipbuilding, Other Metal Trades, Textile Trades, Clothing Trades, Printing, &c., Trades, Glass, &c., Trades, Other Trades, Employees of Local Authorities, and Total.

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour taking effect in February, 1911, affected 422 workpeople, whose working time was reduced by 744 hours per week. In the two months ended February 28th, 1911, the number of workpeople whose hours were changed was 8,681, and the aggregate amount of the reduction 61,093 hours per week.

Principal Changes in Wages and Hours in February.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages and hours of labour taking effect in February, are given below. The details of the other changes reported are not separately stated in the Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

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

Table with 6 columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect in 1911, Occupation, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by (In-crease, De-crease), Particulars of Change (Decreases in Italics).

I.—RATES OF WAGES.

Table with 7 columns: Trade, Locality, Date, Occupation, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change (Decreases in Italics).

II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.

Table with 7 columns: Trade, Locality, Date, Occupation, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change (Decreases in Italics).

NOTE.—During the month of February the hours of labour of workpeople in the employment of a number of printing firms in London were reduced. Full particulars, however, are not yet available.

\* Revised figures. † See also under Changes in Hours of Labour. ‡ See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES IN FEBRUARY.

THE following Tables show the work of the Labour Exchanges during the four weeks ended February 24th. The total number of Exchanges included in the returns is 175.\* The period covered is 24 working days.

Certain employments of a peculiarly casual nature are dealt with on a separate register, described as the Casual Register, and the statistics for these employments are shown in a special table, V., the principal tables I. to IV. below referring only to applications and vacancies on the General Register.

GENERAL REGISTER.

The total number of applications on the register at some time or other during the period was 231,769 (men, 161,632; women, 38,089; boys, 20,060; and girls, 11,988), as compared with 222,702 during January (men, 156,615; women, 34,511; boys, 19,743; and girls, 11,833). These figures are exclusive of 5,465 re-applications from persons already placed in vacancies by the Exchanges during the period, and represent separate individuals, except in so far as there may have been duplicate registration in London and other places where more than one Exchange is easy of access to the same person.

The total number of applications remaining on the register at 24th February was 87,603 (men 65,632; women 12,427; boys 5,847; and girls, 3,697) as compared with 94,920 (men 70,709; women 13,190; boys 6,839; girls 4,182) at 27th January.

The number of vacancies filled during the period was 33,768 (men 18,838; women 7,163; boys 4,932; and girls 2,835), a daily average of 1,407, compared with 1,314 in January.

Of the vacancies filled during February, 3,221 (men 2,281; women 660; boys 221, girls 59) were temporary in the sense of being known to be for less than a week's employment.

The vacancies filled during February include 3,359 cases in which persons were placed by the Exchanges in districts other than those in which they registered. Of the total number of such transferences 1,862 were in London, being 22.5 per cent. of the vacancies filled in the Metropolitan area.

The proportion of vacancies filled by the Exchanges to vacancies notified by employers was 77.7 per cent. (men 79.9; women 73.9; boys 76.8; girls 75.9) as compared with 79.2 per cent. during January.

Of the men's applications on the register at some time during the month the largest percentages occur in the following groups of trades:—Building, 17.3 (labourers, 3.3, others, 14.0); Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances, 17.0; Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, 16.9; General Labourers, 16.5. Of the women's applications the largest percentages occur in Domestic (Outdoor) Service, 42.3; Food, Tobacco, Drink, and Lodging, 11.8; Textiles, 10.6; and Dress, 8.0.

Of the men's vacancies filled during February the largest percentages occur in Metals, Machines, Implements, and Conveyances, 22.0; General Labourers, 18.6; Building, 18.0 (labourers, 3.3; others, 14.7); and Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, 9.3. Of the women's vacancies filled the largest percentages occur in Domestic (Outdoor) Service, 33.4; Textiles, 19.7; Food, Tobacco, Drink, and Lodging, 12.2; and Dress, 11.1.

The demand for workers during the month exceeded the supply in the case of the coachbuilding, cotton, woollen, and worsted trades, and in the case of women in the clothing and linen trades and in laundry work. In the shipbuilding trade there was also a large demand for workmen of all classes.

CASUAL REGISTER.

The total number of men given work in the casual employments included in the Casual Register was 1,490, each of whom on an average worked on 9.1 days during the period. The total number of women who were given work in employments included in the Casual Register was 376, each of whom on an average worked on 3.2 days during the period. The total number of separate jobs given in such employments was 10,374 (men, 9,411; women, 963).

BOTH REGISTERS TOGETHER.

The total number of workpeople's applications on both registers at February 24th was 90,016, the corresponding number at January 27th being 97,477. The total at February 28th, 1910, was 112,424 as compared with 62,591 for the same Exchanges at February 24th, 1911.

\*In addition to the 161 Exchanges included in the returns for January, the following 14 Exchanges were opened during February, and their Returns are incorporated in the Tables:—Blaenau Festiniog, Market Hall; Gateshead-on-Tyne, 13, High West Street; Govan, 94, Langlands Road; Holmfirth, 21, Victoria Street; Leith, 133, Constitution Street; Leyton and Walthamstow, 619, Lea Bridge Road; Lincoln, High Street; Lowestoft, 10, Waveney Road; Partick, 148, Dumbarton Road; Perth, King Edward Street; Pontefract, 6, Gilley Gate; Port Glasgow, 54, Bay Street; Scarborough, Old Post Office; Workington, Oxford Street.

The following Exchanges are now open or are expected to be opened before the end of March, making a total of 197 Exchanges:—Bacup, 16, Market Street; Bargoed, 9, Upper High Street; Blackpool, Old Post Office; Brighouse, 77, Briggate; Burslem, 20, Market Place; Burton-on-Trent, 44, High Street; Chesterfield, 28, Gluman Gate; Doncaster, French Gate; Handsworth, 198, Soho Road; Hereford, Gomond Street; Ironbridge, Market Square; Leamington, 15, Regent's Grove; Oldhill, 287, Halesowen Road; Peterborough, Midgate; Radcliffe, 3, Sion Street; Redditch, 3, Alcester Road; Smethwick, Rolfe Street; Sparkhill, 408, Stratford Road; Spen Valley, Frost Hill, Liversedge; Stockton-on-Tees, 18, High Street; Tamworth, 8, Church Street; Willenhall, 84, Stafford Street.

Arrangements have been made with the Postmaster-General for applicants to fill in Application Forms, which will be forwarded to the nearest Labour Exchange, and to receive Registration Cards at the following Post Offices on and after 20th March:—Aberystwith, Bangor, Berwick, Beverley, Dunfermline, Harrogate, Kendal, Kirkintilloch, Mexborough, Oban, Peebles, Penrith, Pontypool, Rhyl, Rothesay, Stirling, Thirsk, Tredegar and Whitby.

ADULTS-DISTRICT TABLE. Table I.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended February 24th, 1911. [General Register.]

Table with columns for Districts, Applications for Employment (On Live Register at Beginning of Period, Received during Period, On Live Register at End of Period), and Vacancies (Notified during Period, Filled during Period). Rows include London (24), South-Eastern (8), Reading, Other Exchanges (6), South-Western (11), Bristol (2), Plymouth, Portsmouth, Southampton, Other Exchanges (6), East Midlands and Eastern Counties (16), Derby, Ipswich, Leicester, Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Other Exchanges (10), West Midlands (17), Birmingham (3), Coventry, Dudley, Stoke, Walsall, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, Other Exchanges (8), Yorkshire Division (21), Bradford, Grimsby, Halifax, Hull, Leeds (2), Rotherham, Sheffield, York, Other Exchanges (11), Lancashire and Cheshire (31), Ashton, Barrow, Birkenhead, Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Liverpool and Bootle (2), Manchester (2), Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Salford and Eccles (2), Stockport, Warrington, Wigan, Other Exchanges (13), Northern Division (12), Carlisle, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, S. Shields (2), Sunderland, W. Hartlepool (2), Other Exchanges (4), Wales (6), Cardiff (2), Merthyr Tydfil, Newport, Swansea, Other Exchanges (4), Scotland (18), Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Leith (2), Glasgow (3), Greenock, Paisley, Other Exchanges (9), Ireland (6), Belfast, Dublin, Other Exchanges (4), and Total, United Kingdom.

\* Exclusive of casual employments.

† Including re-applications from persons placed in a vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.



JUVENILES—DISTRICT TABLE.\*

Table II.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended February 24th, 1911. (General Register).

Table with columns for Districts, Applications for Employment (On Live Register at beginning of period, Received during period, On Live Register at end of period), and Vacancies (Notified during period, Filled during period). Rows include London, South Eastern, South Western, East Midlands and Eastern Counties, West Midlands, Yorkshire Division, Lancashire and Cheshire, Northern Division, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

\* Exclusive of casual employment

† Including re-applications from persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.

ADULTS—TRADE TABLE.\*

Table III.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended February 24th, 1911. (General Register).

Table with columns for Trades, Applications for Employment (On Live Register at Beginning of Period, Received during Period, On Live Register at End of Period), and Vacancies (Notified during Period, Filled during Period). Rows include Building, Labourers, Other Works of Construction and Roads, Mining and Quarrying, Engineering and Machine Making, Textiles, Dress, Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, Agriculture, Paper, Prints, Books and Stationery, Wood, Furniture, Fittings and Decorations, Chemicals, Oil, Grease, Soap, Resin, etc., Bricks, Cement, Pottery and Glass, Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging, Skins, Leather, Hair and Feathers, Precious Metals, Jewels, Watches, Instruments and Games, Gas, Water and Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service, Commercial, Domestic (Outdoor), Other, General and Undefined.

\* Exclusive of casual employments, see separate Table below.

† Including re-applications from persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.

JUVENILES—TRADE TABLE.

Table IV.—Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the four weeks ended Feb. 24th, 1911.

Table with columns for Trades, Vacancies for Juveniles (Notified during period, Filled during period). Rows include Building and Works of Construction, Mining and Quarrying, Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances, Textiles, Dress, Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, Agriculture, Paper, Prints, Books, etc., Wood, Furniture, Fittings, etc., Chemicals, Oil, Grease, etc., Bricks, Cement, Pottery, etc., Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging, Skins, Leather, Hair, etc., Precious Metals, Jewels—Watches, Instruments and Games, Gas, Water, Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service, Commercial, Domestic (Outdoor), Other, General and Undefined.

CASUAL EMPLOYMENTS.

Table V.—Applicants registered and work given in the four weeks ended February 24th, 1911.

Table with columns for Employment, Applicants Registered, Applicants given work, Number of Jobs, Estimated number of days on which work was given, Estimated average number of days on which work was given per applicant given work. Rows include Cotton Porters (Liverpool, Oldhall Street), Cloth Porters (Manchester), Dock Labourers, Sandwichmen, Other men, Charwomen, Other women.

SWEDISH CONCILIATION ACT OF 1906: REPORT FOR 1909.

The Swedish Board of Trade has just issued its report\* for the year 1909 on the working of the Conciliation Act of December 31st, 1906. (See BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, May, 1907, pp. 133-4 and June, 1910, p. 189.)

The Act provided for the appointment by the Crown of official conciliators, whose principal duty consists in "promoting the settlement of disputes between employers and workpeople, or between members of either class among themselves."

\* Statens Förläkningsmänn för Medling i Arbetstvister Verksamhet under år 1909. K. Kommerkollegium. Stockholm, 1911: P. A. Norstedt & Söner.

The number of cases in which mediation was attempted in 1909, whether in relation to threatened or to actual stoppages of work, was 79, as compared with 119 in 1908. In 14 cases in 1909 the proffered mediation was declined, the refusal coming from the employers in every case. The number of cases of actual intervention by the Conciliators was 60 in 1909, and 69 in 1908.

Forty-seven disputes were settled in 1909, owing directly or indirectly to official intervention under the Act, as compared with 62 in 1908. Stoppages of work were involved in 46 of the 60 cases of official intervention in 1909, as compared with 38 of the 69 cases of 1908. In almost every case the stoppage took place before a Conciliator had intervened.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN FEBRUARY, 1911.

(NOTE.—These are not connected with the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges.) DURING February 762 fresh applications (426 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 10 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 765 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 238 persons, of whom 138 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 238 situations found for applicants, 185 were of a more or less permanent character, while 53 were temporary only. The demand for cooks, parlour-maids, housemaids and children's nurses exceeded the supply; the supply of ladies' maids and companions exceeded the demand.

Table showing Applications by Work-people during, Situations offered by Employers during, and Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers. Includes Summary by Bureaux and Summary by Occupations.

In addition to the above registered applications, the returns show that 40 persons in London and 28 in the provinces were referred to other agencies; 318 persons in London and 78 in the provinces were given advice as to training, &c., but were not registered.

The return received from the Westminster Municipal Labour Bureau (not under the control of the Board of Trade) shows that during February, 1911, 427 new applicants were registered, and that situations were found for 138 persons (156 permanent and 2 temporary). The number on the register at the end of the month was 989.

PASSENGERS TO AND FROM PLACES OUT OF EUROPE.

The balance outward of passengers from the United Kingdom to places out of Europe was 9,606 in the month ended January, 1911, as compared with 13,495 in the month ended January, 1910, and an average of 10,165 in January of the years 1906-1910; the corresponding numbers of British subjects were 10,095, 8,014, and 6,212, respectively. Of the balance outward of British subjects 11.7 per cent. left for British North America in January, 1911, as compared with 10.4 per cent. in 1910 and 11.3 per cent. in 1906-10, while the percentages who left for the United States were 13.7, 26.4, and 23.7, respectively.

Table showing Passenger statistics for January, 1911 and 1910, and Average for 1906-1910. Categorized by Outward and Inward, and Balance Outward.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Summary for the two months ended February, 1911. IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE. (NOTE.—The values of the imports represent the cost, insurance and freight, or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.)

Table showing Foreign Trade imports for February 1909, 1910, and 1911, compared with 1910 and 1909. Categories include Food, Drink, and Tobacco; Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured; Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured; and Miscellaneous and Unclassified.

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

(NOTE.—The values of the exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as "free on board" values.)

Table showing Foreign Trade exports for February 1909, 1910, and 1911, compared with 1910 and 1909. Categories include Food, Drink and Tobacco; Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured; Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured; and Miscellaneous and Unclassified.

The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £18,635,628 during the two months ended February, 1911, as compared with £18,331,724 and £15,161,185 in the corresponding period of 1910 and 1909 respectively.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

(Based on information published weekly in the "Times.") THE goods and mineral traffic receipts of twenty of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended February 25th, 1911, amounted to £4,641,360, an increase of £205,306 (or 4.6 per cent.) on the total for the corresponding period of 1910. During the eight weeks ended February 25th, 1911, the receipts amounted to £8,916,732, an increase of £397,118 (or 4.7 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1910.

Table showing Railway Goods and Mineral Traffic Receipts for 4 weeks ended Feb. 25th, 1911, and 8 weeks ended Feb. 25th, 1911. Includes English Lines and Irish Lines.

\* Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c. † Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c. ‡ Coal, wool, oil, seeds, &c., hides and skins. § Yarns, textile fabrics and apparel, metal manufactures, chemicals, &c.

THE BERNE LABOUR CONVENTIONS, 1906: DATES OF COMING INTO OPERATION.

A statement has recently been issued by the Swiss Government\* showing the dates of coming into operation of the Berne Labour Conventions of 1906 for the States which had either deposited their ratifications within the specified period or had subsequently intimated their adhesion. (See BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, December, 1906, p. 354.)

In the case of the first of the two Conventions, viz., that prohibiting the employment of women at night in industrial occupations, the date is January 14th, 1912, for Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, the United Kingdom, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland, Italy, Sweden, the Dominion of New Zealand, and the British Colonies of Fiji Islands, Ceylon, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Northern Nigeria, Trinidad and the Leeward Islands, the British Protectorate of Uganda, and Algeria, while for Tunis it is January 15th, 1912.

As regards the second Convention, viz., that as to the prohibition of the use of white (yellow) phosphorus in matchmaking, the date is January 1st, 1912, for Germany, Denmark (including the Faroe Islands and Danish Antilles), France, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, and Switzerland; for the United Kingdom it is December 28th, 1913; for Spain, October 29th, 1914; and for Italy, July, 6th, 1915. The dates for the British Colonies and Protectorates are:—Union of South Africa, May 3rd, 1914; Cyprus, Malta, Gibraltar, British East Africa, Southern Nigeria, Uganda, Mauritius, Seychelles, January 14th, 1915; Northern Nigeria, February 24th, 1915; the Leeward Islands, March 26th, 1915; the Fiji Islands, June 20th, 1915; Gambia, the Gold Coast and Sierra Leone, October 22nd, 1915; and the Bermudas, December 19th, 1915. The date for the French Colonies of Madagascar and its dependencies, French West Africa, Somali Coast, Réunion, the French possessions in Oceania, and New Caledonia, is November 26th, 1914; and for Tunisia, January 15th, 1915. The date for the Dutch Indies is March 7th, 1915.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED DURING FEBRUARY.

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

(1) REGISTERED. Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Nil. Scotland.—Nil. Ireland.—2, viz., Ulster Textile Operative Bleachers, Dyers and Kindred Trade Union, 11 Victoria Street, Belfast; Refuge Assurance Companies (Dublin District) Employees' Assoc., 27 Lower Gardiner Street, Dublin.

Industrial and Provident Societies. England and Wales.—12, viz.:—Working Men's Clubs (4): St. Peters Rural Conservative and Unionist Club, Ltd., Hatfield Road, St. Albans; Framlingham District Conservative Working Men's Club, Ltd., Framlingham, Suffolk; Tilbury Constitutional Club, Ltd., Broadway, Tilbury, Essex; Andover Constitutional Working Men's Club, Ltd., Elliott House, Andover. Co-operative Distributive (1): High Halstow (Kent) Co-op. Trading Soc., Ltd., Mount Stuart, High Halstow, Rochester. Small Holdings (4): Foleshill and District Co-op. Allotments, Ltd., 43, Webster Street, Foleshill, Coventry; Scarborough Allotment Traders, Ltd., 92, Gordon Street, Scarborough; Great Somerford and District Small Holdings and Allotments Soc., Ltd., Mr. Charles Teagle, Jr., Seagry, Chippenham; Basingstoke and District Small Holdings and Allotments Soc., Ltd., Half Moon House, Chappel Street, Basingstoke. Miscellaneous (3): Liberal Opinion, Ltd., 40, Devonshire Chambers, Bishopsgate, E.C.; C. E. Holiday Homes, Ltd., 5, Cook Street, Liverpool; Hodgson Pratt Memorial, Ltd., Club Union Buildings, Clerkenwell Road, E.C. Scotland.—2, viz.:—Agricultural Distributive (1): Kilchoman Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Kilchoman Poultry Soc. Depot, Brinchladdish Pier, Islay, Argyll. Miscellaneous (1): Edinburgh Friends of Labour Loan Soc., Ltd., Cathedral Hotel, 71 Cockburn Street, Edinburgh. Ireland.—(4):—Agricultural Distributive (1): Kilmonegan Agric. Soc., Ltd., Tubber, Moate, Co. Westmeath. Agricultural Productive (3): Moydristan Co-op. Lime Burning Soc., Ltd., Moydristan, Co. Cavan; Turraree Co-op. Creamery Soc., Ltd., Turraree, Co. Limerick; Drumquinn Co-op. Creamery Soc. Ltd., Drumquinn, Co. Tyrone.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales 31, viz.:—North Woolwich and Silvertown W. M. Club and Inst., 256 Albert Road, Woolwich; Loveclough Workmen's Social Club, 1196, Burnley

\*Recueil des Lois Fédérales, No. 4, February 8th, 1911. (Supplement to Feuille Fédérale Suisse.)

Road, Rawtenstall, Manchester; Accrington Poplar W. M. Club, Wellington Street, Accrington; Cannock Unionist Club, 19, Church Street, Cannock, Staffs.; South Norwood Liberal and W. M. Club, 14, Manor Road, South Norwood, S.E.; Birchmoor W. M. Club and Inst., New Street, Birchmoor, Tamworth; Milton and District Credit Soc., Red House, Milton, Cambridge; Dukinfield Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., 115, Astley Street, Dukinfield; Platt Bridge Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., 4, Victoria Buildings, King Street, Wigan; Walkden and Little Hulton Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., 53, Park Street, Farnworth, Lancs.; Hindley Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., 4, Victoria Buildings, King Street, Wigan; Foxhill (Church and Oswaldtwistle) Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., 60, Market Street, Church, Accrington; British Mutual Thrift Soc., 38, Florida Street, Shoreditch, E.; Gitomir Loan and Investment Soc., 34, Rothschild Buildings, Thrawl Street, Spitalfields, E.; Glenholme Loan and Investment Soc., The London City Mission Hall, Mansion House Street, Hammer-smith, W.; Soyland No. 6 Money Club, New Inn, Soyland, near Halifax; Armley (Leeds) Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., 99, Hall Lane, Armley, Leeds; Star Permanent Money Soc., Western Mail Chambers, High Street, Newport, Mon.; Wilmington and District Benefit Soc. (Dividing), 64, Highfield Road, Dartford; Ince Blundell Friendly Tontine Soc. (Dividing), The Club Room, Ince Blundell, Hightown, Liverpool; Lacland Hall Sick and Provident Soc. (Dividing), Mission Hall, Lacland Place, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.; Kentish Town Congregational Church P.S.A. Slate Club (Dividing), Schools, Kentish Town Road, N.W.; Christ Church North Brixton Slate and Loan Club, 19, Elliott Road, North Brixton, S.W.; Oakley Sick and Funeral Benefit Friendly Soc., Oakley Place Wesleyan Church, Old Kent Road, S.E.; Hucknall Gladstone Sick and Accident Soc., Primitive Methodist Schoolroom, Cavendish Street, Hucknall, Torkard, Nottingham; Bridgwater and District United Friendly Soc., Admiral Blake Coffee Tavern, Eastover, Bridgwater; Allens Rough Colliery Mutual Accident Fund, Offices of the Allens Rough Colliery Co., Ltd., New Invention, Wolverhampton; Shakespeare Sick and Dividend Soc., "Lord Napier," Hingeston Street, Birmingham; Crescent Sick and Dividend Soc., 85, Cambridge Street, Birmingham; Long Row Samaritan Friendly Soc., Queen's Arms Inn, Horsforth, Leeds; Kingston United Friendly Collecting Soc., 9, Bond Street, Hull. Scotland.—2, viz.:—Govanhill Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., 342, Argyle Street, Glasgow; Langside-Shawlands Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., 34, Argyle Street, Glasgow. Ireland.—Nil.

(2) SOCIETIES AND UNIONS CEASING TO EXIST.

Table showing Societies and Unions Ceasing to Exist, categorized by Notices received in February, of Commencement of Dissolution or Winding-up, Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up, and Registry Cancelled.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING FEBRUARY.

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

Royal Commission on the Poor Laws and Relief of Distress. Appendix Volume XXV. Statistics relating to England and Wales. [Cd. 5077: pp. 902: price 11s. 5d.]. Appendix Volume XXX. Statistical and other documents relating specially to Scotland. [Cd. 5440: pp. 162: price 1s. 5d.]. Preliminary Tables (subject to correction) of Cases of Industrial Poisoning, Fatal and Non-Fatal Accidents, and Dangerous Occurrences in Factories, Workshops, &c. during the year 1910. Home Office. [Cd. 5548: pp. 8: price 1d.]. Report to Home Office on the Circumstances attending the destruction of the Magazine of the Arncliffe Coal Co., Limited, on November 27th, 1909, by Captain A. P. H. Desborough. [Cd. 5495: pp. 5: price 1d.]. Report to Home Office on the Circumstances attending an accident at the Small Firework Factory, No. 63, Blowick, Lancashire, on September 19th, 1910. By Major T. H. Crozier. [Cd. 5496: pp. 11: price 1d.]. Report to Home Office on the Causes and Circumstances attending an Explosion and Underground Fire which occurred at the Wellington Pit, Whitehaven Colliery, on 11th May, 1910, by R. A. S. Redmayne and Samuel Pope. [Cd. 5524: pp. 55, with diagrams: price 2s. 2d.]. Railway Accidents. Summary of Accidents and Casualties during the Three Months ending 30th September, 1910, with Reports upon Certain Accidents which were inquired into. Board of Trade. [Cd. 5493: pp. 115: price 11d.]. Electricity in Mines Committee (1909-10). Minutes of Evidence taken before the Departmental Committee, with Index to Evidence. Home Office. [Cd. 5533: pp. 216: price 1s. 9d.]. Railway Servants (Hours of Labour). Return of Railway Servants of Certain Classes on duty more than Twelve Hours at a time, &c. during the month of October, 1910. Board of Trade. [Cd. 5538: pp. 26: price 3d.].





## ROPE, TWINE, &amp;c.—

Frost Bros., Ltd., 342, Commercial Road, E.  
 Hollick Bros. & Abbott, 8, Miles Lane, E.C.  
 The Linen Thread Co., Ltd., 53, Bothwell St., Glasgow.  
 Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Port Glasgow.  
 T. J. Robins, Ltd., 211, Borough High St., S.E.  
 W. Terrell & Sons, Ltd., Arno's Vale, Bristol.  
 Woods, Sons & Co., 62-3, Queen St., Cheapside, E.C.

## SUNDRIES—

Barton & Sons, Ltd., Beehive Works, Walsall.  
 Bent & Parker, Ltd., Northwood St., Birmingham.  
 Bodill, Parker & Co., Ltd., 35, Gt. Hampton Row, Birmingham.  
 J. King & Co., Ltd., 25, Endell St., W.C.  
 The Midland Rubber Co., Ltd., Ryland St., Birmingham.  
 E. Milns & Co., 69-72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.  
 H. Moseley & Sons, Bath St. Works, Walsall.  
 Pryke & Palmer, 40-41, Upper Thames St., E.C.  
 C. C. Walker, Ltd., Stafford St., Walsall.  
 Woods, Sons & Co., 62-3, Queen St., Cheapside, E.C.

## TIN PLATES—

Baldwin's, Ltd., Wilden Ironworks, nr. Stourport.  
 D. Layborn & Co., 8, Dutton St., Liverpool.

## TOOLS—

Baxendale & Co., Miller St. Works, Manchester.  
 J. Damerel & Son, 161, St. Sidwell's, Exeter.  
 H. Hipkiss & Co., Ltd., Goodman St. Works, Birmingham.  
 A. W. Lyne & Co., 86, Upper Ground St., Blackfriars, S.E.  
 Pryke & Palmer, 40-41, Upper Thames St., E.C.

## UNIFORM CLOTHS—

H. Booth & Sons, Moorhead Mill, Gildersome, nr. Leeds.  
 J. Clay & Sons, Hollings Mills, Sowerby Bridge.  
 Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Alverthorpe Mills, Wakefield.  
 W. & T. Huggan, Swinnon Grange Mill, Bramley, Leeds.  
 P. Womersley & Sons, Waterloo Mills, Pudsey, Leeds.

## WEAVING GEAR—

Baxter & Thrippleton, St. Anns Mills, Kirkstall, Leeds.  
 T. Miln, Baltic Factory, Dundee.  
 Milner & Firth, Manor Mills, Yeadon.  
 T. J. Walton, Stoneswood Mill, Todmorden.

## WEAVING MATERIALS FOR COTTON, &amp;c.—

Andrew & Bramall, Ltd., Cable St., Blackfriars Rd., Manchester.  
 T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2, Budge Row, E.C.  
 Cox Bros., Ltd., Dundee.  
 Hollick Bros. & Abbott, 8, Miles Lane, E.C.  
 E. Milns & Co., 69-72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.  
 Sykes, Ash & Co., Leeds.

## WEAVING MATERIALS FOR WOOLLEN ARTICLES—

Baxter & Thrippleton, St. Anns Mills, Kirkstall, Leeds.  
 E. Milns & Co., 69-72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.

## WOOLLEN MATERIALS—

Baxter & Thrippleton, St. Anns Mills, Kirkstall, Leeds.  
 J. Harper & Sons, Eccleshill, Bradford.  
 T. & H. Harper, Apperley Bridge, Bradford.  
 C. H. Jones, 55, Newton St., Manchester.  
 E. Milns & Co., 69-72, Hatfield St., Blackfriars, S.E.  
 J. Schofield & Sons, Buckley Mills, Rochdale.  
 J. Shaw & Sons, Ltd., Brookroyd Mills, nr. Halifax.  
 J. Smith & Co., North Dean Mills, Greetland, nr. Halifax.

## STATIONERY OFFICE.

## PAPERS OF VARIOUS DESCRIPTIONS—

J. Allen & Sons (Ivybridge), Ltd., Ivybridge.  
 Basted Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Basted Mills, nr. Sevenoaks.  
 W. Burt, Witchampton, Wimborne.  
 A. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Valleyfield Mills, Penicuik.  
 R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Moffat & Caldercruix Mills, Airdrie.  
 J. R. Crompton & Bros., Ltd., Elton Mills, Bury.  
 Golden Valley Paper Mills, Bitton, Bristol.  
 Hele Paper Co., Ltd., Cullompton.  
 W. S. Hodgkinson & Co., Wookey Hole Mills, Wells, Somerset.  
 Hyde Paper Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Broomstair Mills, Denton.  
 W. Joynson & Son, St. Mary Cray.  
 J. & J. Makin, Ltd., Disley, Cheshire.  
 Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet.  
 North of Ireland Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Ballyclare, co. Antrim.  
 Olive Bros., Ltd., Woolfold Mills, Bury.  
 T. H. Saunders & Co., Ltd., Rye Mill, High Wycombe.  
 Smith, Anderson & Co., Ltd., Fettykil, Leslie, Fife.  
 Spicer Bros., Ltd., Alton, Hants.  
 Ulverston Paper Co., Ltd., Furness Mills, Ulverston.

## PARCHMENTS—H. Gibbs &amp; Son, Mitcham.

## PRINTING, BINDING, &amp;c.—

Binding 12,940 copies Garrison Artillery Training, Vol. II.; binding 3,000 copies Railway Manual—M. Bell & Co., Temple Works, Cursitor St., E.C.  
 Binding 31,000 copies Rules for Postmasters, &c.—J. Mead, Ltd., 102, Southwark St., S.E.  
 Printing, binding, &c., 1,000 "Army Book 158"; 800 "Army Book 196"; 800 "Army Book 87"; 30,000 "Army Book 153 B"; 4,800 Lock Label Books; 2,000 "Warrant Book, No. 87"; 1,000 "Warehouse Register, No. 80"; 600 "Register Dry Goods, No. 84"; 1,500 "Army Book 121"; 5,000 books, "T.S. 14"; 600 Vaccination Officers Report Books; supplying 4,400 Millboards; 1,000 Portfolios—Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Finsbury, E.C.  
 Printing, binding, &c., 1,100 "Warehouse Ledger, No. 116"; 5,000 Ships' Rotation Books—Whitmore & Co., 151, Edmund St., Birmingham.  
 Printing, binding, &c., 1,500 "Army Book 121"; 2,000 books, "S 325"—Willmott & Sons, Ltd., 52, Bartholomew Close, E.C.

Printing, &c., 2,250 "Admiralty Books, C. 7"—F. Tarrant & Co., Ltd., 108, Camberwell Rd., S.E.  
 Printing, &c., "The Barrack Book"—J. Truscott & Sons, Ltd., Dowgate Works, Tonbridge.  
 Printing "THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE"—Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.  
 Supplying 3,000 Spring Portfolios, "S. 567"—J. Speller & Co., 61-65, Golden Lane, E.C.  
 Vellum and Account Book Binding for the Post Office—McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., St. Thomas St., S.E., and Wolverton, Bucks.

## STORES, &amp;c.—

Horses and Carts—J. Allen, Royal Mail Parcel Yard, Seward St., E.C.  
 Paper Fasteners—H. Hipkiss & Co., Ltd., Goodman St. Works, Birmingham.

## GENERAL POST OFFICE.

APPARATUS, TELEGRAPHIC—Gell Telegraphic Appliances Syndicate, Ltd., Mildmay Park, N.

## BELL SETS, TELEPHONE, &amp;c.—

British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Liverpool.  
 British L.M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.

## CABLE, I.R. &amp; C.C.—

British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott, Lancs.  
 W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.  
 Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich.  
 Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.

## CABLE, PAPER CORE—

British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott, Lancs.  
 Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs., and Belvedere, Kent.

Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton, Kent.

Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich.

CASTINGS, JOINT BOX—S. Thompson & Co., (Millfields), Ltd., Millfields Works, near Wolverhampton.

## CREOSOTING POLES, &amp;c.—

Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., Newport, Mon.

J. P. Corry & Co., Belfast.

R. Wade, Sons & Co., Ltd., Hull.

FITTINGS, ELECTRIC LIGHT—Wardle Engineering Co., Ltd., Deansgate, Manchester.

INDICATORS, TELEPHONE—British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Liverpool.

PIPES, CAST IRON—Bailey, Pegg & Co., Ltd., Brierley Hill.

SCREWS, BRASS AND IRON—Nettlefold & Sons, Ltd., 54, High Holborn, W.C.

SPINDLES, INSULATOR—Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., London Works, near Birmingham.

## TELEPHONES—

British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Liverpool.  
 British L.M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.  
 Gent & Co., Ltd., Leicester.

Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford.

ELECTRICALLY DRIVEN CENTRIFUGAL PUMPS, MOTORS, &c., at General Post Office (West), London, E.C.—Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., 20, Tothill St., Westminster, S.W.

LOCAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE EQUIPMENT, Rutherglen, Glasgow—British Insulated & Helsby Cables Co., Ltd., Lennox House, Norfolk St., Strand, W.C.

LAYING LINES of cast iron pipes in the Preston Telephone Exchange area, Brighton—Greig & Matthews, 35, Queen Victoria St., E.C.  
 CONVEYANCE OF MAILS between Littlehampton and Cosham—T. Tilling, Ltd., Peckham, S.E.

## METROPOLITAN POLICE.

ERECTION OF A SECTION HOUSE at Blackheath Road, S.E.—

Messrs. Patman & Fotheringham, 15, Park St., Islington, N.

SUPPLY OF COTTON GLOVES—Messrs. F. & E. Ellis, 6, Rutland St., Leicester.

SUPPLY OF WOOLLEN GLOVES—Messrs. R. Anderson & Co., East Wall, Londonderry.

SUPPLY OF MACKINTOSH CAPES, &c.—Messrs. Abbott, Anderson & Abbott, Dod St., Burdett Rd., E.

SUPPLY OF CLOTHING—Messrs. J. Compton & Sons, St. Katherine Dock House, Tower Hill, E.

SUPPLY OF CLOTHING—Messrs. Reynolds & Co., 69, Hatfield St., S.E.

SUPPLY OF SADDLERY—Messrs. Jenkinson & Co., 23, White St., Moorfields, E.C.

## COMMISSIONERS OF WOODS.

NEW COTTAGE AND REPAIRS TO HOUSE AND BUILDINGS at Delamere, Cheshire—T. Shallcross, Ashton, nr. Chester.

## COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS, IRELAND.

## DUBLIN CASTLE—

Additions and Alterations, Vice Regal Lodge, Dublin—

H. & J. Martin, Ltd., Grand Canal St., Dublin.

J. & P. Good, Ltd., 55, Great Brunswick St., Dublin.

## ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY.

BADGES, GOLD EMBROIDERED—Mr. F. W. Hoare, 21, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.

BADGES AND CHEVRONS, GOLD EMBROIDERED—Messrs. Hobson & Sons, 1, Lexington St., W.

FORAGE CAPS—Messrs. Myers & Co., 222-6, Cambridge Rd., N.E.

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