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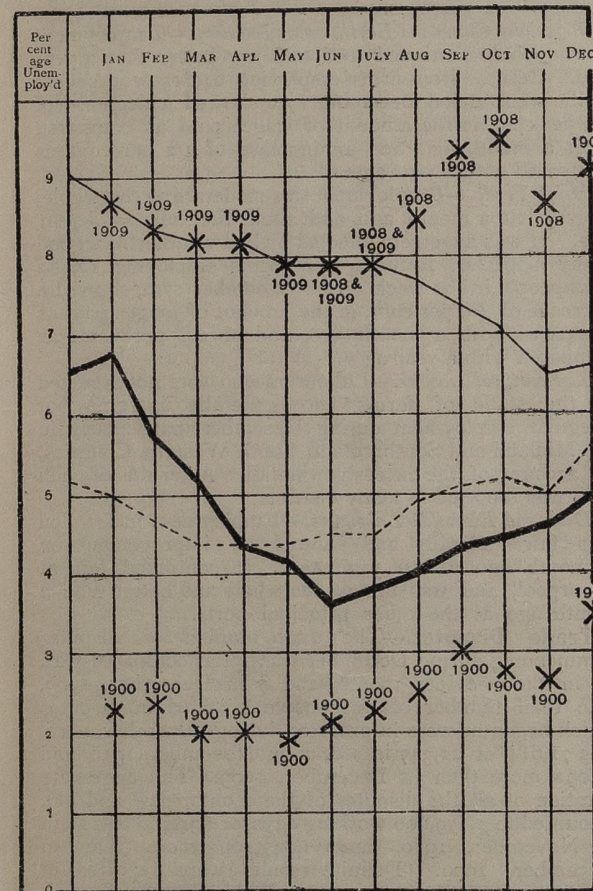
PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF
TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve=1910. — Thin Curve=1909.
..... Dotted Curve=Mean of 1900-1909.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed during the years 1900-1909 with the dates thereof.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Labour Department by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked-out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. For December, 1910, the general and branch Returns of Unions related to 700,665 members in the following trades:—

Building	55,885	Paper, Printing & Book-binding	60,940
Coal Mining	146,922	Woodworking and Furnishing	34,228
Engineering	165,218	Miscellaneous	17,772
Shipbuilding	57,878		
Other Metal Trades	43,104		
Textiles	118,718		
		Total	700,665

STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN DECEMBER.

[In addition to the 2,874 Employment Returns from Trade Unions used for the Chart, 4,360 were received from employers relating to 1,159,650 workpeople employed in coal and iron mining, the cotton, woollen, worsted and other textile trades, the building trades, the boot and shoe and other clothing trades, and the paper and glass trades. Besides these 7,234 statistical returns, a large number of returns of a non-statistical character were received from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, Local Correspondents, and other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in December was, on the whole, about the same as in November. There was a marked improvement in the shipbuilding industry following on the termination of the Boilermakers' dispute, and the iron and steel trades were also favourably affected. On the other hand, there was a seasonal decline in the building, furnishing, and some of the clothing trades. The printing trade showed a considerable decline in the latter part of the month. In the engineering and some other industries employment was affected by the usual holiday suspensions.

As compared with a year ago an improvement was shown in most of the principal industries except coal mining, in which there was little change.

In the 415 Trade Unions with a net membership of 700,665 making returns, 34,834 (or 5.0 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of December, 1910, compared with 4.6 per cent. at the end of November, 1910, and 6.6 per cent. at the end of December, 1909.

Coal Mining.—Employment in this industry was good during the four weeks ended December 17th. It showed an improvement as compared with a month ago, and was about the same as a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment continued good and was about the same as a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment during December was fair and better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters employing 23,100 workpeople showed 309 furnaces in blast at the end of December, 1910, compared with the same number in November, 1910, and 300 in December, 1909.

Iron and Steel Works.—Employment at iron and steel works showed an improvement as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. According to returns covering 90,800 workpeople, the volume of employment (*i.e.*, number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended December 17th, 1910, showed an increase of 4.5 per cent. on a month ago, and of 5.9 per cent. on a year ago.

Tinplate and Steel Sheet Manufacture.—Employment continued very good and was better than a year ago. The number of tinplate and steel sheet mills working at the end of December, 1910, was 513 as compared with 506 a month ago and 471 a year ago.

Engineering Trades.—Employment continued fair on the whole. It was rather better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 165,218 reported 5.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, as compared with the same percentage a month ago and 9.8 per cent. a year ago.

The comparison with a month ago is affected by the usual Christmas holiday suspensions.

Shipbuilding.—Employment during the early part of the month continued to be adversely affected by the dispute in this industry. An improvement, however, set in at the termination of the dispute about the middle of the month and employment at the end of December, 1910, was better than at the end of December, 1909. Trade Unions with a membership of 57,878 reported 12.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, 1910, compared with 22.1 per cent. a month ago, and 16.9 per cent. a year ago.

Cotton Trade.—Employment in the spinning and weaving departments somewhat improved: it was much better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 131,037 workpeople in the week ended December 17th, 1910, showed an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 14.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Woollen Trade.—Employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 29,260 workpeople in the week ended December 17th, showed a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 6.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Worsted Trade.—Employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 45,955 workpeople in the week ended December 17th, showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Linen Trade.—Employment continued good, and was about the same as a year ago. Returns from firms employing 51,824 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.2 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Jute Trade.—Employment was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 18,261 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed a decrease in the amount of wages paid of 1.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 1.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Lace Trade.—Employment continued moderate and was not so good as a year ago, the levers branch showing a marked decline. Returns from firms employing 7,703 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 5.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment was good, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 19,558 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed a decrease of 2.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Silk Trade.—Employment was fairly good; it showed a slight decline compared with a month ago, but was much better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,877 workpeople in the week ended December 17th, 1910, showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 8.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Tailoring Trade.—Employment in the bespoke branch in London showed the usual seasonal decline compared with a month ago, and was not quite so good as a year ago; in the provinces it was quiet. In the ready-made branch it continued fair, and showed little change compared with a year ago.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment showed little change compared with a month ago and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 62,570 workpeople in the week ended December 17th, showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid on a month ago, and of 2.3 per cent. on a year ago.

Other Leather Trades.—Employment was moderate and rather worse than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,131 reported 5.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, compared with 5.2 per cent. a month ago and 5.5 a year ago.

Paper-making Trades.—Employment continued good, and was better than a year ago.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment was good in the first part of the month, when there was much overtime on Election and Christmas work; there was however a considerable increase in the number unemployed at the end of December, compared with November. Compared with a year ago employment was somewhat worse in the printing trades, and rather better in the book-binding trades. Trade Unions in the printing trades with a membership of 52,169 reported 5.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, compared with 2.2 per cent. a month ago and 4.2 per cent. a year ago. In the bookbinding trades the corresponding percentages were 3.6, 1.9, and 3.8.

Building Trades.—Employment continued slack and showed a decline as compared with a month ago. It was rather better than a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment on the whole continued moderate; it was rather worse than a month ago, and better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 34,228 reported 6.8 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 5.7 per cent. a month ago, and 9.0 per cent. a year ago.

Glass Trades.—Employment continued fair on the whole, better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,218 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed an increase of 3.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 12.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Porcelain, China and Earthenware Industry.—Employment on the whole continued good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 21,815 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4.2 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Brick Trade.—Employment was moderate on the whole, worse than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. It was adversely affected by bad weather in a good many districts. Returns from firms employing 12,482 workpeople in the week ended December 17th, showed a decrease of 4.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 0.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Agricultural Labour.—Labourers who were not attached to the staffs of farms were generally in somewhat irregular employment during December, particularly in the Midland and Southern and South Western Counties, on account of the excessive rainfall. A surplus of such men was reported in many districts.

Dock and Riverside Labourers.—Employment in London was fair generally and showed an improvement on a month ago and a year ago. It continued fair at Liverpool, and was fair on the whole and better than a month ago at the other principal ports.

Trade Disputes.—The total number of disputes commencing during December was 16, as compared with 35 in the previous month, and 8 in December, 1909. The total number of workpeople involved in disputes which began or were in progress during December, 1910, was 71,614, or 21,347 less than in November, 1910, and 63,092 more than in December, 1909. The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 1,179,000 working days, or 634,400 less than in November, 1910, and 1,047,100 more than in December, 1909. Definite results were reported in the case of 18 disputes, new and old directly affecting 31,212 workpeople, of these 18 disputes, 4 were settled in favour of the workpeople, 4 in favour of the employers, and 10 were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes taking effect in December, 1910, affected nearly 345,000 workpeople, all of whom received increases. Included in this number were 125,000 coal miners in Durham and 190,000 in South Wales and Mon., and 20,000 workpeople in engineering works on the North-East Coast. The computed effect of the changes was an increase of £6,800 per week,

EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, PRICES AND DISPUTES IN 1910.

Employment.

The general decline in employment which commenced about the middle of 1907 continued throughout the whole of 1908. A slight but continuous improvement characterised nearly the whole of 1909, but the upward movement did not commence to be considerable until the early months of 1910, since when employment has, on the whole, been fairly good.

The shipbuilding industry, which in the first half of the year showed a marked improvement, was adversely affected from September to December by the boiler-makers' dispute, and the percentage of unemployed trade unionists in that trade, which had fallen to 7.6 at the end of June, 1910, rose to 22.1 per cent. at the end of November. The dispute terminated at the beginning of December, and at the end of that month the proportion unemployed had fallen to 12.2 per cent. The dispute in this industry is reflected in the tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in the last quarter of the year, which showed a decrease of over 22,000 tons compared with the amount under construction in the previous quarter. The tonnage under construction in the last quarter of 1910 was, however, 218,000 tons in excess of the amount in the last quarter of 1909.

The high price of cotton, which began to be very marked about the middle of 1909, continued throughout the whole of 1910, and organized short time in mills spinning American cotton, which commenced in July, 1909, was continued down to the end of April, 1910. Although not organized, there was a considerable amount of short time during the succeeding six months in mills spinning American and other kinds of cotton, which was accompanied by slackness in all weaving sheds. In September also employment in the spinning branch was interrupted by a dispute affecting 100,000 workpeople and lasting one week. In November employment began to show signs of improvement, which became more marked at the end of the year.

In the coal mining industry employment has been fairly good throughout the whole of the year, and the average weekly number of days worked by the pits (5.19) was equal to the mean of the ten years 1901-1910, though less by about one-third of a day than in 1907, in which year the average number of days worked per week (5.51) was the highest recorded since the first collection of the statistics in 1894.

Employment in the pig iron industry was fair on the whole and the average number of furnaces in blast showed an increase of rather more than 6 per cent. on the average for 1909. The iron and steel trade improved slowly throughout the year and although adversely affected by the dispute in the shipbuilding industry employment at the end of the year showed an improvement of nearly 6 per cent. as compared with December, 1909. The tinplate industry was exceptionally busy throughout the year and the average number of mills in operation (489) in 1910 was the highest recorded.

Employment in the engineering trades was fairly good and showed a marked improvement compared with 1908 and 1909, although the lock-out in the shipbuilding industry had an adverse effect in the latter months of the year. The mean percentage unemployed was 5.8, which compares with 10.3 in 1908 and 11.6 in 1909.

In the woollen and worsted, carpet, hosiery and linen trades employment was good throughout the year, overtime and nightwork being frequent in the woollen industry. In the boot and shoe, printing and bookbinding, china and earthenware, and silk industries employment was fairly good and better than in 1909. In the furnishing and wood-working, glass, jute and lace trades and in most of the clothing trades it was fair on the whole. The building trades continued slack and though the proportion of trade unionists out of work showed some decline employment in this industry remained depressed. In the brick trade employment was only moderate though better than in 1909.

Returns relating to 700,000 members of Trade Unions show that the mean of the percentages of members

returned as unemployed at the end of each month of 1910 was 4.7 as compared with 7.7 in 1909, 7.8 in 1908, 3.7 in 1907, and 3.6 in 1906. The fluctuations in the percentages of unemployed in the period 1900-1910 are shown below:—

1900	2.5	1906	3.6
1901	3.3	1907	3.7
1902	4.0	1908	7.8
1903	4.7	1909	7.7
1904	6.0	1910	4.7
1905	5.0		

The following Table shows the percentages unemployed at the end of each month in the years 1906-1910, with the increases or decreases in 1910 as compared with the four previous years:—

	Percentage unemployed at end of each month in					Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1910 as compared with			
	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1909	1908	1907	1906
January	6.8	8.7	5.8	3.9	4.3	-1.9	+1.0	+2.9	+2.5
February	5.7	8.4	6.0	3.5	4.1	-2.7	-0.3	+2.2	+1.6
March	5.2	8.2	6.4	3.2	3.4	-3.0	-1.2	+2.0	+1.8
April	4.4	8.2	7.1	2.8	3.2	-3.8	-2.7	+1.6	+1.2
May	4.2	7.9	7.4	3.0	3.1	-3.7	-3.2	+1.2	+1.1
June	3.7	7.9	7.9	3.1	3.2	-4.2	-4.2	+0.6	+0.5
July	3.8	7.9	7.9	3.2	3.1	-4.1	-4.1	+0.6	+0.7
August	4.0	7.7	8.5	3.6	3.3	-3.7	-4.5	+0.4	+0.2
September	4.3	7.4	9.3	4.1	3.3	-3.1	-5.0	+0.2	+1.0
October	4.4	7.1	9.5	4.2	3.9	-2.7	-5.1	+0.2	+0.5
November	4.6	6.5	8.7	4.5	4.0	-1.9	-4.1	+0.1	+0.6
December	5.0	6.6	9.1	5.6	4.4	-1.6	-4.1	-0.6	+0.6
Mean	4.7	7.7	7.8	3.7	3.6	-3.0	-3.1	+1.0	+1.1

Changes in Rates of Wages.*

The downward movement in wages which commenced in 1908, and continued during the greater part of 1909, was checked towards the end of the latter year, and early in 1910 gave place to a slight upward tendency which was, on the whole, maintained during the remainder of that year.

The net effect of all the changes reported to the Department as taking effect in 1910 was an increase of £13,891 per week in the wages of 534,119 workpeople. Of these, 381,244 received a net increase amounting to £15,761 per week, and 132,456 sustained a net decrease of £1,870 per week. The remaining 20,419 workpeople had upward and downward changes which left their wages at the same level at the end as at the beginning of the year.*

The number of workpeople affected by changes reported to the Department, and the net results on their weekly wages, are classified by trades in the following Table:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Workpeople whose rates of wages were changed in		Net Amount of Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the Weekly Wages of those affected as compared with the preceding year.	
	1909.	1910.†	1909.	1910.†
Building	12,090	4,533	£ 713	+ £ 337
Coal Mining	859,870	378,786	- 56,150	+ 5,554
Iron, &c., Mining	9,521	10,207	- 236	+ 470
Quarrying	3,123	5,806	+ 147	+ 289
Pig Iron Manufacture	14,381	16,270	- 241	+ 514
Iron and Steel Manufacture	26,774	27,308	- 1,223	+ 1,339
Engineering and Shipbuilding	48,972	59,027	- 2,487	+ 2,573
Other Metal Trades	3,357	117	- 368	+ 11
Textile Trades	156,200	23,467	- 8,020	+ 1,769
Clothing Trades	1,479	2,578	+ 140	+ 136
Printing, &c., Trades	1,136	2,919	+ 70	+ 266
Glass, &c., Trades	96	496	- 75	+ 38
Other Trades	2,929	5,683	- 28	+ 619
Employees of Local Authorities	974	922	+ 71	+ 36
Total	1,151,762	534,119	- 69,120	+ 13,891

The changes in 1910 as compared with those of 1909 resulted in a net increase in every group of trades. The total number of workpeople affected in 1910, however, was less than half the number affected in 1909. As in 1909, the changes in the coal mining industry accounted for a large proportion of the total number of workpeople affected and also of the total amount of the changes.

The years 1908 and 1909 were years of falling wages, *The changes taken into account are changes in rates of wages only and not changes in earnings due to fluctuations in the total amount of employment available or to altered conditions of work. The figures are exclusive of changes in the rates of wages of agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and government employees. It is also probable that a certain number of changes, especially in the less well organized trades, are not reported to the Department. † The figures for 1910 are preliminary and subject to revision.

and they were preceded by two years of rising wages. Previous to this there had been two five year periods, (1901-1905, and 1896-1900) of falling and rising wages respectively. The figures for each of the above years are shown in the next Table:—

Year.	No. of Workpeople reported as affected by Changes in Rates of Wages.	Computed Amount of change in Weekly Wages as compared with each preceding year.	
		Net increase per week.	Net Decrease per week.
1896	598,865	26,152	—
1897	582,333	30,494	—
1898	1,010,057	80,572	—
1899	1,105,478	89,816	—
1900	1,110,031	206,772	—
1901	907,199	—	77,902
1902	883,191	—	72,865
1903	892,922	—	38,557
1904	799,759	—	39,278
1905	664,777	—	4,087
1906	1,095,601	56,728	—
1907	1,244,739	200,820	—
1908	909,538	—	61,683
1909	1,151,762	—	69,120
1910*	554,119	13,891	—
Total for Fifteen Years (1896-1910)*	†	705,245	363,492

Over the whole period, 1896-1910, the aggregate of the net increases exceeds that of the net decreases by £341,753 per week.

Changes in Hours of Labour.

The changes in weekly hours of labour taking effect in 1910, affected 21,409 workpeople. Of these, 3,068 had their aggregate working time increased by 5,414 hours per week, and 18,341 had reductions amounting to 43,393 hours per week.

Wholesale Prices.

The general level of wholesale prices as measured by the Board of Trade Index Number, which is based chiefly on import and export average values, showed in 1910 a rise of 4.6 per cent. compared with 1909 and was higher than in any year since 1884.

There was a decline of 7.8 per cent. in the index number for the group of cereals, &c., but a rise in the index number for each of the other groups, viz., coal and metals, raw materials of textiles, meat, &c., sugar and other dutiable articles, and other raw materials. The rise was greatest in the case of textiles, the index number for which rose from 112.4 to 136.1 or 21 per cent.

The Table below gives the Index numbers indicating the general rise or fall in wholesale prices during the period 1871-1909, each year of the period being compared with 1900 which is taken as the base year.

1900 = 100.0.

Year.	Index No.	Year.	Index No.	Year.	Index No.
1871	135.0	1885	107.7	1899	92.3
1872	145.8	1886	101.6	1900	100.0
1873	152.7	1887	99.6	1901	96.9
1874	148.1	1888	102.7	1902	96.5
1875	141.4	1889	104.0	1903	95.9
1876	138.0	1890	104.0	1904	98.3
1877	141.6	1891	107.4	1905	97.6
1878	132.6	1892	101.8	1906	100.5
1879	126.6	1893	100.0	1907	105.7
1880	129.6	1894	94.2	1908	102.8
1881	127.3	1895	97.0	1909	104.0
1882	128.4	1896	88.2	1910*	108.8
1883	126.8	1897	90.1		
1884	114.7	1898	93.2		

Compared with 1909, there was an increase more or less considerable in the prices of 27 of the 45 articles included in the Index Number, and a decline in the price of 17 articles: the remaining article (bricks) showed no change. The greatest proportionate increases were in the prices of caoutchouc (rubber) (47.4 per cent.), linseed (36.9 per cent.), hops (31.9 per cent.), raw cotton (31.7 per cent.), palm oil (23.0 per cent.), British wool (18.1 per cent.), sugar (16.3 per cent.), bacon (16.2 per cent.), and tin (15.1 per cent.). The large rise in the price of caoutchouc followed on a rise nearly as considerable in 1909, and the average import value per lb. in 1910 was more than double that in 1908; there has, however, been a large decline from the phenomenally high prices in the period March to July. Although the average price of sugar

* The figures for 1910 are preliminary and subject to revision.
† It will be understood that although the same workpeople are counted only once in each year many of them appear in several years, and therefore no total can be made for the fifteen years (1896-1910).

during 1910 showed a considerable increase as compared with 1909, there was a substantial fall during the last three months, and at the end of the year the price was about 10 per cent. lower than at the end of 1909.

The principal articles showing a decline in price were British wheat (14.0 per cent.), British barley (14.3 per cent.), foreign barley (11.0 per cent.) and foreign wheat (9.3 per cent.). Maize declined 9.7 per cent. and rum 16.4 per cent.

The average level of wholesale prices of food and drink (including tobacco) in 1910 showed an increase of less than one-half per cent. compared with 1909. As compared with 1900, however, the general level of prices of these articles showed an advance of rather more than 9 per cent.

Retail Prices.

The retail prices of food in 1910 showed, on the whole, an advance of about 1½ per cent. compared with prices obtaining in 1908 and in 1909, and of about 4 per cent. compared with 1907. As compared with 1900 retail prices showed an advance of nearly 10 per cent. The Index Number constructed on the weighted retail prices in London of 23 of the principal articles of food was as follows for the years 1895-1910.

1900 = 100.0.

Year.	Index No.	Year.	Index No.
1895	93.2	1903	103.2
1896	92.0	1904	104.3
1897	96.2	1905	103.7
1898	100.8	1906	103.2
1899	96.4	1907	105.8
1900	100.0	1908	108.4
1901	101.9	1909	108.2
1902	101.6	1910	109.9

Compared with 1909 the principal articles which advanced in price in 1910 were currants (26.4 per cent.), sugar (14.8 per cent.), bacon (10.1 per cent.), tapioca (5.8 per cent.), raisins (5.6 per cent.), pork (5.3 per cent.), and beef (5.2 per cent.). Towards the latter part of the year, however, there was a fall in the prices of sugar, bacon and beef, and the prices of sugar and bacon in December were lower than in any previous month of the year. The principal articles showing a decline in price were bread (4.3 per cent.), flour (8.2 per cent.), and cocoa (3.8 per cent.).

According to the particulars obtained monthly as to the price of bread in London and 25 of the principal towns of the United Kingdom, there was in 1910 an average fall of 4 per cent. in the price as compared with 1909. At the end of December, 1910, the price was lower than in December, 1909 at 20 of the towns; in the remaining towns there was no change. Returns received from Co-operative Societies show that the average price in December, 1910, was 5 per cent. lower than in December, 1909.

Trade Disputes.

The number of trade disputes causing a stoppage of work which began in 1910 was 506, involving directly and indirectly 508,538 workpeople. In addition, 26 disputes which began in 1909 extended into the following year. The aggregate duration of all the disputes in progress during the year amounted to nearly 9½ million working days. Although the number of stoppages in 1910 was not greatly in excess of the average of the ten previous years, the number of workpeople involved therein was the highest recorded since 1893, the year of the great dispute in the coal mining industry in the Federated Districts. The aggregate duration of all the disputes in progress during the year was considerably more than double the average of the ten previous years, and has been exceeded on four occasions during the last eighteen years. The high figures for 1910 are due to (1) the coal mining disputes in Northumberland and Durham in the early part of the year, arising out of the effects of the putting into operation of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908; these involved 115,000 workpeople and caused a loss of over 2½ million working days; (2) the dispute in the cotton trade which lasted a week in September and involved over 100,000 workpeople; (3) the dispute in the principal centres of the shipbuilding industry in Great Britain, which involved over 35,000 workpeople

and caused a loss of over 2½ million working days; and (4) disputes involving large numbers of coal miners in South Wales, some of which have not yet been settled. About three-fourths of the total amount of working time lost through disputes in 1910 were due to these large disputes, which also accounted for rather more than half of the workpeople involved in disputes during the year.

The following Table summarises by trades, the number of disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in working days for the years 1909 and 1910 respectively:—

Groups of Trades.	1909.			1910.*		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
Building ...	15	1,592	19,360	18	866	33,900
Coal Mining ...	195	270,259	2,168,508	201	295,552	5,459,400
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	12	2,495	60,979	10	1,429	52,100
Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	40	4,312	45,664	66	45,469	2,941,600
Other Metal Trades ...	22	5,412	134,025	28	6,830	80,400
Textile ...	56	6,795	177,912	86	131,162	939,300
Clothing ...	29	2,578	19,473	36	4,346	56,200
Transport ...	19	4,874	94,697	19	17,976	51,300
Other Trades ...	48	2,502	53,368	42	4,918	108,600
Total ...	436	300,819	2,773,986	506	508,538	9,722,800

The coal mining industry was responsible in 1910 for the greatest number of disputes recorded, the highest number of workpeople involved and the largest aggregate duration. Next in importance as regards aggregate duration come the engineering and shipbuilding trades; 97 per cent. of the total duration for these trades is due to the great dispute in the shipbuilding industry already referred to. As regards numbers involved the textile trades hold second place, but owing to the shortness of the general dispute in the cotton trade in September, the aggregate duration is relatively small. The figures for the clothing trades show an increase in all respects, while in the transport trades there was a great increase in the numbers involved, which was accompanied, however, by a considerable reduction in the aggregate duration. As in other recent years, the figures for the building trades were very low and quite insignificant when compared with the number of workpeople engaged in the industry.

A comparison of 1910 with the ten previous years is made in the following Table:—

Year.	No. of Disputes beginning in each year.	Total No. of Workpeople involved in Disputes beginning in each year.	Aggregate Duration in working days of all Disputes in progress in each year.
1900	648	188,538	3,152,694
1901	641	179,546	4,742,287
1902	442	256,667	3,479,255
1903	387	116,901	2,338,668
1904	355	87,208	1,484,220
1905	358	93,503	2,470,189
1906	386	217,773	3,028,816
1907	601	147,498	2,162,151
1908	399	295,507	10,844,189
1909	436	300,819	2,773,986
Average for 10 years	475	188,396	3,586,646
1910*	506	508,538	9,722,800

The number of workpeople involved in disputes in 1910 amounts to about 5 per cent. of the total industrial population of the United Kingdom, excluding agricultural labourers and seamen, and the amount of time lost by disputes in 1910 would be nearly one working day per head of the same industrial population.

RECENT CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Iron Miners, Cleveland.

The Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, the umpire appointed by the Board of Trade to deal with this case (see BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, November, 1910, p. 367) issued his award on December 19th. Under Sir David Harrel's award, about 1,060 workpeople receive advances varying from 1d. to 3d. net per shift. The rates of the remaining 170 workpeople are left unchanged, but the

* The figures for 1910 are preliminary and subject to revision.

Joint Committee of Owners and Men is to consider the position of certain classes, covering about 120 workpeople.

Quay Labourers, Londonderry.

Differences having arisen affecting men engaged in loading and discharging vessels at Londonderry, the Board of Trade, on January 2nd, on the joint application of the parties involved, appointed Sir David Harrel to act as chairman of a Court of Arbitration, and, in accordance with the wishes of the parties, appointed Mr. J. Brice Mullin, D.L., and Mr. J. R. Hastings, J.P., to act as arbitrators.

The terms of reference to the court included six points:—

(1) Wearing of badges; (2) Hours of starting work; (3) Meal hours; (4) Number of bagged goods to constitute a sling; (5) Wages and overtime; (6) Wages for Sundays and holidays.

During the hearing, the parties mutually agreed regarding all the points in dispute excepting wages and overtime. The Court increased the rates of wages from 4s. to 4s. 3d. per day in the case of men regularly employed, and from 5d. to 5½d. per hour in the case of "spellsmen." The method of payment for overtime was readjusted.

The award, in which the points mutually agreed on between the parties were embodied, is to remain in force for three years, and to continue in force thereafter from year to year, subject to three months' notice on either side.

Boot and Shoe Operatives, Northampton.

The Board of Trade on December 16th, on a joint application of the parties, appointed Alderman T. Smith, J.P., to decide certain questions arising out of the quantities statement for clickers at Northampton, upon which the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Northampton and its arbitrators were unable to agree.

Millmen, etc., Port Talbot.

His Honour Judge Austin, the umpire appointed by the Board of Trade (see BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, November, 1910, p. 367), in connection with a claim for a revision of wages made by the British Steel Smelters, Mill, Iron and Tinplate Workers' Association on behalf of certain of their members employed as millmen, etc., in the plate mills at the Port Talbot Steel Works, issued his award on December 19th, fixing the day and tonnage rates to be paid.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN LABOUR EXCHANGES AND LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITIES.

The following Memorandum by the Board of Trade and the Board of Education with regard to co-operation between Labour Exchanges and Local Education Authorities exercising their Powers under the Education (Choice of Employment) Act, 1910, has been issued:—

1. We have had under consideration (a) the Education (Choice of Employment) Act, 1910, and (b) the Special Rules with regard to Registration of Juvenile Applicants in England and Wales made on the 7th February, 1910, by the Board of Trade, after consultation with the Board of Education, under the Labour Exchanges Act, 1909, and printed as an Appendix* to the present Memorandum. Under the new Act the Councils of Counties and County Boroughs, as Local Education Authorities, are empowered to make arrangements, subject to the approval of the Board of Education, for giving to boys and girls under 17 years of age assistance with respect to the choice of suitable employment, by means of the collection and the communication of information and the furnishing of advice. In the Special Rules of the Board of Trade two alternative methods are indicated by which information, advice, and assistance with respect to the choice of employment and other matters bearing thereon can be given to boys and girls and their parents in connection with the working of Labour Exchanges. Paragraphs 2 to 5 of

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1910, p. 40.

the Rules make provision for the establishment by the Board of Trade of Special Advisory Committees for Juvenile Employment, which may, as one of their functions, take steps to give such information, advice, and assistance, but without any responsibility with regard thereto being undertaken by the Board of Trade or the officers in charge of Labour Exchanges. Paragraph 6 of the Special Rules contemplates the case of a Local Education Authority which has and desires to exercise statutory powers for the purposes of giving information, advice, and assistance, and provides that, where such powers are exercised in accordance with a satisfactory scheme, the registration of juvenile applicants for employment shall not be conducted by the Labour Exchange except in accordance with the scheme, and that the Board of Trade may dispense with the services of a Special Advisory Committee so far as the area of the Authority is concerned. The enactment of the Education (Choice of Employment) Act, 1910, renders it possible for the procedure contemplated by paragraph 6 of the Special Rules to be brought into operation.

2. We are of opinion that the employment of juveniles should be primarily considered from the point of view of their educational interests and permanent careers rather than from that of their immediate earning capacities, and accordingly we urge upon Local Education Authorities the desirability of undertaking, in accordance with the principles set out in the present Memorandum, the responsibilities offered to them by the new Act. We consider that it is of importance that these responsibilities should be exercised in the fullest co-operation with the national system of Labour Exchanges established under the Labour Exchanges Act, 1909, and the Board of Education will, therefore, before approving any proposals from Local Education Authorities for the exercise of their new powers, require adequate provision to be made for such co-operation. Where a satisfactory scheme has been brought into force by a Local Education Authority, paragraph 6 of the Special Rules will operate, and the Board of Trade will be prepared to recognise a Committee of the Authority as charged with the duty of giving advice with regard to the management of the Labour Exchange for its area in relation to juvenile applicants for employment. There are certain areas in which, pending the passing of the Act, the Board of Trade have already established, or have definitely undertaken to establish, Special Advisory Committees under paragraphs 2 to 5 of the Special Rules, and we presume that the Local Education Authorities for these areas will desire to continue the arrangements already made, at least until some further experience has been gained, and will consequently defer the exercise of their powers under the Act. So far as other areas are concerned, the Board of Trade do not propose to take any steps for the establishment of Special Advisory Committees until after the 31st December, 1911, except in the event of the Local Education Authority passing a formal resolution to the effect that they do not propose to exercise their powers under the Choice of Employment Act.

3. We recognise that the methods to be adopted by Authorities in working the Act must necessarily be subject to considerable variations in accordance with local conditions, and will, in particular, be affected by the distribution of the Labour Exchanges, the districts of which are not necessarily co-terminous with the areas of Authorities. We think, however, that in normal cases some such arrangements as are indicated in the following paragraphs are likely to be found effective in practice, and may be expected to ensure a reasonable distribution and correlation of functions between the Authorities and the Labour Exchanges.

4. The work to be undertaken by public bodies in giving assistance in the choice of employment for juveniles may be regarded as having two branches. In the first place there is the task of giving such advice to boys and girls and their parents as will induce them to extend where possible the period of education, and to select, when employment becomes necessary, occupations which are suited to the individual capacities of the children, and, by preference, those which afford prospects

not merely of immediate wages but also of useful training and permanent employment. In the second place, there is the practical task of registering the actual applications for employment and bringing the applicants into touch with employers who have notified vacancies of the kind desired.

5. In any scheme of co-operation put forward under the new Act the first of these two tasks, that of giving advice, should, we think, be assigned to the Local Education Authority, with the assistance of such information as to the conditions and prospects of particular kinds of employment as can be furnished by the Board of Trade through the Labour Exchanges. We think that the Authority should act through a special Sub-Committee, which may, perhaps, also be the Sub-Committee charged with the supervision of Continuation and Technical Schools, and which should also include an adequate number of members possessing experience or knowledge of industrial as well as of educational conditions. In its detailed working which should include the keeping in touch with boys and girls after as well as before employment has been found for them, such a Sub-Committee will, we trust, utilise to the full the services not only of teachers and of school attendance officers, but also of voluntary workers, whose activities may here find one of their most valuable educational spheres; but the work will be of a kind which depends largely upon skilled and effective organisation, and it will probably be found desirable, as a rule, to put at the disposal of the Sub-Committee an Executive Officer, who will act as its secretary, and maintain the daily contact between the Authority, the voluntary workers, and the Labour Exchange.

6. As regards the second of these two tasks, namely, the registration of applications for employment, and the selection of applicants to fill vacancies notified by employers, there is need for co-operation between the Education Authority and the Labour Exchange, and direct relations should be established between the Sub-Committee or officer of the Authority and the officer in charge of the Juvenile Department of the Labour Exchange. For this purpose it will probably be found convenient for the two officers to be located in the same or contiguous buildings. At present a good deal of the work done in connection with the employment of children is done at the Elementary and other schools at which the children are in attendance, and no doubt this will continue to be the case, at any rate so far as the giving of advice is concerned, but we desire to point out that the notification of applications for employment to a Central Office will increase the range of vacancies open to any one applicant, and will therefore advance the fundamental object of placing each applicant in the employment which best suits him, and to which he is best suited. We contemplate therefore that applications for employment from children still at school will continue to be received and entered upon the necessary cards by their teacher, but that the cards will then, generally speaking, be forwarded by him to the Authority's officer. The applications from boys and girls who have left school can, we think, most conveniently be registered by the officer of the Labour Exchange, but arrangements should be made to admit of such applicants being interviewed by the Authority's officer either at the time of registration or as soon as possible after, as it is desirable that they should be fully advised before vacancies for employment are brought to their notice. All applications received in either of the ways indicated should at once be made available either in original or in copies for the use both of the Education Authority and of the Labour Exchange. Notifications of vacancies for employment should be made to the officer of the Labour Exchange, who will furnish the Authority's officer with information as to each vacancy for which he proposes to submit a boy or girl, and with the name of any boy or girl whom he proposes to submit for it. Information passing between the Authority and the Labour Exchange will naturally be held to be strictly for the purposes of their co-operation. We anticipate that in ordinary cases the question whether a particular vacancy is suitable for a particular boy or girl will give rise to no difference of opinion

between the two officers. It will, however, probably be necessary to provide for the possibility of a difference of opinion. We think, therefore, that as a rule the decision should rest with the Authority's representative as regards any child who is still in attendance at an elementary or other day school or has not left the day school more than six months previously, and that as regards applicants who have passed this limit, the decision should rest with the officer of the Labour Exchange, who will however consult the Authority's representative in all cases in which this is practicable, and will in all cases inform him as to the manner in which each vacancy is ultimately filled.

7. Should any scheme be submitted for the approval of the Board of Education under the Act in which it is proposed to vary these limits or otherwise to depart materially from the scheme of co-operation outlined in this memorandum, it should be accompanied by a full statement of the special reasons urged by the Local Education Authority in support of the proposed variation. The special circumstances of the case will then be considered jointly by the two Departments.

(Signed) SYDNEY BUXTON,
President of the Board of Trade.
3rd January, 1911.
(Signed) WALTER RUNCIMAN,
President of the Board of Education.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES IN CONNECTION WITH BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES.

THE Board of Trade, under the powers conferred on them by section 2 (5) of the Labour Exchanges Act, have appointed Advisory Trade Committees for Labour Exchanges in the East Midlands area, in the Liverpool district, in the East Lancashire and Cheshire area, in the Yorkshire Division (West Riding, Northern Section and Southern Section), and in the South Wales Division.

The following are the members of the Committees:—
EAST MIDLANDS AREA.

Representing Employers.—Messrs. F. Beck, W. Wright Bemrose, J.P., Charles Bennion, J.P., W. H. Carey, James H. C. Crockett, Alfred William Farnsworth, Henry Fowler, J. Mentor Gimson, Duncan Henderson, Robert Hudson, J.P., Frank Moore, G. H. Perry, junr., John M. C. Paton, William Saunders, James Wright, and W. Eaton Walker.

Representing Workpeople.—Messrs. Charles Bunfield, H. Entwistle, Alfred V. Guy, William E. Harvey, M.P., W. Hartshorn, T. Hawley, Thomas Hickle, O. C. Johnson, Isaac Lester, A. Morris, E. L. Poulton, George M. Sadler, H. Sharpe, D. Stanton, J.P., C. Wardle, and Walter Williams.

The first meeting of the Committee was held at Nottingham on January 5th.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.

Representing Employers.—Messrs. Restel Ratsey Bevis, Johan F. Caroe, Richard Arthur Costain, F. R. Dixon-Nuttall, George James Findlay, John A. M. Gardner, Richard Methuen Greaves, D.L., T. F. Harrison, George F. Higgins, Holman Kingdon, John William P. Laird, Oswald Lofthouse, Henry Nelson, Charles Ratcliffe, Charles A. Still, and another yet to be appointed.

Representing Workpeople.—Mrs. A. Billinge, Councillor James Bridges, J.P., Messrs. Thomas Ditchfield, Joseph Edgington, William Egan, John Francis, John Haley, Edward Hughes, Thomas Jeffers, J.P., R. T. Jones, George Nelson, George Parkin, George F. Robson, Councillor James Sexton, J.P., Messrs. F. Smith, and Joseph Summersgill.

The first meeting of the Committee will be held at Liverpool on January 19th.

EAST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Representing Employers.—Messrs. J. E. S. Allen, Gustav Behrens, Claude H. Blair, J.P., J. Dodd, F. G. Goodbehere, Wilkinson Hartley, G. C. Mandelberg, L. F. Massey, T. Roberts, Alderman W. T. Rothwell, Messrs. J. Smethurst, S. Smethurst, J.P., W. T. Stubbs, and F. Woods.

Representing Workpeople.—Messrs. S. Blackledge, E. Byrne, J.P., F. Chandler, J.P., J. Cross, Mrs. Sarah Dickenson, Messrs. E. Donohoe, T. Fox, J. Grundy, Councillor T. Higginson, Messrs. W. Marsland, William

Mullin, J.P., W. C. Robinson, H. Skinner, and J. E. Tattersall.

The first meeting of the Committee will be held at Manchester on January 18th.

WEST RIDING (NORTHERN SECTION), YORKSHIRE DIVISION.

Representing Employers.—Messrs. J. H. L. Baldwin, J.P., Phillip Burt, W. Crowther, J.P., David Fox, Roslyn Holiday, J. Henry Kaye, J.P., A. E. Learoyd, Lewis Lee, John MacLaren, A. W. Midgley, J. Peate, Paul Rhodes, J. H. Robinson, J.P., E. H. Sellers, and T. Whiteley.

Representing Workpeople.—Messrs. F. F. Boaler, J. Bradbury, J. Buckle, J. P., O. Connellan, F. Firth, Alderman Allen Gee, J.P., Councillor C. A. Glyde, W. T. Newlove, J. Nolan, Alfred Shaw, J. E. Smith, A. T. Sutton, Councillor B. Turner, J.P., Councillor J. Wilkinson, and W. A. Wilson.

The first meeting of the Committee was held at Leeds on January 11th. Councillor B. Turner, J.P., was unanimously elected Chairman of the Committee.

WEST RIDING (SOUTHERN SECTION) YORKSHIRE DIVISION.

Representing Employers.—Messrs. J. W. Baker, W. F. Beardshaw, J.P., Lennox B. Dixon, W. H. Dixon, J. M. Fitzclarke, Wilfred Hobson, William Longden, William Marshall, Joseph Merrill, and Charles Pawson.

Representing Workpeople.—Messrs. W. H. Dyer, C. Hobson, A. Hutchinson, William Keen, G. Parker, Samuel Roebuck, H. A. Stone, J. Tyas, G. H. B. Ward, and W. F. Wardley.

The first meeting of the Committee was held at Sheffield on January 12th.

SOUTH WALES DIVISION.

Representing Employers.—Messrs. A. W. Brownscombe, Henry Clement, D. F. Davies, Griffith Davies, William Evans, F. W. Gibbins, F. W. Gilbertson, R. S. Johns, Charles Jones, Sir W. T. Lewis, Bart., Sir Griffith Thomas, Messrs. D. A. Thomas, Wm. Thomas, W. H. Whitehouse, and another yet to be appointed.

Representing Workpeople.—Alderman John Chappell, J.P., Messrs. W. H. Clarke, John Elias, T. Griffiths, Councillor Ivor H. Gwynne, Mr. Wm. Hoard, Alderman John Jenkins, J.P., Messrs. John Jones, W. H. Jones, Alderman T. Merrells, Messrs. D. Watts Morgan, W. Victor Morgan, Thomas Richards, M.P., John Twomey, and W. Williams.

The first meeting of the Committee will be held at Cardiff on January 19th.

CO-OPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

(Based upon Returns made direct to the Department by the Societies concerned, and upon Returns made to the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, and to the Agricultural Organisation Societies of England and Ireland.)

CO-OPERATIVE Production and Distribution in the United Kingdom as applied to agriculture, which until recently had been confined mainly to Ireland, has during the past few years made considerable progress in Great Britain, and statistics of the agricultural co-operative societies are now dealt with separately from those for industrial societies. The Societies dealt with below are those Agricultural Societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts and the Friendly Societies Acts.

Productive and Distributive Societies.

While in the main the industrial co-operative societies are carried on and managed by the members as a means of improving their position as consumers, in the case of agricultural co-operative societies the main object is usually to enable the members more efficiently and profitably to carry on their daily occupation as individual farmers and producers. The societies formed for this purpose are of two kinds, which may conveniently be classed as "Productive" and "Distributive."

The "productive" societies take the form mainly of creameries or dairies which purchase from the members the milk or cream produced by them as individual farmers. This is manufactured by the societies into butter, cheese, &c., by paid employees, and sold in the open market, the operations of the societies being carried on under the supervision of committees elected by the members. In a few cases these societies have also

undertaken the supply of members' requirements, to avoid the formation of a separate "distributive" society.

The "distributive" societies are usually formed for the collective purchase and distribution of the seeds, manures, implements, &c., required by the members, and for the sale in the markets of the cattle, eggs, poultry, and other products of the industry of the members in their capacity of individual farmers.

The profits, as stated in the rules of both types of societies, are distributed among the members *pro rata* upon the value of the goods purchased from and sold to the society, but in practice are frequently added to the reserve fund.

In addition to these two groups of societies formed specially for agricultural purposes, there were, in 1909, 71 industrial societies (2 wholesale and 69 retail distributive societies) which carried on farming and dairying departments mainly as a means of producing milk, butter, vegetables, &c., for the use of their members, the goods so produced being transferred to the distributive departments of the societies, and the profits, if any, being merged into the profits of the other departments and distributed in the general dividend to purchasers.

The returns relating to these three groups of societies, obtained by the Labour Department for the year 1909, showed that there were then at work in the United Kingdom 653 co-operative societies formed specially for agricultural production and distribution, with an aggregate membership of 85,272, and a total share capital of £221,268. Their loan capital amounted to £232,158, reserve and insurance funds to £165,161. The sales during the year amounted to £3,571,391, upon which a total profit of £36,734 (including interest on shares) was shown. These societies employed 2,396 persons, and paid in salaries and wages during the year a total of £104,788.

Of these 653 societies 317 were "productive" societies, employing 1,724 persons, and paying in salaries and wages during the year £70,483, their total sales amounting to £2,005,314, and their profit to £23,663, while 336 were "distributive" societies, employing 672 persons, and paying £34,305 in salaries and wages, with sales amounting to £1,566,077, and profit to £13,071.

In addition to the above, the farming and dairying departments of the 71 industrial societies and of one agricultural distributive society, employed 846 persons, paid in salaries and wages during the year £46,800, and produced goods to the value of £467,967. The profit or loss on these departments was not shown.

The following Table shows the sales of the agricultural distributive and productive societies, 1899-1909:

Year.	Sales.			Total.
	Distribution.	Production.	Total.	
1899	£ 333,825	£ 645,158	£ 978,983	£ 1,286,531
1900	380,535	811,302	1,191,837	1,589,203
1901	385,019	894,249	1,279,268	1,707,544
1902	440,786	1,039,431	1,480,217	1,958,751
1903	498,315	1,137,505	1,635,820	2,063,474
1904	532,913	1,132,087	1,664,999	2,066,383
1905	589,041	1,374,877	1,963,918	2,379,767
1906	841,000	1,683,238	2,524,238	2,998,396
1907	1,136,502	1,813,602	2,950,104	3,427,483
1908	1,292,503	1,929,540	3,222,043	3,716,932
1909	1,566,077	2,005,314	3,571,391	4,039,358
Increase of 1909 over 1899	1,232,252	1,360,156	2,592,406	2,752,827
Percentage Increase	369.1	210.8	264.8	214.0

In distribution nearly 66½ per cent. of the total increase shown during the ten years has taken place in England and Wales, 15.1 per cent. in Scotland, and about 18½ per cent. in Ireland. Of the increases in production 84.8 per cent. is attributable to societies in Ireland, 7.7 per cent. to Scotland, and 7.5 to England and Wales.

Cattle Insurance Societies.

In addition to the co-operative societies engaged in production and distribution there were, in 1909, 57

* Including the productive department of one agricultural distributive society.

societies formed specially for the mutual insurance of the cattle, pigs, &c., belonging to their members.

These societies are registered under the Friendly Societies Act without share capital, and the members are mainly small holders in agricultural districts of England and Wales.* The societies are distinguished from ordinary friendly societies in that the amounts of the insurances are not limited by the Act. In practice, however, the insurances are for small amounts only.

The following Table shows the membership, receipts, expenditure and funds, for the years 1905-1909, of the societies making returns:

	1905.		1906.		1907.		1908.		1909.	
	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£
Number of Societies making Returns	53		58		56		57		57	
Total Membership	3,457		3,718		3,780		3,872		3,954	
Receipts during Year:—		£		£		£		£		£
Contributions	1,457	1,758	1,665	1,641	1,665	1,641	1,665	1,641	1,665	1,641
Other Receipts	331	561	454	476	454	476	454	476	454	476
Total Receipts	1,788	2,319	2,119	2,117	2,119	2,117	2,119	2,117	2,119	2,117
Expenditure during Year:—		£		£		£		£		£
Benefits to Members	1,242	1,760	1,539	2,088	1,539	2,088	1,539	2,088	1,539	2,088
Working Expenses	250	520	421	364	421	364	421	364	421	364
Total Expenditure	1,492	2,280	1,960	2,452	1,960	2,452	1,960	2,452	1,960	2,452
Total Funds at end of Year	7,491		7,899		8,091		7,868		7,671	

TRADE UNIONS IN ITALY IN 1909.

ACCORDING to a report† recently issued by the Italian Labour Department the total membership of trade unions in Italy on January 1st, 1909, was 843,811, as compared with 934,369 at the beginning of 1908, a decrease of 9.7 per cent.

The Report purports, to deal only with organisations of *lavoratori*, or "workpeople," as distinct from *impiegati*, or "employees," under which latter denomination are comprised the whole of the staff of the postal, telegraph and telephone services, as well as the subordinate grades of the Municipal, Provincial and Public Hospital services.

The distribution of the organised workers of Italy among the principal groups of trades on January 1st of each of the years 1908 and 1909 was as follows:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Local Unions or Branches. (January 1st.)		Membership. (January 1st.)	
	1908.	1909.	1908.	1909.
Agriculture	1,809	1,774	426,079	405,149
Building	619	635	67,099	63,521
Mining and Quarrying (including Stone working)	181	173	24,479	22,097
Metal	338	336	53,858	47,646
Textile	206	208	36,836	28,774
Clothing	400	343	31,847	26,994
Transport	185	147	75,685	52,430
Printing and Paper	134	177	19,661	19,831
Woodworking	225	228	16,629	13,878
Pottery, Glass and Chemical	295	339	32,867	36,381
Food Preparation	368	380	43,128	39,834
Other	815	931	106,152	87,276
Total	5,575	5,671	934,369	843,811

It will be seen that 405,149, or almost one-half of the trade unionists of Italy, are connected with agriculture. Of the other occupation groups, those that comprise the largest number of trade unionists are building, with 63,521 members; transport, with 52,430; metal, with 47,646, and food preparation, with 39,834 members.

A considerable proportion of the organised workers, viz., 324,320, or 38.4 per cent. of the total, belong to unions which are not affiliated to any larger body, whether local or national. Of the remaining 519,491 organised workers, 326,461 belong to unions affiliated only to local bodies somewhat analogous to trades councils, in the United Kingdom, and known as *Camere del Lavoro*, or Chambers of Labour. The remaining 193,030 organised workers belong to unions which are affiliated to national trade federations, more than half of these (viz., 100,108) belonging at the same time to unions affiliated to chambers of labour.

* There were no societies of this class at work in Scotland or Ireland.
† *Statistica delle Organizzazioni Italiane di Lavoratori al 1° gennaio 1909.* Supplemento to "Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro," the journal of the Italian Labour Department, Rome, 1910.

At the beginning of the year 1909, there were in Italy 98 of these chambers, composed of 3,834 trade sections, with a total of 501,220 members. Sixty-one of the chambers were affiliated to the "National Confederation of Labour," and five others to the "National Committee of Resistance," a body which, the report states, "no longer shows signs of life." Thirty-six of the chambers of labour receive yearly subsidies from the municipalities, amounting in the aggregate to £3,400. Of this sum £800 is paid by the municipality of Milan, £400 by that of Rome, £240 by that of Florence, and an equal amount by that of Sampierdarena. Twenty-nine chambers of labour have their offices in buildings owned by the municipality and of these 16 (including that of Milan) also receive municipal subsidies.

A trade union in becoming affiliated to a chamber of labour procures for its members certain benefits, such as the services of an employment registry, free medical or legal advice, lectures on educational subjects, the use of a library, &c. Thirty-nine chambers have organised employment registries, 57 have engaged the permanent services of a lawyer, 35 those of a doctor, 21 have organised regular courses of teaching, and 43 have libraries.

TRADE UNIONS IN FRANCE.*

THE latest report upon trade unions in France shows that between the 1st of January, 1909, and the corresponding date in 1910, the number of trade unions in France declined from 5,354 to 5,260, while the aggregate membership increased from 944,761 to 977,350. The following table shows the changes in the number and membership of French trade unions during the last ten years for which figures are available:—

Year. (Jan. 1st)	No. of Unions.	Total Membership.	Year. (Jan. 1st)	No. of Unions.	Total Membership.
1901	3,287	588,832	1906	4,857	836,134
1902	3,679	614,173	1907	5,322	866,012
1903	3,934	643,757	1908	5,524	957,102
1904	4,227	715,576	1909	5,354	944,761
1905	4,625	781,344	1910	5,260	977,350

Thus the increase in membership has been continuous, except for 1909, and, comparing the figures for January 1st, 1910, with those for the corresponding date in 1901, the number of unions has increased by 60 per cent., and the membership by 66 per cent.

The following table shows the numerical strength of organised labour in various occupational groups on January 1st, 1910, as compared with the corresponding date of 1901:—

Occupational Group.	Total Membership on January 1st.	
	1910.	1901.
Building Trades	102,250	50,646
Mining and Quarrying	82,465	94,952
Metal Trades	91,729	94,022
Textile Trades	76,084	54,828
Clothing and Cleaning Trades (excluding Boot and Shoe and Glove Making)	26,585	14,131
Transport, Warehousing, &c.	298,711	152,041
Agriculture, &c.	55,143	15,312
Printing, Paper and Allied Trades	26,305	17,040
Woodworking and Furnishing Trades	37,739	18,467
Chemical Trades	39,604	23,564
Glass, Pottery, &c., Trades	19,984	12,717
Food Preparation Trades	49,847	21,820
Skins and Leather Trades (including Boot and Shoe and Glove Making)	25,937	19,298
Other Trades	42,367	...
Total	977,350	588,832

It will be seen that in 1910, as in 1901, by far the largest group of organised workpeople was that of transport, warehousing, etc., a group largely made up of railwaymen. Next in order of numerical importance in 1910 come the building, metal, textile, mining and agricultural groups.

In many of the large towns the whole of the trade unions have their common headquarters at an institution known as the *Bourse du Travail* or Labour Exchange. At the beginning of 1910, 2,506 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 520,662, were affiliated to 145 institutions of this kind in France. Of the 145 existing *Bourses*, 101 are in receipt of regular subventions either

* Based upon *Bulletin de l'Office du Travail* (the Journal of the French Labour Department), November, 1910, and the Annual Reports on French Trade Unions *Annuaire des Syndicats Professionnels*.

from the Municipality or from the County Council or from both. These subventions, amounting to about £15,000 per annum in the aggregate, are irrespective of the yearly subventions in aid of trade union unemployed benefit schemes.

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION IN 1907.

THE sixth of a series of Tables* summarising for the more important trades of the country the preliminary results of the Returns received under the Census of Production Act, 1906, has recently been issued by the Board of Trade. The Tables now presented contain preliminary figures relating to the industries named in the first column of the Table given below.

The first four sections relate to factories and workshops engaged in the food trades, and complete the information obtained under the Census of Production Act with regard to these trades; it should, however, be noted that the preparation and manufacture of food by farmers as well as a considerable amount of food preparation and manufacture carried on by retailers were not covered by the Census. The remaining sections, which occupy the greater portion of the present issue, are devoted to the trades engaged in the manufacture of clothing of all kinds, and of accessories to clothing, and to the laundry and cleaning trades.

The period covered by the Returns is generally the year 1907, but where the financial year of a firm is not the calendar year, the firm has been permitted to furnish particulars for a period of twelve months ending not earlier than June 30th, 1907, nor later than June 30th, 1908. The Returns for the Royal Army Clothing Factory, and for Army Laundries were furnished for the twelve months ending March 31st, 1908.

The "gross output" shown in the Table below is the gross output of each trade, *i.e.*, where goods pass through the hands of several manufacturers at different stages, their quantity and value has been registered at each stage. The value of this gross output is, therefore, greater as a whole than the value of the goods ready for export or consumption manufactured by each trade considered as a unit, and the value of the "materials used" shown in the Table is for the same reason greater than the actual value of the materials used by each trade.

The figures entered against each class show the output of that product in the year, whether sold or not, deducting any amount worked up in the same factory into goods of a kind separately classified. Thus, for example, the entry against boot and shoe uppers shows only that portion of the uppers made in the year of return which was either sold as uppers or remained in stock at the end of the year as uppers, and does not include uppers used in the manufacture of boots by the firm making the uppers. On the other hand some firms have made two Returns for two separate establishments, and have treated the goods transferred from one works to the other as sales and purchases. This form of duplication of output is not frequent in the trades included in this Report, but all such duplication, as well as that arising from goods being sold by one firm and worked up by another, can be eliminated by deduction of the total cost of materials used.

Where a firm makes goods for sale the value entered is the net selling value of the goods, including, of course, the value of any work done on the goods by other firms working on commission. Where a firm does work on commission the value entered is the amount received for the work, exclusive of the value of the material worked upon. In so far as such work on commission is done for other firms making Returns, the figures for gross output necessarily include twice over the payments for such work, and in order, therefore, to avoid duplication the Schedules issued required a statement of the amount paid to other firms for all work given out.

The result of deducting the total cost of materials used and the amount paid to other firms for work given out from the value of the gross output for any one industry or group of factories, is to give a figure which may, for convenience, be called the "net output" of the industries

* Cd. 5463. Census of Production (1907), Preliminary Tables, Part VI. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 6d.

or the group. This figure expresses completely and without duplication the total amount by which the value of the products of the industry or group taken as a unit exceeded the value of the materials purchased from outside, i.e., it represents the value added to the raw materials in the course of manufacture. This sum constitutes for any industry the fund from which wages, salaries, rents, royalties, rates, taxes, depreciation, advertisement and sales expenses, and all other similar charges as well as profits have to be defrayed.

The following short statement shows for the United Kingdom as a whole the gross output, the cost of materials used, the amount paid for work given out to other firms, the "net output" as above defined, the number employed, and the net output per person employed for the industries covered by the present Report:—

	Gross Output. Selling Value of Work Done.	Materials Used. Cost.	Work Given Out. Amount paid to Other Firms.	Net Output. Excess of Column (4) over Column (3).	Persons Employed (except Outworkers).	Net Output per Person Employed (excluding Outworkers).
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Preserved Meat, Poultry, and Fish, Pickle, Sauce, and Baking Powder Factories and Workshops	5,106,000	3,235,000	—	1,871,000	13,128	143
Bacon Curing Factories and Workshops	10,509,000	9,451,000	—	1,058,000	7,294	145
Fish Curing Factories and Workshops	3,636,000	2,863,000	—	773,000	24,684	31
Butter, Cheese, and Margarine Factories and Workshops	10,102,000	8,935,000	—	1,167,000	9,304	125
Clothing, Handkerchief, and Millinery Factories and Workshops:— Private Firms & Companies	64,488,000	35,478,000	1,773,000	27,237,000	440,664	62
Boot and Shoe Factories and Workshops	22,959,000	13,893,000	101,000	8,965,000	126,564	71
Hat, Bonnet, and Cap Factories and Workshops	5,107,000	2,954,000	63,000	2,050,000	30,829	66
Glove Factories and Workshops	1,045,000	606,000	—	440,000	4,828	91
Umbrella and Walking Stick Factories and Workshops	1,713,000	1,106,000	—	607,000	7,497	81
Fancy Fur Factories and Workshops	1,650,000	1,014,000	55,000	581,000	5,186	112
Hatters' Fur Factories and Workshops	428,000	306,000	15,000	107,000	2,016	53
Artificial Flower and Ornamental Feather Factories and Workshops	577,000	344,000	1,000	232,000	3,593	65
Needle, Pin, Fish-hook, and Button Factories and Workshops	1,599,000	728,000	25,000	846,000	13,252	64
Laundry and Cleaning Factories and Workshops:— Private Firms & Companies	9,314,000	2,054,000	99,000	7,161,000	130,653	55
Total ...	138,234,000	83,007,000	2,132,000	53,095,000	819,492	—
Royal Army Clothing Factory	314,907	217,160	—	97,747	1,553	63
Army Laundries ...	8,534	1,710	—	6,824	120	57

The output for private factories and workshops is calculated on a profit basis, while that for the Royal Army Clothing Factory and for Army Laundries is calculated on the cost of production. The figures for private factories and workshops in the clothing and laundry trades are, therefore, not strictly comparable as regards Gross Output and Net Output with those relating to the Royal Army Clothing Factory and to Army Laundries.

In addition to the number of persons employed as shown above, 75,975 outworkers were returned as borne on the books of the employing firms, viz. :—

Clothing, Handkerchief, and Millinery Trades	48,896
Boot and Shoe Trades	13,714
Hat, Bonnet and Cap Trades	2,599
Glove Trade	7,882
Umbrella and Walking Stick Trades	555
Fancy Fur Trade	318
Hatters' Fur Trade	157
Artificial Flower and Ornamental Feather Trades	206
Needle, Pin, Fish-hook, and Button Trades	1,648

The total of 75,975 does not necessarily represent as many individual persons, many outworkers being on the books of more than one firm. On the other hand it is probable in certain cases that the persons actually working for a firm include members of outworkers' families in addition to the outworkers actually on the firm's books. For these reasons, and as most outworkers are not in constant employment, they have not been taken into account in calculating the net output per person employed, but in comparing the figures given above an allowance should be made for them.

BUILDING PLANS.

RETURNS have been obtained by the Department from the Authorities of 92 of the principal Urban Districts of the United Kingdom showing the estimated cost of the buildings for which they passed plans during the last quarter of 1909 and 1910 respectively. The particulars classified by districts and description of buildings are summarised in the following Table:—

District (Estimated Population covered by returns is stated in brackets).	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops and other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	Total.
Fourth Quarter of 1909.						
Outer London (900,000) ...	306,096	4,100	23,858	58,625	48,850	441,529
Northern Counties (700,000) ...	72,305	9,666	19,540	26,375	24,607	143,523
Yorkshire (800,000) ...	129,315	38,108	24,525	7,725	39,899	239,572
Lancashire and Cheshire (2,000,000) ...	272,237	23,043	83,750	53,062	78,978	511,072
Midlands (1,300,000) ...	204,172	91,648	23,556	62,165	67,017	448,558
Other Districts in England (1,100,000) ...	274,745	3,110	34,125	52,510	55,081	419,571
Wales and Mon. (400,000) ...	122,120	370	5,625	27,643	8,425	164,183
Scotland (1,750,000) ...	146,025	58,492	35,074	40,086	59,084	338,761
Ireland (750,000) ...	42,170	23,150	53,395	2,700	35,020	156,345
Total ...	1,569,185	251,719	294,358	330,891	416,961	2,863,114
Fourth Quarter of 1910.						
Outer London (900,000) ...	376,372	17,260	39,260	70,905	34,036	537,833
Northern Counties (700,000) ...	61,484	5,066	1,490	31,835	30,386	130,261
Yorkshire (800,000) ...	71,615	31,840	43,101	22,950	29,694	199,200
Lancashire and Cheshire (2,000,000) ...	226,408	85,039	55,726	106,460	81,156	554,789
Midlands (1,300,000) ...	182,492	77,999	25,260	48,125	46,942	380,818
Other Districts in England (1,100,000) ...	271,050	6,515	42,370	28,360	51,217	399,512
Wales and Mon. (400,000) ...	133,630	300	5,800	42,750	12,534	195,064
Scotland (1,750,000) ...	95,202	55,750	31,468	36,800	65,313	256,533
Ireland (750,000) ...	23,800	9,100	13,280	4,500	20,110	70,790
Total ...	1,442,053	288,869	229,555	392,685	371,438	2,724,600

As compared with a year ago, there was a total decrease of £138,514, or about 5 per cent. There were increases of £37,150 (or 14.8 per cent.) under factories and workshops, and of £61,794 (or 18.7 per cent.) under churches, schools and public buildings. The other classes showed decreases as under:—

Class of Building.	Decreases.	
	Amount.	Per cent.
Dwelling-houses ...	£ 127,132	8.1
Shops and other Business Premises ...	64,803	22.0
Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations ...	45,523	10.9

In the Outer London district there was an increase of £96,304 (or 21.8 per cent.); there were also increases of £43,717 (or 8.5 per cent.) in Lancashire and Cheshire, and of £30,881 (or 18.8 per cent.) in Wales and Monmouthshire. The other districts showed decreases as under:—

Decreases.	Amount.	Per cent.
Northern Counties...	13,262	9.2
Yorkshire ...	49,372	16.9
Midlands ...	67,740	15.1
Other Districts in England ...	20,059	4.8
Scotland ...	82,428	24.3
Ireland ...	85,555	54.7

It will be seen that the amount of the decreases in Scotland and Ireland was greater than the total net decrease in the United Kingdom, and that in England and Wales as a whole there was a net increase of £29,469.

PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS TO WORK-PEOPLE: INTERNATIONAL PRIZE COMPETITION.

IN the April, 1910, GAZETTE (p. 120) an announcement appeared relating to various international prize competitions, instituted by a decree dated December 1st, 1909, of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, for the purpose of encouraging the invention of new methods and appliances for the prevention of industrial accidents and for the protection of the health of workpeople. A further ministerial decree, dated August 2nd, 1910, has been published, changing the dates on which the competitions close (competitions 1 and 5 will now close on September 30th, 1911, and competitions 2, 3 and 4 on April 30th, 1911), and laying down some further conditions to be observed by competitors. Copies of translations of both decrees may be obtained on application to the Labour Department of the Board of Trade (Gwydyr House, Whitehall, S.W.).

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.

It is too early in the year for emigrants (other than female servants) without means or a guarantee of employment to go to Canada, and in any case they must fulfil the stringent requirements of the Regulations of the Canadian Government. The busy season of farm and railway work does not begin before the spring, and emigrants should be ready to start the latter part of March or early in April. The coal miners' strike at Springhill, Nova Scotia, continues; but work is being carried on to some extent.

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—have no difficulty in getting good places. In Sydney and suburbs trades have been very busy, especially the building, iron, sawmill and timber, tailoring and furniture trades, and many factories, but there does not appear to be any special scarcity of workers. There is some demand for first-class navvies and slaughtermen; compositors and bootmakers, however, are by no means fully employed. At the Broken Hill Silver Mines skilled miners, labourers, carpenters and bricklayers have been in demand.

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

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. The State is inaugurating a new Immigration Scheme, by which farms of 2 to 200 acres may be purchased by farm labourers and farmers, and 80 per cent. of their passage money be advanced; application must be made to the Agent-General for Victoria, Melbourne Place, Strand, London. The Government of Victoria are making arrangements to lease a house for the first reception of oversea land-seekers and agriculturists, who desire to avail themselves of temporary accommodation. It is proposed to charge the immigrants for board and lodging: the rates are not yet fixed.

In South Australia the building trades continue very busy, and there is a good demand for carpenters, masons, bricklayers, painters and plasterers; in the engineering trades boiler-makers, fitters and blacksmiths (but not moulders) are fully employed; farm labourers and youths are in demand.

In Queensland experienced men in connection with the land are wanted, especially men accustomed to milking and ploughing; there is a good demand also for country lads and domestic servants. The general demand for labour has considerably increased on account of the flourishing condition of the agricultural industry and the consequent progress of other industries.

In Western Australia there is a good demand south of Perth for farm labourers, for general labourers in the large timber industries round Blackwood and Busseton, and for mechanics in the building trades.

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 reports show that trade is fair all round, but that there is no general demand for more mechanics or labourers.

Union of South Africa.

Female servants are wanted in many parts of South Africa; they should apply for assistance to the South African Colonisation Society, 115, Victoria Street, London, S.W. For men the demand is only small, though the building trades in Johannesburg are very busy, and trade throughout the Union has improved.

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. 1 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries. (For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, see p. 104 of Cd. 2337 of 1904, and pp. 521-4 of Cd. 4032 of 1908.)]

FRANCE.*

Employment in November.—Employment in the building trades began to decline. In the metal trades it was good, except for tinbox makers, a large proportion of whom were without work. The textile trades as a whole were busy and there was a slight decrease in the number of unemployed, particularly at Roubaix and Tourcoing; in the Vosges the recovery was complete, while in Normandy employment was fairly plentiful. As regards the silk industry, the situation is described as good on the whole, but as still bad in the ribbons and trimmings branch in the Loire and Haute-Loire. Employment was fairly plentiful in the garment trades, but a number of unemployed were reported among capmakers in Paris. Employment in the printing trades continued good, with, however, a slight decline at Paris. There was a general improvement in the glass trades, except in the South. In the

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

leather trades a slight decline was reported. Employment among vineyard workers revived but the improvement was retarded by the bad weather. Except in certain parts of Nièvre and Yonne, woodcutters had not yet started work, so that there was no diminution in the number of their unemployed.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed on a given date in November were received by the French Labour Department from 956 trade unions with an aggregate membership of 242,133. Excluding returns from the miners' unions in the Pas-de-Calais department, 6.9 per cent. of the members were described as unemployed, as compared with 5.9 per cent. in the previous month and 6.6 per cent. in November, 1909.*

Coal Mining in November.—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground in coal mines in France was 5.99 in November, compared with 5.67 in the previous month and 5.97 in November, 1909. Taking surface and underground workers together 97.94 per cent. worked full time (six days or over per week) and 1.98 per cent. from five to six days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 93.15 and 6.24, and in November, 1909, 92.26 and 6.77.

Labour Disputes in November.—Seventy disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in November, compared with 121 in the preceding month, and 74 in November, 1909. In 65 of the new disputes 5,615 workpeople took part, as compared with 55,295 who took part in 116 disputes in the previous month and 7,403 in 57 disputes in November, 1909. The trades in which the greatest number of disputes occurred were those belonging to the textile (19), building (11), transport (11), metal (8), and paper (6) groups. Of 118 new and old disputes reported to have terminated, 18 ended wholly in favour of the workpeople, and 60 wholly in favour of the employers, while 40 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in November.—Seven instances of recourse to the law on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department in November. In two cases committees of conciliation were formed and succeeded in settling the respective disputes. In a third case the dispute was settled before a committee could be formed, and in a fourth the parties simply appeared before a justice of the peace to sign a collective agreement fixing terms upon which work was to be resumed. In the three remaining cases the employers declined the proposed mediation.

GERMANY.†

Employment in November.—The condition of the labour market in November was on the whole the same as in the previous month, that is to say, satisfactory. The usual seasonal decline was experienced in the building trades. The improvement in coal mining was maintained in the Ruhr district, while in Upper Silesia there was a better demand for coal; in the lignite mining industry of Central Germany there was a decline in the sale of briquettes. The condition of the metal and engineering trades was satisfactory, and that of the electrical trades good. Employment improved somewhat in the textile trades, and the clothing trades on the whole were very busily employed.

HOLLAND.‡

Employment in November.—Employment in the building trades declined on the whole, though it was still satisfactory in certain towns. In the iron and steel trades employment declined, but in machine making it continued good. Reports as to the shipbuilding trades still differed according to locality, but on the whole employment continued at the same level as in October. The diamond industry continued well employed, though the proportion of trade unionists

* These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom given on page 1. See also General Note above.

† Revised figure.

‡ Reichsarbeitsblatt (Journal of the German Labour Department).

§ Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office).

out of work at the end of the month increased to 1.6 per cent. Employment revived somewhat in the textile trades.

Labour Disputes in November.—Seven disputes, 5 of which directly affected 55 workpeople, were reported as having begun in November. Twelve disputes terminated in the month; 2 of these ended in favour of the workpeople and 2 in favour of the employers, 3 were compromised, while in the case of the remaining 5 disputes the results were unknown.

BELGIUM.*

Employment in November.—According to returns made to the Belgian Labour Department, 2.0 per cent. of the 50,032 members of trade unions reporting were unemployed towards the latter part of November, compared with the same percentage in the previous month, and 2.3 per cent. in November, 1909.†

Census of Industrial and Commercial Undertakings, 1910.—By a law of December 14th, 1910, it was provided that on December 31st, 1910, and thenceforth decennially, a census of industrial and commercial undertakings should be taken in conjunction with the general population census. The new census was to be carried out under the direction of the Minister of Industry and Labour, with the co-operation of the provincial and municipal administrations. A Royal Decree dated December 15th prescribes the principal rules to be followed in taking the census, and specifies the information to be furnished upon the schedules. Particulars with regard to persons unemployed at the date of the census are to be included.

DENMARK.‡

Employment in October and November.—According to returns made to the Central Federation of Danish Trade Unions, out of 87,400 members of affiliated unions 11.7 per cent. were unemployed on November 15th, as compared with 9.1 per cent. out of 86,800 members at the end of October.†

Labour Disputes in 1909.—According to the Statistical Yearbook of Denmark for 1910,§ issued by the Danish Statistical Office, the number of strikes and lock-outs which occurred during 1909 was 64, compared with 122 in the preceding year. The number of workpeople directly affected in 46 of these was 2,278, compared with 7,600 directly concerned in 100 disputes in 1908. In 41 disputes of 1909 the workpeople sustained a loss of 52,526 working days, as against 85,088 lost in 79 disputes in the previous year. The most serious dispute of the year occurred in the boot and shoe trades, 1,400 workpeople being locked-out and losing 36,400 working days.

Trade Unions in 1909.—The source referred to above gives the number of trade unions in Denmark in 1909 as 1,468 (with 120,195 members), of which 1,252 (with a membership of 98,643) belonged to organisations affiliated to the Central Federation of Danish Trade Unions. The various groups of occupations were represented in the membership figures as follows:—Building 20,433, metal 13,038, textile 3,673, clothing 6,402, transport 9,550, printing and bookbinding 4,375, paper 913, woodworking 3,141, food and tobacco 11,549, pottery 576, leather 880, enginemen 1,261, municipal workers 2,132, female workers (trades not specified) 1,618, domestic servants (females) 674, day labourers 31,511, and others 8,469. During 1909 a sum of £74,891 was expended by the unions in the form of unemployment and travelling benefit. Sickness and accident benefits amounted to £11,306.

SWEDEN.

Lock-out in Shoe Factories.—Despatches from H.M. Acting Consul at Stockholm, dated December 22nd and January 16th, report concerning a lock-out in the shoe factories in Sweden, which took effect on January 1st, 1911. The number of workmen affected was 43,000. Between

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

† These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentage for the United Kingdom given on p. 1. See also Note under "Labour Abroad."

‡ Arbejderen (Journal of the Central Federation of Danish Trade Unions).

§ Statistisk Aarbog, 1910. Copenhagen. Gyldendalske Boghandel Nordisk Forlag.

December 19th and 22nd, an ineffectual attempt had been made to arrive at an amicable arrangement between the employers and workpeople, especially as regards the different wages to be paid in different districts and the minimum wages.

NORWAY.*

Employment in November.—The following table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of November in trade unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Statistical Office, comparative figures relating to the same unions being added for the previous month and for November, 1909:—

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Nov. 30th, 1910.	Oct. 31st, 1910.	Nov. 30th, 1909.	Nov. 30th, 1910.	Oct. 31st, 1910.	Nov. 30th, 1909.
Bricklayers and Masons (Christiania)	440	437	359	5.2	2.3	39.0
Carpenters and Joiners ...	902	889	788	4.7	2.8	6.6
Painters (Christiania) ...	380	379	400	11.1	5.5	19.3
Metal Workers ...	5,868	5,681	5,067	1.4	1.9	3.5
Boot and Shoe Makers ...	610	586	539	1.5	1.4	0.2
Printers ...	1,515	1,482	1,394	0.5	0.7	1.0
Wood Pulp & Paper Makers ...	589	570	639	...	...	2.3
Sawyers and Planers ...	340	334	308	...	...	2.9
Cabinet Makers ...	430	435	400	0.2	0.7	1.3
Bakers (Christiania) ...	300	300	260	6.0	6.3	10.8
Tinned Goods Workers (Stavanger)	268	250	228	3.0	2.4	4.8
Total ...	11,642	11,343	10,382	2.0	1.9	5.1

SWITZERLAND.

Increase in Wages of Workpeople on Swiss Railways.—In the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for September last (p. 318) particulars were given of a special advance of £8 per annum to Federal Railway servants for the period January 1st, 1910, to March 31st, 1912, pending the coming into force on April 1st, 1912, of the new wages scale provided under the law of June 23rd, 1910. As only persons belonging to the established staff were covered by these provisions, a Federal Decree dated December 23rd, 1910,† now provides an advance of £6 per annum for the unestablished workpeople employed in the railway workshops and on the railways for the same period, at the termination of which it is expected that a new wages scale, to be drawn up and applying particularly to them, will come into force.

UNITED STATES.

Strike in Workshops of Missouri Pacific Railway Company.—A despatch from H.M. Consul at St. Louis, dated December 26th, reports the termination of a strike in the workshops of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company. The fitters, &c., and helpers, numbering 1,280, first struck in May, and were joined by the blacksmiths, boiler makers, sheet metal workers and their helpers on October 21st. The men are to be reinstated during January and to receive an advance of 1½d. an hour. The strikers, however, lost on several points. The company instead of the union will choose the foremen, 9 hours a day are to be worked in the machine shops and 10 in the engine houses, and the company will regulate the hours of beginning and ending work.

Depression in the Steel Trade.—In a despatch dated December 20th, H.M. Consul-General at Chicago states that on the 30th of the preceding month the unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation amounted to a total of 2,760,413 tons, the lowest figure published by that corporation during the past eight years. This figure does not, however, include inter-company business. The number of men now employed by the subsidiary companies is stated to be approximately 180,000, as compared with 225,000 reached in 1909.

* Arbeidsmarkedet (Journal of the Norwegian Central Statistical Office).

† These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom given on p. 1. See also note under "Labour Abroad."

‡ Feuille Fédérale Suisse, January 4th, 1911.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN DECEMBER.

COAL MINING.

(Based on 509 Returns—446 from Employers, 47 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry was good during the four weeks ended December 17th. It showed an improvement as compared with a month ago, and was about the same as a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,291 pits employing 637,237 workpeople showed that the average number of days* worked per week during the four weeks ended December 17th, 1910, was 5.47, as compared with 5.30 in November, 1910, and 5.49 a year ago.

Of the 637,237 workpeople covered by the Returns 542,606 (85.1 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended December 17th, 1910, while 388,911 (61 per cent. of the whole) were employed at pits working 22 days or more.

The highest average number of days worked per week was in South Wales and Monmouth (5.90), and the lowest in Fife (5.01).

The following Table shows the average number of days worked at the pits during the four weeks ended December 17th, 1910, together with the figures for similar periods in November, 1910, and December, 1909. Collieries at which there were disputes causing stoppage of work are excluded from the figures:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed on last pay day in four weeks ended 17th Dec., 1910.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in 4 weeks ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
		Dec. 17th, 1910.	Nov. 19th, 1910.	Dec. 18th, 1909.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	44,799	5.25	5.22	5.44	+ 0.03	- 0.19
Durham ...	128,822	5.31	5.14	5.49	+ 0.17	- 0.18
Cumberland ...	6,495	5.54	5.45	5.61	+ 0.09	- 0.09
South Yorkshire ...	74,754	5.67	5.44	5.63	+ 0.23	+ 0.04
West Yorkshire ...	25,398	5.48	5.01	5.57	+ 0.47	- 0.09
Lancashire and Cheshire	57,541	5.36	5.07	5.34	+ 0.29	+ 0.02
Derbyshire ...	43,371	5.43	5.18	5.52	+ 0.25	- 0.09
Nottingham and Leicester	34,418	5.13	5.07	4.97	+ 0.06	+ 0.16
Staffordshire ...	29,478	5.55	5.36	5.55	+ 0.19	...
Warwick, Worcester and Salop	9,225	5.55	5.23	5.44	+ 0.32	+ 0.11
Gloucester and Somerset	8,103	5.56	5.30	5.72	+ 0.26	- 0.16
North Wales ...	11,115	5.47	5.26	5.66	+ 0.21	- 0.39
South Wales and Mon. ...	107,832	5.99	5.86	5.68	+ 0.04	+ 0.22
ENGLAND AND WALES	581,351	5.60	5.23	5.63	+ 0.17	- 0.03
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	24,797	5.31	5.18	5.33	+ 0.13	- 0.02
The Lothians ...	4,625	5.50	5.20	5.28	+ 0.30	+ 0.22
Fife ...	25,856	5.01	4.75	4.87	+ 0.26	+ 0.14
SCOTLAND	55,278	5.18	4.98	5.11	+ 0.20	+ 0.07
IRELAND	608	5.69	5.45	5.62	+ 0.24	+ 0.07
United Kingdom ...	637,237	5.47	5.30	5.49	+ 0.17	- 0.02

Compared with a month ago the average number of days worked per week increased in every district; the increases were greatest in West Yorkshire, Warwick, Worcester and Salop, the Lothians, Lancashire and Cheshire, Derbyshire and Fife.

Compared with a year ago there was little change on the whole. In South Wales, the Lothians, Nottingham and Leicester, and Fife there was an improvement; in North Wales there was a decline.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked per week, distributed according to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged.

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

Description of Coal.	No. of Workpeople employed on last pay day in four weeks ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in 4 weeks ended				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
		Dec., 17th, 1910.	Nov., 19th, 1910.	Dec., 18th, 1909.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Days.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.		
Anthracite ...	7,557	5.71	5.62	5.43	+ 0.09	+ 0.28	
Coking ...	35,827	5.35	5.17	5.56	+ 0.18	- 0.21	
Gas ...	45,530	5.32	5.14	5.54	+ 0.18	- 0.22	
House ...	81,229	5.32	5.10	5.36	+ 0.22	- 0.04	
Steam ...	234,243	5.58	5.52	5.53	+ 0.06	+ 0.05	
Mixed ...	234,851	5.45	5.19	5.48	+ 0.26	- 0.03	
All Descriptions ...	637,237	5.47	5.30	5.49	+ 0.17	- 0.02	

Compared with a month ago there was a general improvement. Compared with a year ago there was an improvement at anthracite and steam coal pits, and a decline at pits producing coking and gas coal.

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel in December, 1910, amounted to 5,383,541 tons, or 185,812 tons more than in November, 1910, but 159,727 tons less than in December, 1909.

IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

(Based on 75 Returns—58 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 1 from a Trade Union, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued good in iron mines, and was about the same as a year ago. In shale mines it was fair, and rather better than a year ago.

Employment continued fair on the whole in tin and lead mines, and also with quarrymen and settmakers.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the four weeks ended December 17th, the average number of days worked per week by all mines and open works included in the Returns was 5.77, as compared with 5.81 a month ago, and 5.75 a year ago.

Districts.	Workpeople employed in Dec., 1910.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
		Dec., 17th, 1910.	Nov., 19th, 1910.	Dec., 18th, 1909.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Days.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.		
Cleveland ...	8,215	5.74	5.76	5.75	- 0.02	- 0.01	
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	4,479	5.99	5.93	5.67	+ 0.06	+ 0.32	
Scotland ...	1,115	5.81	5.81	5.90	...	- 0.09	
Other Districts ...	2,554	5.47	5.73	5.82	- 0.26	- 0.35	
All Districts ...	16,363	5.77	5.81	5.75	- 0.04	+ 0.02	

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the Returns 86.7 per cent. were employed at mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended December 17th, as compared with 86.3 per cent. a month ago, and 90.1 per cent. a year ago.

Shale Mining.—At the mines respecting which Returns were received 3,188 workpeople were employed during the four weeks ended December 17th, as compared with 3,219 in November, 1910, and 3,223 in December, 1909. The average number of days worked per week during the December, 1910, period was 5.65, as compared with 5.62 a month ago and 5.59 a year ago.

Tin Mining.—Employment in Cornwall was fair on the whole, and showed little change compared with the previous month, except in the Calstock district, where there was some decline. It showed an improvement as compared with a year ago.

Lead Mining.—Employment in North Wales was fair generally, except at certain mines which were closed down owing to flooding. In Weardale employment was good.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment continued fair in North Wales, and was better than a year ago. It was slack and worse than in the previous month at Ballachulish (Argyllshire). At Delabole (Cornwall) employment continued good.

Granite.—Employment at Aberdeen continued fair with quarrymen, but slack with masons and polishers. It was fair and rather better on the whole than a month ago in Cornwall. In Leicestershire it was fair, but showed some decline on a month ago.

Limestone.—Employment was somewhat hindered by bad weather. It was generally fair in South Durham, though bad at Westgate. It was also fair in North Wales. In the Buxton and the Plymouth districts employment was dull, while it was reported as very slack in Cumberland.

Other Stone.—Employment was good in the Clew Hill road-material quarries and at chert quarries at Bakewell. It continued good in whinstone quarries in Upper Weardale, and fair in freestone quarries at Gateshead. It was moderate with quarrymen and grindstone makers at Barnsley, and fair at Rotherham. It continued bad with sandstone quarrymen in Forfarshire.

Settmaking.—Employment generally continued fair in Scotland. It was moderate and rather worse than a month ago in Leicestershire. In North Wales and the Clew Hill district it was still good. In the Sheffield district it continued slack.

China Clay.—Employment continued good at St. Austell and on Lee Moor.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

(Based on 117 Returns—110 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 3 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during December was fair, and better than a year ago.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters showed that the total number of furnaces in blast at the end of December, 1910, was 309, compared with the same number in November, 1910, and 300 in December, 1909. Three furnaces were relit during the month (one each in Cumberland, Lincolnshire and the Cleveland district), while one was damped down (in Cumberland) and two were blown out (one in Lancashire and one in Ayrshire).

The number of workpeople employed at the works covered by the Returns was 23,100, an increase of 1.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Month ago.	Year ago.
	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
ENGLAND & WALES—	81	80	83	+ 1	- 2
Cleveland ...	31	32	32	- 1	- 1
Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks...	12	12	12	...	...
Derby & Nottingham	35	35	31	...	+ 4
Leicester, Lincoln, } and Northampton	27	26	26	+ 1	+ 1
Stafford & Worcester	34	34	33	...	+ 1
S. Wales & Monmouth	11	11	11	...	...
Other districts ...	6	6	6	...	...
England & Wales ...	237	236	234	+ 1	+ 3
Scotland ...	72	73	66	- 1	+ 6
Total ...	309	309	300	...	+ 9

The Imports of iron ore in December, 1910, amounted to 604,948 tons, or 46,077 tons more than in November, 1910, but 11,445 tons less than in December, 1909.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom in December, 1910, amounted to 86,385 tons, or 12,922 tons less than in November, 1910, but 2,792 tons more than in December, 1909.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

(Based on 199 Returns—186 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 3 from Trade Unions, and 10 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works showed an improvement on both a month ago and a year ago. According to Returns covering 90,800 workpeople, the volume of

employment (i.e., number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended December 17th, 1910, showed an increase of 4.5 per cent. on a month ago, and of 5.9 per cent. on a year ago. The total number of shifts worked during the week was about 500,400.

Departments.	Number of Workpeople employed.			Average Number of Shifts worked per man.		
	Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
IRON:						
Puddling Forges ...	9,269	+ 148	+ 22	4.89	- 0.02	+ 0.24
Rolling Mills ...	3,950	+ 84	+ 156	4.88	- 0.12	+ 0.28
Forging ...	417	- 34	- 4	5.00	- 0.02	+ 0.09
Founding ...	1,658	+ 28	+ 65	5.72	+ 0.01	- 0.10
Other Departments ...	653	+ 10	+ 43	5.83	+ 0.09	+ 0.35
Mechanics, Labourers ...	1,914	+ 20	+ 59	5.47	- 0.02	+ 0.07
Total, Iron ...	17,901	+ 256	+ 341	5.06	- 0.04	+ 0.20
STEEL:						
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	8,481	+ 410	+ 298	5.83	+ 0.03	- 0.02
Crucible Furnaces ...	539	+ 9	+ 18	5.48	+ 0.35	...
Bessemer Converters ...	1,634	+ 214	+ 29	5.03	+ 0.19	- 0.15
Rolling Mills ...	14,400	+ 686	+ 563	5.38	+ 0.30	+ 0.14
Forging and Pressing ...	3,133	+ 34	+ 398	5.38	+ 0.04	...
Founding ...	7,856	- 20	+ 660	5.86	+ 0.01	- 0.01
Other Departments ...	7,171	+ 349	+ 511	5.84	+ 0.10	+ 0.14
Mechanics, Labourers ...	7,987	+ 247	+ 238	5.98	+ 0.09	+ 0.03
Total, Steel ...	51,241	+ 1,929	+ 2,715	5.69	+ 0.13	+ 0.06
IRON OR STEEL (not distinguished):						
Rolling Mills ...	10,637	+ 11	+ 10	5.74	- 0.01	+ 0.04
Forging and Pressing ...	575	- 19	- 170	5.65	+ 0.08	+ 0.11
Founding ...	700	- 1	+ 46	5.91	+ 0.04	+ 0.04
Other Departments ...	3,731	+ 162	+ 568	5.78	+ 0.07	- 0.13
Mechanics, Labourers ...	6,015	+ 398	+ 291	5.77	+ 0.04	- 0.02
Total, Iron or Steel } (not distinguished)	21,658	+ 551	+ 745	5.46	+ 0.03	+ 0.01
Grand Total ...	90,800	+ 2,736	+ 3,801	5.81	+ 0.07	+ 0.08
Districts.						
Northumberland & Durham	10,179	+ 232	- 181	5.50	+ 0.38	+ 0.14
Cleveland ...	8,673	+ 911	+ 457	5.61	+ 0.10	- 0.03
Sheffield and Rotherham	17,132	- 20	+ 944	5.69	+ 0.06	+ 0.15
Leeds, Bradford, and other Yorkshire Towns	4,408	+ 149	+ 283	5.44	+ 0.03	- 0.05
Cumberland, Lancs. & Ches.	7,212	- 175	- 67	5.16	- 0.05	- 0.10
Staffordshire ...	10,174	- 18	+ 447	5.49	- 0.02	+ 0.12
Other Midland Counties ...	5,009	+ 350	+ 241	5.44	+ 0.03	+ 0.21
Wales and Monmouth ...	10,266	+ 297	+ 1,009	5.61	+ 0.07	- 0.02
Total, England and Wales	73,053	+ 1,766	+ 3,133	5.53	+ 0.09	+ 0.07
Scotland ...	17,747	+ 970	+ 668	5.44	+ 0.02	+ 0.12
Total ...	90,800	+ 2,736	+ 3,801	5.81	+ 0.07	+ 0.08

Compared with a month ago employment showed an improvement in all districts except Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, and Staffordshire. The improvement was most marked in Northumberland and Durham, Cleveland, Other Midland Counties and in Scotland, and affected open hearth melting furnaces, crucible furnaces, Bessemer converters and steel rolling mills. At iron forges, however, there was a decline. The average number of shifts worked showed an increase of 0.07 of a shift and the total number of workpeople employed was increased by 2,736 (3.1 per cent.).

Compared with a year ago, employment showed an improvement in every district except Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire, where there was a slight decline. The improvement was greatest in Sheffield and Rotherham, Other Midland Counties and in Wales and Monmouth, and affected all the principal departments. The number of shifts worked showed an increase of 0.08 of a shift, and the total number of workpeople was increased by 3,801 (4.4 per cent.).

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during December, 1910, amounted to 151,199 tons, or 25,392 tons more than in November, 1910, and 43,710 tons more than in December, 1909.

The Exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron and tinned plates, and black plates for tinning) during December, 1910, amounted to 249,285 tons, or 13,630 tons more than in November, 1910, and 8,542 tons more than in December, 1909.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET WORKS.

(Based on 59 Returns—55 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 1 from a Local Correspondent.)

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

At the works covered by the Returns 449 tinplate mills were working at the end of December, 1910, as compared with 442 a month ago, and 419 a year ago. The sheet mills working at the same dates numbered 64, 64, and 52 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 25,650 workpeople.

The following Table shows the number of works open and the number of mills in operation at the end of December, 1910, together with the increase as compared with a month ago and a year ago.

—	Number of Works open.			Number of Mills in operation.		
	At end of Dec., 1910.	Increase on a		At end of Dec., 1910.	Increase on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate Works	77	1	1	449	7	30
Steel Sheet Works	10	...	2	64	...	12
Total ...	87	1	3	513	7	42

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

—	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
				Tons.	Tons.
Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.					
To United States ...	2,959	4,904	4,603	- 2,245	- 2,004
British East Indies ...	5,656	4,804	5,350	+ 832	+ 286
Germany ...	2,956	3,539	3,955	- 583	- 999
France ...	1,786	934	1,291	+ 852	+ 495
Netherlands ...	3,084	3,272	3,281	- 188	- 197
China and Japan ...	2,987	2,733	3,862	+ 254	- 875
Australia ...	3,171	1,895	2,149	+ 1,275	+ 1,022
Canada ...	853	2,035	736	- 1,182	+ 217
Other Countries ...	14,998	19,879	11,931	- 4,971	+ 2,977
Total ...	38,040	43,996	37,218	- 5,956	+ 822
Black Plates for Tinning.					
Total ...	4,216	6,168	5,681	- 1,952	- 1,465

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 368 Returns—7 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 345 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during the early part of December continued to be affected adversely by the dispute in this industry. An improvement, however, set in at the termination of the dispute about the middle of the month and employment at the end of December, 1910, was better than at the end of December, 1909.

Branches of Trade Unions with a membership of 57,878 reported 12.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, 1910, as compared with 22.1 per cent. a month ago and 16.9 per cent. a year ago.

District.	No. of Members* at end of Dec., 1910.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
		Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Tyne and Blyth ...	9,445	18.7	52.8	25.5	- 34.1	- 6.8
Wear ...	3,876	23.1	48.0	24.3	- 24.9	- 1.2
Tees and Hartlepool ...	4,947	19.2	81.3	20.7	- 62.1	- 1.5
Hummer ...	2,655	16.6	28.3	23.5	- 11.7	- 6.9
Thames and Medway ...	4,363	3.0	3.5	8.2	- 0.5	- 5.2
South Coast ...	5,231	3.4	1.9	6.5	+ 1.5	- 3.1
Bristol Channel Ports ...	2,762	11.1	17.5	20.0	- 6.4	- 8.9
Mersey ...	4,389	8.3	22.6	8.3	- 14.3	...
Clyde ...	11,617	12.6	43.5	13.5	- 30.9	- 0.9
Dundee, Leith and Aberdeen ...	1,994</					

All the principal districts with the exception of the Thames and Medway, South Coast, Bristol Channel and Belfast districts were affected by the dispute, and owing largely to its termination there was a great decrease in the percentage unemployed in each district affected as compared with a month ago, and employment was stated to be improving steadily. In all districts except the Mersey, where there was no change, there was a decrease in the percentage unemployed compared with a year ago.

In the Thames and Medway district employment continued good and was better than a year ago.

On the South Coast it was fairly good on the whole, and good in Government Yards. Though not quite so good as a month ago, it was better than a year ago.

Employment was moderate on the whole at the Bristol Channel Ports and better than a month ago and a year ago. It continued good at Pembroke Dock and Swansea.

Employment continued good at Belfast, and was much better than a year ago.

TONNAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

According to Lloyd's Return there was at the end of December, 1910, a decrease in the tonnage of merchant vessels under construction of 22,694 tons gross (or 2.0 per cent.) as compared with the end of September, 1910, and an increase of 218,129 tons gross (or 23.9 per cent.) as compared with the end of December, 1909. The war vessels under construction showed a decrease of 23,034 tons displacement as compared with September, 1910, and an increase of 16,271 tons displacement as compared with December, 1909.

District.	Merchant Vessels.			War Vessels.		
	End of Dec., 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on		End of Dec., 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on	
		Sept., '10.	Dec., '09.		Sept., '10.	Dec., '09.
	Tons gross.	Tons gross.	Tons gross.	Tons displacement.	Tons displacement.	Tons displacement.
Clyde	374,960	- 42,417	+ 68,506	102,591	- 3,935	+ 55,640
Belfast	250,807	+ 18,807	+ 82,697	—	—	—
Tyne	206,692	+ 2,676	+ 58,863	54,960	+ 515	- 5,165
Wear	126,897	+ 17,624	+ 21,372	—	—	—
Hartlepool and Whitby	44,135	- 11,913	- 10,815	—	—	—
Middlesbro' and Stockton	74,587	+ 8,939	+ 10,902	—	—	—
Barrow, Maryport and Workington	2,730	- 249	- 150	37,965	- 5	- 7,265
Other Districts... Royal Dockyards	52,695	- 16,161	- 13,146	37,085	- 859	+ 25,241
				56,880	- 18,750	- 52,180
Total	1,131,503	- 22,694	+ 218,129	289,481	- 23,034	+ 16,271

Merchant Vessels.—Compared with the end of September, 1910, there was a decrease of over 42,000 tons on the Clyde, and of nearly 12,000 tons in the Hartlepool district; the greatest increases were at Belfast and on the Wear. As compared with a year ago there were marked increases in the principal districts; at Belfast the increase was over 80,000 tons. In the Hartlepool district there was a decrease of nearly 11,000 tons.

War Vessels.—Compared with September, 1910, there was not much change, except at the Royal Dockyards, where the decrease was considerable. Compared with a year ago there was a large increase on the Clyde and a decrease on the Tyne and at Barrow. At the Royal Dockyards there was a decrease of 52,000 tons as compared with December, 1909.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

(Based on 1,030 Returns—8 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 1,020 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 52 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during December continued fair on the whole. It was rather better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago.

Returns from Trade Unions with a total membership of 165,218 show that the percentage unemployed at the end of December was 5.8, the same as a month ago, although employment was affected by the usual holiday suspensions. In December, 1909, the percentage unemployed was 9.8.

Compared with a month ago nine districts showed increases in the percentages unemployed, while five districts (including Glasgow) showed decreases. Com-

pared with a year ago a decrease in the percentage unemployed is shown in every district; the decrease being most marked in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Scotland and Ireland, where in December, 1909, the percentages were very high.

District.	No. of Members* of Unions at end of Dec., 1910.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
		Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		North East Coast	14,131	15.7	15.6	16.8	+ 0.1	- 1.1
Manchester and Liverpool District	17,956	5.5	4.5	9.8	+ 1.0	- 4.3
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District	12,391	8.6	9.0	15.0	- 0.4	- 6.4
West Riding Towns	12,316	6.8	5.8	13.4	+ 1.0	- 6.6
Hull and Lincolnshire District	3,932	4.7	5.3	12.6	- 0.6	- 7.9
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	6,791	2.9	2.0	5.3	+ 0.9	- 2.4
Notts, Derby, and Leicester District	4,372	6.1	5.1	8.4	+ 1.0	- 2.3
London and Neighbouring District	11,372	2.6	2.4	4.8	+ 0.2	- 2.2
South Coast	4,510	1.4	1.7	6.7	- 0.3	- 5.3
South Wales and Bristol District	6,425	3.1	3.3	6.9	- 0.2	- 3.8
Glasgow and District	14,684	5.5	7.0	10.9	- 1.5	- 5.4
East of Scotland	3,667	8.8	7.4	19.5	+ 1.4	- 10.7
Belfast and Dublin	3,790	3.1	2.7	8.8	+ 0.4	- 5.7
Other Districts	5,384	4.1	2.7	7.5	+ 1.4	- 3.4
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which District figures are not available)	168,218	5.8	5.8	9.8	...	- 4.0

On the North-East Coast employment was still unsettled, with much short time, and at most of the engine shops on the Tyne and Wear the usual Christmas holidays were extended, engine work being ahead of shipbuilding owing to the recent boiler-makers' dispute. Employment remained fair at the Elswick ordnance factories, and at Middlesbrough and Darlington. Brass-turners, fitters and finishers reported it as good, and better than a month ago.

Employment was fair at Manchester, Liverpool, and Barrow, except with brassfounders at Liverpool who reported it as bad. At Crewe short time was still in operation. In the Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn district employment remained slack, with short time common in textile machinery works. In general engineering works at Oldham employment was still fair. It was fair at Bury, Rochdale and Hyde. At Preston it continued fair with engineers, and slack with ironfounders.

At Leeds employment remained moderate on the whole; with patternmakers a considerable improvement was reported. At Sheffield, Bradford and Halifax employment was fairly good with engineers and moderate with ironfounders. At Hull it was moderate and better than a month ago. In Lincolnshire it was fair, except with engineers at Grimsby.

In the Midland and Eastern Counties employment continued fairly good generally, and much overtime was worked in the motor industry. At Nottingham, however, employment was dull and worse than a month ago, while with bobbin and carriage makers it was also worse than a year ago. At Derby, Stoke and Oswestry short time was still in operation at railway shops.

In London, on the South Coast, in the Royal Dockyards, and in the South Wales and Bristol district employment remained fairly good generally.

In the Glasgow district employment was fairly good and better than a month ago. In the East of Scotland it was fair except at Dundee, where it was quiet. The large decrease in the percentages unemployed for Glasgow and the East of Scotland, as compared with a year ago, is mainly due to the decrease in the number of moulders unemployed.

Employment remained good at Belfast and slack at Dublin.

The Imports of machinery in December, 1910, amounted to £396,356, or £19,840 more than in November, 1910, and £57,081 more than in December, 1909.

The Exports of machinery in December, 1910, amounted to £2,563,053, or £14,735 more than in November, 1910, and £399,160 more than in December, 1909.

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

(Based on 87 Returns—3 from Employers' Associations, 58 from Trade Unions, and 26 from Local Correspondents.)

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

Trade Unions with a total membership of 23,524 reported 2.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 2.0 per cent. a month ago and 3.5 per cent. a year ago.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, &c.—Employment remained good with brassworkers generally and was better than a year ago. It also remained good with bedstead workers at Birmingham.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment continued fair in the nut and bolt trade in Darlaston and district. It was good in the spike, rivet and rough bolt trades at Halesowen and Blackheath (Staffs.). At Birmingham employment was good with wire nail, shoe rivet and machine-made rivet makers and fairly good with cut nail makers.

Wire.—Employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. At Birmingham it was also better than a month ago, and some overtime was reported.

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

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment was bad at Sheffield and Rotherham, and on the whole continued good at Falkirk. It was moderate on the whole.

Cutlery, Tools, &c.—At Sheffield employment was good with most branches, but fair with edge tool grinders, file hardeners, table blade forgers and grinders and table knife hafters, and moderate with joiners' tool makers, and saw makers and grinders. It was fairly good in the edge tool trade at Birmingham, and continued good at Wednesbury. At Redditch it was good in the needle trade and fair in the fishhook trade, and in both cases better than a month ago and a year ago. It was reported as slack in the Coventry watch trade.

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

Chains, Anchors, and Springs.—Employment continued moderate with block and cable chain makers at Cradley Heath, and fair in the anvil and vice trade at Dudley. It continued moderate on the whole with anchor-smiths on the Tyne and Wear, and slack with railway spring fitters and vicemen at Sheffield.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment with braziers and sheet metal workers continued fair generally and was better than a year ago. It was good with tinsplate makers-up. It continued good, with overtime, in the ironplate trade in the Lye district and at Dudley, Bilston and Wolverhampton.

Gold, Silver, and Britannia Metal.—Employment in London continued good and was better than a year ago with silversmiths and electroplate operatives, but was below the usual level for December with goldsmiths and jewellers. At Birmingham employment was fairly good in the gold and silver jewellery trade, and good with silversmiths and electroplaters and Britannia metal workers. It continued fair with silversmiths at Sheffield.

Farriers.—Employment continued fair generally.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the value of cutlery and hardware imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description.	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:—	£	£	£	£	£
Cutlery	12,293	13,427	15,659	- 1,134	- 3,366
Hardware	102,576	109,046	101,155	+ 6,470	+ 1,421
Exports:—					
Cutlery	76,466	79,027	64,197	- 2,561	+ 12,269
Hardware	214,032	216,309	202,827	- 2,277	+ 11,205
Implement and Tools...	203,663	210,173	186,881	- 6,510	+ 16,782

COTTON TRADE.

(Based on 472 Returns—405 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 58 from Trade Unions, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the spinning and weaving branches somewhat improved; it was much better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 131,037 workpeople in the week ended December 17th, 1910, showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 14.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	17,713	+ 0.4	+ 1.7	25,743	+ 0.5	+ 18.5
Spinning	28,628	+ 0.8	+ 1.1	28,163	+ 1.1	+ 17.8
Weaving	38,474	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	52,895	+ 0.4	+ 14.0
Other	10,120	+ 0.8	+ 0.6	11,778	+ 0.5	+ 6.3
Not specified	16,102	+ 1.0	+ 4.7	16,674	+ 0.6	+ 16.3
Total	131,037	+ 0.6	+ 1.4	125,253	+ 0.7	+ 14.9
Districts.						
Ashton	8,532	+ 0.2	- 4.0	8,375	- 0.3	+ 20.6
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	7,257	...	- 4.3	6,903	+ 1.3	+ 17.4
Oldham	15,141	+ 0.3	+ 1.7	16,150	+ 0.4	+ 24.1
Bolton and Leigh	15,270	+ 1.5	+ 0.8	14,038	+ 2.0	+ 4.0
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden	10,471	...	+ 0.7	9,927	+ 0.6	+ 17.7
Manchester	9,961	+ 0.1	- 0.3	7,915	- 1.6	+ 20.7
Preston and Chorley	14,405	+ 0.5	+ 3.0	12,604	+ 1.0	+ 4.1
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen	17,350	+ 1.4	+ 4.9	17,111	+ 0.5	+ 23.8
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson	14,458	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	16,818	+ 1.4	+ 12.1
Other Lancashire Towns...	5,126	+ 1.4	+ 14.2	4,136	+ 1.9	+ 16.0
Yorkshire Towns	6,208	+ 0.1	+ 1.3	5,871	+ 0.4	+ 8.5
Other Districts	6,858	+ 1.3	+ 1.4	5,405	- 0.2	+ 13.3
Total	131,037	+ 0.6	+ 1.4	125,253	+ 0.7	+ 14.9

Compared with a month ago, every department showed a slight increase both in the numbers employed and in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago, there was a small increase in the numbers employed in each department. The increase in the amount of wages paid was, however, considerable, amounting to over 20 per cent. in four districts.

Employment was stated to be well maintained and much better than a year ago with spinners in the Oldham district. With weavers it continued to improve, and was better than a year ago, velvet weavers being especially busy.

In the Bolton district both the spinning and weaving branches were more active and employment more regular than a month ago and a year ago.

Both spinners and weavers in the Blackburn district were stated to be fully employed.

At Burnley, weavers were working full time and the improvement which set in in November was well maintained. Weavers of coloured goods at Colne and Nelson were fairly well employed. At Rossendale employment with weavers was stated to have improved, and was fair.

Raw Cotton.

American Cotton.—During the month of December, 1910, the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 8.08d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 8.17d. per lb. and the lowest, 7.95d. The average price for November, 1910, was 7.93d. per lb., and for December, 1909, 8.06d. per lb. For the period from January 1st to 10th, 1911, the average price of "middling American" was 8.06d. per lb.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on January 13th, 1911, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 1,348,410 bales, as compared with 1,127,960 bales on January 14th, 1910.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during December, 1910, averaged 10.55d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 10.75d., and the

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Throwing	1,993	- 2.1	+ 3.2	478	+ 0.6	+ 10.4
Spinning	2,677	- 0.3	+ 2.2	2,005	- 0.4	+ 3.3
Weaving	3,906	- 0.1	+ 14.1	2,593	- 0.8	+ 13.1
Other	732	- 0.8	- 7.0	539	+ 0.2	- 3.6
Not specified	469	- 3.1	+ 9.3	384	- 7.2	+ 17.1
Total	8,877	- 0.6	+ 6.7	5,999	- 0.9	+ 8.0
Districts.						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	3,337	+ 0.1	+ 17.7	2,577	+ 0.2	+ 15.1
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	966	- 1.5	- 0.3	694	- 4.1	+ 9.8
Eastern Counties	2,704	- 1.5	+ 4.2	1,588	- 1.7	+ 5.3
Other Districts, including Scotland and Leek	1,870	- 0.1	- 2.6	1,140	- 0.2	- 3.0
Total	8,877	- 0.6	+ 6.7	5,999	- 0.9	+ 8.0

With throwsters and spinners employment was fair at Macclesfield and Congleton, and moderate at Leek. At Macclesfield it was bad and worse than a month ago with both hand loom and power loom weavers. At Leek it was moderate with trimming weavers. Employment in the Bradford district was moderate generally. In the Eastern Counties employment showed some decline on a month ago, but was better than a year ago.

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

Description.	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports :—					
Raw Silk ... lbs	54,262	109,765	114,592	- 55,503	- 60,330
Thrown Silk ... lbs	29,360	33,553	44,436	- 4,193	- 15,076
Spun Silk Yarn ... lbs	44,552	40,535	37,524	+ 4,017	+ 7,028
Silk Broad-Stuffs yds	5,268,231	5,986,795	5,458,592	- 720,564	- 190,361
Exports :—					
Thrown Silk ... lbs	5,076	4,057	2,213	+ 1,019	+ 2,863
Spun Silk Yarn ... lbs	109,558	84,369	128,047	+ 25,189	- 18,489
Silk Broad-Stuffs yds	505,232	302,526	398,282	+ 202,706	+ 106,950

HOSIERY TRADE.

(Based on 105 Returns—97 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 5 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was good, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 19,558 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 4.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Leicester	9,763	- 1.1	+ 4.0	7,751	- 1.7	+ 3.0
Leicester Country District ...	2,455	- 1.1	+ 4.4	2,074	- 1.6	+ 7.0
Notts and Derbyshire ...	4,533	- 0.2	+ 3.8	3,270	- 4.2	- 1.1
Scotland	2,187	+ 1.1	+ 9.7	1,566	- 0.2	+ 9.7
Other Districts	620	- 0.3	+ 9.7	377	- 2.1	+ 11.5
Total, United Kingdom	19,558	- 0.1	+ 4.8	14,978	- 2.1	+ 3.4

At Leicester employment was fairly good, at Loughborough it was fair, at Hinckley it was good. With power frame workers in Nottingham and Derbyshire employment was fairly good; with hand frame workers in the country districts it was, on the whole, fair. In Scotland employment continued good, and was better than a year ago; overtime was reported in the Hawick and Selkirk districts.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the values of woollen and cotton hosiery imported and exported for the months stated :—

Description.	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Nov., 1910, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Hosiery, Woollen ...	40,390	45,637	59,839	- 5,247	+ 551
" Cotton ...	134,477	142,420	121,862	- 7,943	+ 12,615
Exports :					
Hosiery, Woollen ...	128,889	115,837	124,843	+ 13,052	+ 4,046
" Cotton ...	45,569	41,306	40,891	+ 4,263	+ 4,678

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

(Based on 42 Returns—21 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 12 from Trade Unions, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

Carpet Trade.

EMPLOYMENT during December was about the same as a month ago, and showed an improvement as compared with a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 6,139 workpeople and paying £4,861 in wages in the week ended December 17th, 1910, showed an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed, and a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching and Finishing.

Woollen and Worsted Dyers.—Employment in the West Riding was moderate, and rather worse than a month ago. About one quarter of the Trade Union dyers worked short time, and about one-half worked overtime.

Cotton Dyers and Bleachers.—Employment was fairly good, and better than a year ago.

Calico Printers, &c.—Employment with machine calico printers continued good, and was slightly better than a year ago. With calico printers' engravers in Derbyshire it continued good. In Scotland it continued good in all branches of the trade, and was better than a year ago.

Silk Dyers.—Employment was reported as bad at Macclesfield, and as fair at Leek.

Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, &c.—At Leicester employment showed a further slight improvement, at Hinckley it continued good, and at Loughborough it was fairly good, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago. At Nottingham employment with dyers was moderate; with bleachers at Basford it was quiet, with hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell it was fair; on the whole, employment in Nottinghamshire was worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Calenderers, &c.—In Glasgow employment continued good. In Dundee it was reported as good with bleachfield workers, and as fair with calender workers.

TAILORING TRADE.

(Based on 118 Returns—91 from Employers, 4 from Trade Unions, and 23 from Local Correspondents.)

Bespoke Branch.

London.—Employment during December showed the usual seasonal decline compared with a month ago, and was not quite so good as a year ago.

Returns from firms paying £11,219 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended December 17th showed a decrease of 11.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 1.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

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

Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment continued fair, and showed little change compared with a year ago.

Leeds.—Employment was fair, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,928 workpeople in their factories (in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops) in the week

ended December 17th showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 5.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. The Jewish operatives reported employment as fairly good.

Other Centres.—At Bristol employment continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. At Manchester, Norwich and Glasgow it was moderate.

The **Imports** of apparel, not waterproofed, in December, 1910, were valued at £235,643, as compared with £232,738 in November, 1910, and £244,059 in December, 1909; and the **Exports** for the same months at £621,460, £549,784 and £519,178 respectively.

HAT TRADE.

(Based on 10 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations, and 8 from Trade Unions.)

EMPLOYMENT during December in the **Silk** hat trade continued bad, and was worse than a year ago; much short time was reported.

In the **Felt** hat trade employment was quiet, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of December was 8.1, compared with 6.7 a month ago and 3.2 a year ago. At Denton and Stockport employment was quiet, and short time was reported. In Warwickshire employment was fair, but showed a decline compared with a month ago.

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

Description.	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports :					
All kinds ... dozens	43,883	21,795	36,855	+ 22,088	+ 7,028
Exports :					
Felt ...	50,695	42,376	41,117	+ 8,319	+ 9,578
Straw ...	46,446	42,896	43,605	+ 3,550	+ 2,821
Other sorts ...	11,616	14,393	8,479	+ 223	+ 3,137
Total	108,757	96,663	93,221	+ 12,092	+ 15,536

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(Based on 482 Returns—443 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 28 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT showed little change compared with a month ago, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 62,570 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 3.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
London	2,545	+ 0.3	+ 1.8	2,665	+ 3.5	+ 4.2
Leicester	12,965	+ 1.3	+ 1.4	13,196	+ 5.8	+ 0.2
Leicester Country District	2,978	+ 1.0	- 2.6	2,755	- 0.1	- 4.4
Northampton	9,618	+ 1.0	+ 9.7	9,210	+ 1.7	+ 7.9
Northampton Country District	8,732	- 0.9	+ 2.5	8,070	- 1.2	+ 0.9
Kettering	3,784	- 1.3	+ 1.6	3,465	- 5.5	- 3.4
Stafford & District ...	2,753	- 0.5	+ 4.4	2,582	+ 4.7	+ 8.6
Norwich & District ...	3,391	+ 0.5	+ 4.1	2,988	+ 3.5	+ 4.9
Bristol & District ...	1,389	- 0.2	+ 0.5	1,104	- 5.5	+ 1.1
Kingswood	1,894	- 0.9	+ 5.0	1,794	+ 4.5	+ 10.7
Leeds & District ...	2,118	+ 0.5	+ 2.3	1,942	+ 0.4	+ 3.7
Manchester & District ...	2,492	- 0.2	+ 10.4	2,171	+ 6.3	+ 1.9
Birmingham & District ...	971	+ 0.5	- 1.5	937	+ 5.5	+ 1.4
Other parts of England and Wales	2,807	- 1.9	+ 2.9	2,529	- 1.4	+ 5.9
ENGLAND & WALES	58,437	+ 0.2	+ 3.5	55,258	+ 1.1	+ 2.5
SCOTLAND	3,640	- 0.4	+ 0.1	3,377	- 1.3	- 0.8
IRELAND	493	...	+ 5.6	347	+ 0.3	+ 6.4
UNITED KINGDOM	62,570	+ 0.1	+ 3.3	58,982	+ 0.9	+ 2.3

At Leicester employment was reported as moderate, with some short time. At Northampton employment showed the usual seasonal slackness, but was better than a year ago; at Kettering there was a decline compared with a month ago and a year ago; with army bootmakers in Northamptonshire employment was slack. At Bristol it showed a decline, and was bad. At Kingswood employment was not so good as a month ago, but much better than a year ago. At Leeds it was moderate. In Scotland it showed a slight decline compared with a month ago and a year ago.

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

Description.	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports (less re-exports)					
Quantity ... doz. pairs	31,585	37,151	32,466	- 5,566	- 881
Value £	60,279	66,870	68,903	- 6,591	- 8,624
Exports (British & Irish)					
Quantity ... doz. pairs	124,648	120,238	112,432	+ 4,415	+ 12,216
Value £	299,984	287,449	251,854	+ 12,535	+ 48,130

OTHER LEATHER TRADES.

(Based on 32 Returns—17 from Trade Unions and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was moderate; and rather worse than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with 3,131 members reported 5.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 5.2 per cent. a month ago and 5.5 per cent. a year ago.

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

Saddle and Harness Makers.—At Walsall employment was good with saddlers and fair with harness makers. With saddlers at Dublin it was fairly good and better than a month ago; at Glasgow it continued quiet.

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

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

Description.	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports :					
Hides raw, and pieces thereof, dry ... cwt.	36,403	40,593	43,685	- 4,190	- 12,282
Do, wet	49,999	68,771	66,865	- 18,772	- 16,866
Total Hides, dry and wet	86,402	109,364	110,550	- 22,962	- 29,148
Goat skins, undressed, No. Sheep skins ... (value) £	934,810	781,909	1,390,000	+ 152,901	- 455,190
Leather* cwt.	239,609	250,927	275,172	- 20,318	- 44,563
Exports :					
Leather cwt.	18,041	18,228	22,261	- 187	- 4,220
Gloves doz. prs.	13,487	15,898	20,218	- 2,411	- 6,731
Machinery Belting ... cwt.	3,006	3,114	2,951	- 108	+ 55
Other Sorts ... (value) £	49,056	54,657	42,024	- 5,601	+ 7,032
Saddlery and Harness ... (value)	41,710	49,409	37,075	- 7,699	+ 4,635

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

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

(Based on 197 Returns—190 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 about the same as a year ago; with court and private dressmakers it was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, &c., trades, employment was moderate. In the shirt and collar trade it was moderate in England and fairly good in Scotland and Ireland; 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 1,852 dressmakers in the week ended December 17th, showed a decrease of 3.7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 0.6 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fair. With court and private dressmakers employing 1,262 workpeople in the week ended December 17th, there was a decrease of 9.7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2.0 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was moderate. With milliners in the West-End employment was moderate.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, under-clothing and infants' millinery trades, firms in London employing 2,539 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended December 17th showed a decrease of 3.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was moderate.

In Manchester employment in the mantle trade was moderate, and worse than a month ago; it was about the same as a year ago. In the costume, skirt and blouse trades, firms employing 2,041 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed an increase of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 5.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was moderate, and slightly worse than a month ago; it was about the same as a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, employing 6,958 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) and paying £4,741 in wages in the week ended December 17th, showed an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 0.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment generally was moderate in England, and fairly good in Scotland and Ireland.

Corset Trade.—Returns from corset manufacturers employing 3,011 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended December 17th, showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 3.8 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

(Based on 412 Returns—126 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 270 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

PAPER TRADES.

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

Returns received from firms employing 20,900 workpeople in the last week of the month showed that there was practically no change in the total number of workpeople employed by them as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.5 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

—	Workpeople paid Wages in last week of Dec., 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:		Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties	5,660	- 0.1	+ 2.6
Midlands, Wales and Ireland	1,553	- 1.0	+ 3.1
Southern Counties	6,956	- 0.1	+ 2.1
Scotland	5,960	+ 0.5	+ 2.8
Total, Machine-made Paper, &c.	20,131	+ 0.0	+ 2.5
Hand-made Paper	769	+ 0.3	+ 1.3
Total	20,900	+ 0.0	+ 2.5

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 1,455 members had 2.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 2.3 per cent. a month ago and 2.2 per cent. a year ago. In the hand-made paper trade Trade Unions with 570 members had 5.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 5.6 per cent. a month ago and 6.3 per cent. a year ago.

The Imports of paper in December, 1910, amounted to £600,658, as compared with £580,760 in November, 1910, and £515,825 in December, 1909; and the Exports for the same months amounted to £272,748, £273,578 and £239,683 respectively.

PRINTING TRADES.

Employment with letterpress printers continued good for the first part of the month, when much overtime was worked on election and Christmas work; in the latter part of the month, however, employment was not so good, and the percentage unemployed at the end of the month was greater than both a month ago and a year ago. At Nottingham employment was slack. With lithographic printers employment was fairly good. It was rather worse than a month ago but better than a year ago. At Bradford and Dublin employment was slack.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Dec., 1910.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	21,663	6.4	2.0	4.4	+ 4.4	+ 2.0
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,156	5.5	1.8	4.0	+ 3.7	+ 1.5
Lancs. and Cheshire	6,840	5.5	1.9	4.7	+ 3.6	+ 0.8
East Midland and Eastern Counties	2,589	3.7	1.7	2.2	+ 2.0	+ 1.5
West Midlands	2,677	4.4	2.8	3.2	+ 1.6	+ 1.2
S. & S.W. Counties and Wales	4,150	3.3	1.8	3.5	+ 1.5	- 0.2
Scotland	6,189	2.3	1.6	4.2	+ 0.7	- 1.9
Ireland	2,525	6.0	7.5	6.7	- 1.5	- 0.7
United Kingdom	52,169	5.2	2.2	4.2	+ 3.0	+ 1.0

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment was good generally in London, a good deal of overtime was reported, particularly in the early part of the month, but at the end of the month the percentage unemployed showed a considerable increase compared with a month ago, and was about the same as a year ago. In other districts employment was better than a month ago and a year ago. Overtime was reported as general at Edinburgh.

—	No. of Members of Unions at end of Dec., 1910.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	3,447	4.7	1.0	4.6	+ 3.7	+ 0.1
Other Districts	3,299	2.5	2.7	3.0	- 0.2	- 0.5
United Kingdom	6,746	3.6	1.9	3.8	+ 1.7	- 0.2

BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 2,635 Returns—1,198 from Employers and Employers' Associations, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 1,375 from Trade Unions and their Branches, and 62 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in December continued slack. It showed a decline compared with a month ago, but was rather better than a year ago.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of December was 10.7 as compared with 9.4 a month ago and 13.9 a year ago; and for

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

(Based on 166 Returns—5 from Employers' Associations, 124 from Trade Unions, and 37 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT on the whole continued moderate; it was rather worse than a month ago and better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 34,228 reported 6.8 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 5.7 per cent. a month ago, and 9.0 per cent. a year ago.

Furnishing Trades.

Employment in these trades continued dull and was rather worse than a month ago, though better than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 9.2 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 8.0 per cent. a month ago, and 13.0 per cent. a year ago. Employment was generally fair at Belfast, Dublin and Nottingham, but continued bad at Glasgow and Middlesbrough. It was good with upholsterers at Liverpool.

The Imports of furniture and cabinetware in December, 1910, were valued at £36,227 as compared with £42,217 in November, 1910, and £34,346 in December, 1909; and the Exports for the same months were valued at £101,421, £103,354, and £76,931 respectively.

Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment continued moderate, and was about the same as a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of December was 6.7, as compared with 6.1 a month ago, and 6.7 a year ago. Employment was bad at Hull and Leicester, but fair at Belfast, Middlesbrough and Hartlepool. On the Tyne it was improving.

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

Description.	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Timber, hewn	Loads. 183,391	Loads. 189,753	Loads. 179,529	- 6,362	+ 3,862
" sawn	306,790	408,787	376,392	- 101,997	- 69,602
House Frames, Fittings and Joiners' Work (value)	£ 20,003	£ 18,758	£ 14,945	+ £ 1,245	+ £ 5,058

Coopers.

Employment continued fair on the whole. It was bad at Burton, where it was worse than a month ago, and dull at Liverpool and Manchester.

Coachbuilding.

Employment was fair, but showed a further decline as compared with the previous month, while better than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 4.6 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 3.9 per cent. in the previous month, and 7.0 per cent. a year ago.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment on the whole was slack and much worse than a month ago; it was also worse than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of December was 15.0, as compared with 6.8 a month ago, and 10.3 a year ago.

Other Trades.—Employment was generally good with packing-case makers. With general wheelwrights and smiths employment continued moderate. With basket makers it was generally fair; with skip makers at Oldham it was moderate and better than a month ago and a year ago.

The Imports of brushes and brooms in December, 1910, were valued at £36,204, as compared with £37,969 in November, 1910, and £35,719 in December, 1909; and the Exports for the same months were valued at £18,138, £22,870, and £19,615, respectively.

plumbers at the same dates the percentages were 11.3, 11.6, and 9.9. In the Northern Counties and Scotland, where many of the Trade Union members are engaged in shipbuilding, the percentages unemployed were lower than a month ago.

Returns from Trade Unions of bricklayers, masons, slaters, painters, plasterers, and labourers showed a decline in employment compared with a month ago, and a slight improvement on the whole compared with a year ago.

For London the Trade Union returns showed that 8.0 per cent. of carpenters and joiners were unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 5.4 a month ago, and 11.3 a year ago. The corresponding percentages for plumbers were 9.5, 12.9, and 13.7.

Returns received from 1,140 firms employing 50,730 workpeople at the end of December showed that as compared with a month ago there was a decrease in the total number employed by them of 2.6 per cent. in London, and of 6.7 per cent. in other districts.

District.	No. paid on last pay-day in Dec., 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	No. paid on last pay-day in Dec., 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Skilled Tradesmen.		Labourers.	
					Lads and Boys.	Total.	Lads and Boys.	Total.
London	7,141	- 296	5,011	- 37	2,451	- 283	420	- 283
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	2,985	- 155	4,342	- 158	3,758	- 127	3,022	- 236
Lancashire and Cheshire	4,342	- 158	3,758	- 127	3,022	- 236	2,525	- 236
Midland and Eastern Counties	3,454	- 79	3,919	- 634	2,525	- 236	360	- 36
S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	3,919	- 634	2,525	- 236	360	- 36	22,404	- 1,437
Other Districts	563	- 115	3403	- 225	1,862	- 196	624	+ 8
England and Wales	22,404	- 1,437	17,147	- 1,141	3,403	- 225	624	+ 8
Scotland	3,403	- 225	1,862	- 196	624	+ 8	26,431	- 1,697
Ireland	624	+ 8	19,897	- 1,329	519	- 10	6,063	- 430
United Kingdom	26,431	- 1,697	19,897	- 1,329	647	+ 8	1,094	- 6
London	519	- 10	12,671	- 343	1,094	- 6	6,924	- 229
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	2,985	- 155	4,342	- 158	448	- 23	7,079	- 889
Lancashire and Cheshire	4,342	- 158	3,758	- 127	635	+ 13	1,000	- 154
Midland & Eastern Counties	3,454	- 79	3,919	- 634	57	- 3	3,490	- 21
S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	3,919	- 634	2,525	- 236	870	- 10	6,185	- 431
Other Districts	563	- 115	360	- 36	132	- 2	1,644	- 29
England and Wales	34,900	- 21	42,951	- 2,899	4,402	- 33	59,730	- 3,089
Scotland	3,403	- 225	1,862	- 196	624	+ 8	19,897	- 1,329
Ireland	624	+ 8	1,862	- 196	624	+ 8	19,897	- 1,329
United Kingdom	44,027	- 41	55,675	- 3,514	5,650	- 27	80,267	- 3,447

Employment was slack on the whole, and worse than a month ago, in most of the large centres. It continued moderate with bricklayers at Middlesbrough and Stockton, with carpenters at Huddersfield and Barnsley, and with plumbers at Bradford. It was good with slaters and tilers at Leeds and Hull.

Employment remained moderate with bricklayers and carpenters at Northwich, with painters and plasterers at Oldham, with painters at Ashton, and with plasterers at Manchester.

Employment was fair with bricklayers and carpenters at Lincoln, Northampton and Ipswich. With bricklayers and plumbers at Leicester and with plumbers at Nottingham employment was better than a month ago. It was moderate with bricklayers at Wolverhampton, Walsall, and Shrewsbury, with carpenters at Rugby and the Potteries, with painters at Burton and Coventry and with plumbers at Birmingham.

Employment was fair with bricklayers at Chatham and Maidstone, with carpenters at Maidstone, Oxford, Brighton, Cheltenham and Llanely, and with plumbers and plasterers at Cardiff. With masons at Portsmouth it was very good.

At Glasgow employment was fair with bricklayers, carpenters and plasterers. Masons at Aberdeen and bricklayers at Motherwell were fairly well employed.

Employment remained good at Belfast. It was good and better than a month ago with slaters at Dublin, and was fair with bricklayers and slaters at Cork.

GLASS TRADES.

Based on 80 Returns—54 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 16 from Trade Unions, and 10 from Local Correspondents.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair on the whole, better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 8,218 workpeople in the week ended December 17th, 1910, showed an increase of 3.2 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 3.3 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 9.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 12.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Glass Bottle	4,716	+ 4.1	+ 13.8	£ 6,187	+ 5.3	+ 19.0
Plate Glass	716	+ 0.6	+ 3.2	921	- 1.8	+ 11.5
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,861	+ 2.3	+ 6.5	2,073	- 0.0	+ 4.0
Other Branches	287	+ 2.1	- 7.4	353	+ 0.9	- 9.9
Not Specified	638	+ 2.9	+ 7.0	784	+ 4.1	+ 0.5
Total	8,218	+ 3.2	+ 9.7	10,318	+ 3.3	+ 12.3
Districts.						
North of England	908	+ 7.6	+ 10.1	1,207	+ 13.0	+ 31.8
Yorkshire	4,102	+ 3.3	+ 8.6	5,236	+ 3.6	+ 8.9
Lancashire	856	+ 1.1	+ 20.2	1,031	+ 0.1	+ 26.7
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	1,224	+ 0.8	+ 5.6	1,580	- 1.6	+ 8.6
Scotland	759	+ 1.3	+ 11.8	927	+ 3.8	+ 7.5
Other parts of the United Kingdom	369	+ 8.8	+ 9.2	337	- 0.9	+ 0.6
Total	8,218	+ 3.2	+ 9.7	10,318	+ 3.3	+ 12.3

Employment was fair on the whole in Yorkshire and the North of England, and better than a month ago and a year ago; it was good at Leeds. At St. Helens it was again moderate, but better than a month ago and a year ago. The improvement noted a month ago at Bristol was maintained. Employment continued moderate at Portobello, and fair at Dublin. It was slack with medicine bottle makers at Rotherham. With flint glass makers employment continued good at Birmingham, Wordsley and Stourbridge. With flint glass cutters it was fair at Birmingham, and continued good, with overtime, at Wordsley and Stourbridge. It continued fair with sheet glass workers at St. Helens. With pressed glass workers on the Tyne and Wear it was fair and better than a month ago and a year ago, though short time was still worked. Employment continued good with plate glass bevellers at Birmingham. It was moderate with glass blowers in London.

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

Description.	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
				cwts.	cwts.
Imports:					
Window and German Sheet Glass, including Shades, &c.	110,300	117,597	118,516	- 7,297	- 8,216
Plate	27,410	28,007	21,183	- 597	+ 6,227
Flint, plain, cut or ornamental, &c.	75,279	76,628	72,427	- 1,349	+ 2,852
Manufactures, other sorts	101	413	135	- 312	- 34
Bottles	149,334	140,663	115,503	+ 8,671	+ 33,831
Exports:					
Plate	18,643	19,014	18,170	- 371	+ 473
Flint	6,085	6,211	5,987	- 126	+ 98
Manufactures, other sorts	43,146	59,713	37,893	- 16,567	+ 5,253
Bottles	65,845	75,142	67,246	- 9,297	- 1,401

PORCELAIN, CHINA AND EARTHENWARE INDUSTRY.

(Based on 105 Returns—98 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 2 from Trade Unions, and 5 from Local Correspondents.)

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

Returns from firms employing 21,815 workpeople in

the week ended December 17th, 1910, showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and a decrease of 1.9 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 2.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture	3,851	+ 2.6	+ 9.1	£ 3,861	+ 3.0	+ 10.3
Earthenware Manufacture	13,358	+ 0.1	+ 0.5	12,381	- 3.9	+ 1.3
Other Branches (including unspecified)	4,606	+ 0.4	+ 2.4	4,127	- 0.4	+ 7.6
Total	21,815	+ 0.6	+ 2.3	20,369	- 1.9	+ 4.2
Districts:						
Potteries	16,682	+ 0.8	+ 2.2	14,969	- 2.7	+ 4.8
Other Districts	5,133	- 0.1	+ 2.7	5,400	+ 0.1	+ 2.5
Total	21,815	+ 0.6	+ 2.3	20,369	- 1.9	+ 4.2

In the Potteries employment continued good in the porcelain and china trade and fairly good in the tile trade, and was much better than a year ago in both branches; in the earthenware branch it continued fairly good on the whole, although there was some decline on a month ago. In Scotland employment continued good in the eastern districts, and was moderate and worse than a month ago in the western districts. It was fair with tobacco pipe makers at Glasgow.

The Imports of chinaware or porcelain and earthenware in December, 1910, were valued at £89,831 as compared with £85,975 in November, 1910, and £89,418 in December, 1909; and the Exports for the same months were valued at £246,447, £263,750, and £202,579 respectively.

BRICK TRADE.

(Based on 154 Returns—140 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 3 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was moderate on the whole, worse than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. It was adversely affected by bad weather in a good many districts.

Returns from firms employing 12,482 workpeople in the week ended December 17th showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Dec. 17th, 1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	3,039	+ 0.8	- 3.2	£ 3,346	- 0.9	- 0.1
Midland and Eastern Counties	4,408	- 1.3	+ 0.7	4,433	- 4.8	+ 1.9
South and South-West Counties and Wales	2,705	+ 0.4	+ 1.2	2,728	- 9.3	- 0.7
Scotland	1,557	+ 0.9	+ 1.0	1,722	...	- 2.0
Other Districts	773	- 6.2	- 6.6	672	- 16.8	- 16.3
Total	12,482	- 0.5	- 0.6	12,901	- 4.9	- 0.8

Employment was fair on the whole in the Northern Counties and Yorkshire. It continued dull in Lancashire and Cheshire. In the Midland Counties it was moderate on the whole, and worse than a month ago; it was fair in Shropshire and South Staffordshire, and bad in the Nottingham district. In the Eastern Counties it remained fair on the whole, but was only moderate in the Ipswich and Chelmsford districts. Employment was moderate on the whole in the South and South-West Counties, and in Wales. It continued fair in Scotland.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

(Based on 212 Returns from Correspondents in various districts.)

LABOURERS who were not attached to the staffs of farms were generally in somewhat irregular employment during December, particularly in the Midland and Southern and South Western Counties, on account of the excessive rainfall. Such men were chiefly wanted for threshing, hedging and ditching, draining, manure-carting, and work on the root crops, but the demand was rarely large, while the supply of men was ample, a surplus being reported in many districts. Men for permanent situations were reported to be somewhat scarce in Oxfordshire and in several districts in the Southern and South Western Counties. In Cumberland, on the other hand, the supply of men for permanent situations was stated to be in excess of the demand.

Northern Counties.—There was only a small demand in these counties for men in addition to the regular staff hands, on account of seasonal slackness in farm work; the employment of such extra men was also rendered irregular during the first part of the month by wet weather. The supply of extra men was reported as greater than the demand in many districts in Yorkshire. In Cumberland a surplus of men for permanent situations was reported. Where employed, extra men were chiefly engaged for turnip-pulling, threshing, hedging and ditching.

Midland Counties.—Continuous wet weather kept extra labourers in irregular employment for a large part of the month in most of the districts reported on, the rain causing considerable interruption to such work as threshing and manure-carting. There was an ample supply of extra labourers in all the districts except in the Wing Rural District in Buckinghamshire, where a correspondent stated that men could not be obtained for draining the land; a surplus of extra men was reported in the Melton Mowbray (Leicestershire), Seisdon and Tamworth (Staffordshire), Thame and Crowmarsh (Oxfordshire), and Buckingham Rural Districts. Some scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported from Oxfordshire.

Eastern Counties.—There was generally some demand for extra labourers in these counties on account of such work as threshing, hedging, ditching, draining, and manure-carting, and employment on the whole was fairly regular for these men. The supply of and demand for extra labourers were about equal in most districts; an excess was reported in the Ely (Cambridgeshire), Samford (Suffolk) and Braintree (Essex) Rural Districts, while in the Welton (Lincolnshire) Rural District there was a scarcity of such men.

Southern and South Western Counties.—Extra labourers lost a good deal of time, particularly in the more western counties. They were chiefly employed at hedging, ditching, draining, threshing, manure-carting and root storing, but the demand for extra men to perform such work was generally only moderate. A surplus in the supply of extra men was reported from the following Rural Districts:—Hollingbourne, Hoo, and West Ashford (Kent), Hartley Wintney, and Havant (Hampshire), Bradford-on-Avon, Westbury and Devizes (Wiltshire), Hereford (Herefordshire), and South Molton (Devon). Men for permanent situations were reported as scarce in the Godstone (Surrey), Petworth (Sussex), Williton (Somerset), Dursley (Gloucestershire), Newton Abbot (Devon), and Camelford, Truro, and West Penwith (Cornwall) Rural Districts.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

(Based on 131 Returns—116 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

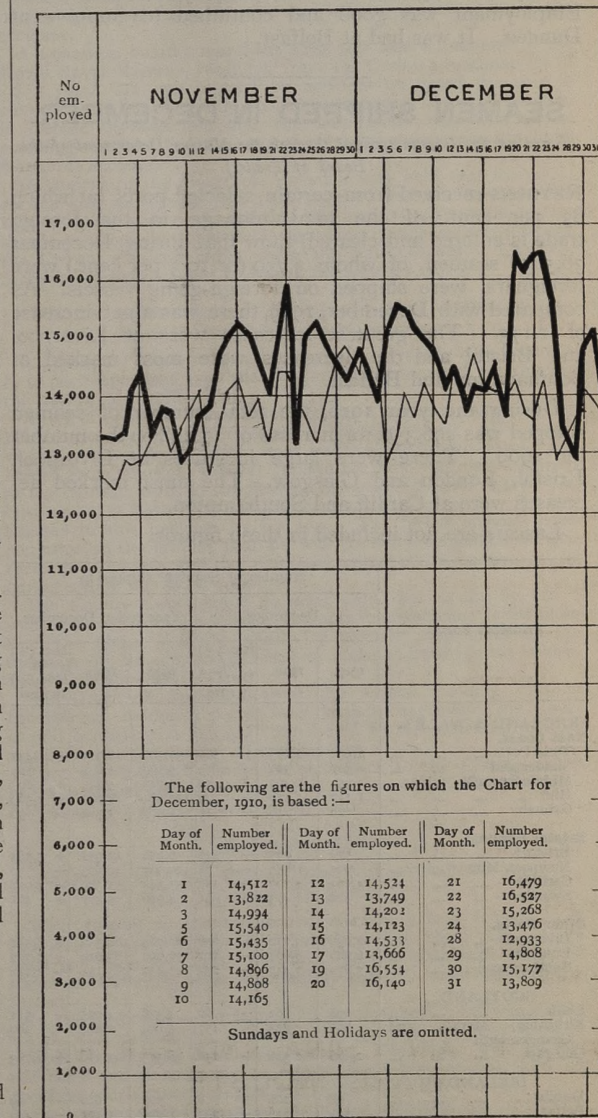
EMPLOYMENT in London was fair generally and showed an improvement on a month ago and a year ago. It continued fair at Liverpool, and was fair on the whole and better than a month ago at the other principal ports. London.*—Employment was fair generally and showed

an improvement on a month ago and a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in the five weeks ended December 31st was 14,739, an increase of 3.8 per cent., as compared with a month ago, and of 4.9 per cent., as compared with a year ago.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks*			At 110 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Dec. 3rd	5,039	2,715	7,754	6,708	14,462
" " " 10th	5,015	3,174	8,189	6,801	14,990
" " " 17th	4,902	2,449	7,351	6,782	14,133
" " " 24th	5,321	3,845	9,166	6,575	15,741
" " " 31st	4,778	2,792	7,570	6,611	14,181
Average for 5 weeks ended Dec. 31st, 1910	5,027	3,010	8,037	6,702	14,739
Average for Nov., 1910	4,765	2,471	7,236	6,951	14,187
" " Dec., 1909	4,908	2,965	7,873	6,775	14,648

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed at all the Docks, and at 110 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of November and December, 1910. The corresponding curve for November and December, 1909, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1910, and the thin curve to 1909.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for December, 1910, is based:—

Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.
1	14,512	12	14,524	21	16,479
2	13,822	13	13,749	22	16,527
3	14,924	14	14,201	23	15,268
4	15,540	15	14,123	24	13,476
5	15,435	16	14,531	25	12,933
6	15,100	17	14,660	26	14,808
7	14,896	18	16,554	30	15,177
8	14,808	19	16,140	31	13,809
9	14,165	20	16,140		
10	14,165				

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.

The daily numbers employed during December, 1910, ranged from 12,933 on the 28th to 16,554 on the 19th.

*Exclusive of Tilbury.

* Exclusive of Tilbury.

During December, 1909, the corresponding figures ranged from 12,464 on the 28th to 15,198 on the 2nd.

The mean daily number employed at *Tilbury Dock* was 1,701 during December, 1910, as compared with 1,510 during the previous month, and 1,518 during December, 1909.

Employment at *Liverpool* was fair generally with dock labourers and quay and railway carters; an improvement took place with carters, while there was a slight decline with labourers at the North end docks.

Other Ports.—Employment showed a further decline with dock labourers on the *Tyne* (where it was previously reported as slack) and was moderate on the *Wear*; it was fair generally with trimmers and teamers on both rivers. At *Hartlepool* and *Middlesbrough* employment was fair, an improvement on the previous month being shown at *Middlesbrough*. It was moderate with dock labourers and coal workers at *Hull*, and fair at *Goole*; at *Grimsby* it was good with dock labourers and moderate with coal workers. There was a decline at *Yarmouth* and *Lowestoft*, while at *Parkeston* employment was good. Employment was dull at *Plymouth*. At *Bristol* it was good and better than a month ago. There was also some improvement on a month ago at the *South Wales* ports, where employment on the whole was fair. At *Glasgow* employment continued moderate. There was an improvement on the previous month at *Leith*, but a decline at *Grangemouth*, where employment was slack. Employment was good and continued to improve at *Dundee*. It was bad at *Belfast*.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN DECEMBER.

(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 is entered and cleared) show that during December 36,565* seamen, of whom 3,759 (or 10·3 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. As compared with December, 1909, there was a net increase of 1,173. The greatest increases were at *Liverpool* and *Bristol* and the decreases were most marked at *Southampton* and *Belfast*.

During the year 1910, the total number of seamen shipped was 496,350, an increase of 17,228 on the number for 1909. There were large increases at *Liverpool*, *Bristol*, *London* and *Glasgow*. The most marked decreases were at *Cardiff* and *Southampton*.

Lascars are not included in these figures.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	December,			Year ended December.		
	1909.	1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1910.	1909.	1910.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1910.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
East Coast.						
<i>Tyne Ports</i> ...	1,992	2,273	+ 281	30,385	28,044	- 1,441
<i>Sunderland</i> ...	307	304	- 3	5,198	4,633	- 565
<i>Middlesbrough</i> ...	353	403	+ 50	5,042	5,245	+ 203
<i>Hull</i> ...	1,117	1,126	+ 9	13,464	14,833	+ 1,369
<i>Grimsby</i> ...	28	18	- 10	1,360	1,304	- 56
Bristol Channel.						
<i>Bristol</i> ...	579	1,025	+ 446	6,952	12,937	+ 5,985
<i>Newport, Mon.</i> ...	901	955	+ 54	10,927	10,875	- 52
<i>Cardiff</i> ...	4,294	4,107	- 187	55,347	51,319	- 4,028
<i>Swansea</i> ...	382	473	+ 91	4,916	5,377	+ 461
Other Ports.						
<i>Liverpool</i> ...	12,056	13,112	+ 1,056	171,785	180,337	+ 8,552
<i>London</i> ...	6,206	6,104	- 102	77,692	83,029	+ 5,337
<i>Southampton</i> ...	3,670	3,412	- 258	47,432	45,191	- 2,241
SCOTLAND.						
<i>Leith</i> ...	298	282	- 16	4,336	4,025	- 311
<i>Kirkcaldy, Methil, and Grangemouth</i> ...	380	223	- 157	3,084	2,804	- 280
<i>Glasgow</i> ...	2,376	2,526	+ 150	38,575	43,318	+ 4,743
IRELAND.						
<i>Dublin</i> ...	98	106	+ 8	707	688	- 19
<i>Belfast</i> ...	35	116	+ 81	1,920	1,491	- 429
Total ...	35,392	36,565	+ 1,173	479,122	496,350	+ 17,228

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

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 December, 1910, showed a decrease in quantity, but an increase in value as compared with December, 1909.

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Dec., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Dec., 1910.	Dec., 1909.
Fish (other than Shell):				
England and Wales ...	726,253	799,207	561,754	542,302
Scotland ...	289,909	277,453	143,658	130,982
Ireland ...	76,856	59,837	30,265	20,527
Total ...	1,092,998	1,136,497	735,675	673,811
Shell Fish ...	—	—	19,087	24,620
Total Value ...	—	—	754,762	698,431

Employment at the principal ports during December was fair. At *Grimsby* employment was good generally. At *Yarmouth* it was good with fishermen, and bad with fish dock labourers, and fish curers; it was about the same as a year ago with all classes. Employment at *Hull* was moderate generally and worse than a year ago. At *Lowestoft* it was fair with fishermen and fish dock labourers and moderate with fish curers. Employment at *Aberdeen* was good with fishermen, and fair with fish dock labourers and fish curers; it was about the same as a year ago. At *Peterhead* and *Fraserburgh* it was bad generally. Off the *South Western Coasts* of *England* fishing operations were hindered by stormy weather.

The **Exports** of herrings, cured and salted, in December, 1910, were valued at £325,711, as compared with £583,216 in November, 1910, and £295,791 in December, 1909.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

WHEN DOES AN ACCIDENT ARISE "OUT OF" EMPLOYMENT? ACCIDENT TO SEAMAN RETURNING TO SHIP.

A workman injured by accident is not entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, unless the accident was one arising "out of" as well as "in the course of" the employment.

A sailor went ashore with leave when his ship was in port, and on returning at night was seen on the wharf walking towards the ship's gangway. The gangway was properly lit and properly fitted with guide ropes. A splash was heard a little abaft the gangway and a cry of "man overboard" was heard from some unknown person. Later the body of the sailor was found in the water. His dependants claimed compensation and the County Court judge made an award in their favour.

In another case a sailor also went ashore with leave and was returning to his ship after dark. Another ship was lying between his ship and the wharf, so that access to his ship was by means of a gangway placed between the two ships. As he was passing on this gangway it slipped and turned over, and the man fell into the water and was drowned. His dependants claimed compensation and an award was made in their favour. There was an appeal in each case and the Court of Appeal considered the two cases together.

The Court held that when a ship is in port and a seaman goes ashore with leave the course of his employment is not thereby interrupted, and that an accident happening while he is on shore or returning to the ship, does arise in the course of the employment; but whether it arises out of his employment is another question. An accident arising while he is pursuing his own business or pleasure on shore is generally due to some danger to which he is exposed as a member of the public, not as one of the crew of his ship. The return of a seaman to his ship is in the course of his employment, but the risks do not become risks arising out of the employment until he has to do something specially connected with his employment on board; and an accident occurring while he is doing so is usually one arising out of the employment, as it is a danger incidental to his services in that ship. If the risk is one due to the means of access to the ship, the accident is properly said to arise out of the employment; but if it is shown to arise from something not specifically connected with the ship, it cannot be said to arise out of the employment. Therefore as in the first case there was no evidence to negative the possibility that the man had

slipped into the water before he got to the gangway, the decision was wrong, the dependants were not entitled to compensation, and the appeal should be allowed.

In the second case, however, as the deceased clearly lost his life from an accident connected with the special means of access to his ship the decision was right, and the appeal should be dismissed.—*Kitchenham v. Owners of Steamship, Johannesburg; Leach v. Oakley, Street & Co. Court of Appeal. December 5th, 1910.*

ACCIDENT ARISING "OUT OF" EMPLOYMENT; FROST-BITE.

It was part of the duty of a journeyman baker to drive his employer's cart and deliver bread from it to the customers. One very cold and stormy day in December, 1909, while so employed, his right hand became very cold and painful. The following day the hand became swollen, and it was found that the injury was very serious, so that he was unable to follow his occupation. He took proceedings for compensation.

At the hearing the employers contended that the injury was not caused by "accident;" but that, if it was, the accident was not one arising out of the employment. Evidence was given that the claimant on the day mentioned was obliged to remove his glove continually in order to fulfil his duties; and there was medical evidence that the injury was due to the action of extreme cold on the hand and was in the nature of frost-bite. The County Court judge held that there was no accident arising out of the employment within the meaning of the Act, and refused to make an award in the claimant's favour. The claimant appealed.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that even if there had been an "accident" it is not enough for a claimant to show that the accident would not have happened if he had not been engaged in the employment, he must go further and show that the accident arose because of something he was doing in the course of the employment, or because he was exposed to some peculiar danger in the course of the employment. Here the claimant did not show that he was exposed to any peculiar danger beyond that to which all persons employed on that day in out-door labour were exposed.—*Warner v. Couchman. Court of Appeal. December 3rd, 1910.*

WHO IS A "WORKMAN"? WHAT IS "REMUNERATION"? CONDITIONAL BONUS: PROFIT ON GOODS SUPPLIED BY EMPLOYER.

No one is entitled to compensation unless he comes under the definition of "workman" contained in the Act. By that definition no person employed otherwise than by way of manual labour is a workman if his remuneration exceeds £250 a year. For the purposes of assessing compensation the average weekly earnings are to be computed in such manner as is best calculated to give the rate per week at which the workman was being remunerated.

A steamship was lost with all on board and the widow of the chief steward and purser claimed compensation on behalf of herself and her children for the loss of her husband. The shipowners alleged that the deceased was not a workman within the meaning of the Act, as his earnings exceeded £250 a year. It appeared that under a written appointment his wages were to be £8 a month while on board, together with a 5 per cent. commission on certain sales. He was on board about ten months in the year and the commission brought him in about £70 a year. His board was worth 2s. od. a day, and he received a sum which was called a conditional bonus amounting to £2 a month when his employers were satisfied with him. The employers also supplied him with bottles of whisky at 4s. each which he retailed as "nips" at 6d. a glass, making a good profit on each bottle. The County Court judge, in deciding what the remuneration of the deceased was, refused to take into account the sum of £20 paid by way of bonus, or the profit realised by him on the sale of the whisky. Omitting these items the judge held that he earned £232 a year, and that his dependants therefore were entitled to the benefits of the Act, and he made an award in their favour. The shipowners appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that "remuneration" is not the same thing as salary, or cash paid by the employer, but involves the same consideration as "earnings." Remuneration frequently varies with the gross takings or the net profits of a business. The County Court judge therefore ought to have taken into account both the bonus and the profits the deceased made by selling whisky. The appeal was therefore allowed and the case sent back to the County Court judge that he might take into account the items he had excluded.—*Shailes v. Blue Anchor Line, Ltd. Court of Appeal. December 3rd, 1910.*

INJURY TO SEAMAN ON BOARD SHIP: WAGES PAID AFTER ACCIDENT: ASSESSMENT OF COMPENSATION.

Where compensation is payable under the Act regard must be had, in fixing the amount of the weekly payments, to any payment, allowance or benefit which the workman has received from his employer during the period of incapacity. In the case of seamen, weekly payments by way of compensation are not to be paid in respect of the period during which the shipowners are obliged to defray the expenses of the maintenance of the injured seaman. Under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, if a seaman receives any hurt or injury in the service of the ship, the expense of providing the necessary medical and surgical advice and attendance and medicine, and also the expense of his maintenance until he is cured or dies or is returned to a proper return port and of his conveyance to the port shall be defrayed by the owner of the ship without any deduction on that account from wages.

A sailor met with an accident on board a steamship on December 21st, 1908. On December 29th, 1908, on the arrival of the ship in New York, he was discharged and put in a hospital there. Having recovered sufficiently to bear the journey, he was brought to England, arriving on March 11th, 1909, still incapable

of work. The shipowners paid him his wages from December 21st to 29th, and also paid all his medical expenses and cost of maintenance while in hospital in New York. After his return to England the sailor took proceedings for compensation under the Act. The shipowners admitted their liability as from March 11th, but contended that in assessing compensation the judge ought to have regard to the eight days' wages which the man had received from December 21st to 29th, and that some, even if only a nominal, deduction should be made in respect of those wages. The County Court judge refused to adopt this contention, and made an award without considering the wages paid. The shipowners appealed.

The Court of Appeal reversed the decision of the County Court judge. The sailor appealed to the House of Lords. The House of Lords held that the right to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act begins where the right to maintenance under the Merchant Shipping Act ends; that it is not every payment, allowance, or benefit which the workman may receive from his employer during the period of his incapacity which must be regarded. It is only such as are received during that period in respect of the incapacity, so that a man shall not be paid twice over. Therefore the County Court judge was right in refusing to take into account the wages paid, and the Court of Appeal were wrong. The appeal was therefore allowed.—*McDermott v. Owners of Steamship Tintoretto, House of Lords. December 13th, 1910.*

CONCURRENT CONTRACTS OF SERVICE; MERCHANT SEAMAN MEMBER OF ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE: PAYMENT BY CROWN: ASSESSMENT OF COMPENSATION.

The Act does not apply to persons in the naval or military services of the Crown. Where a workman has entered into concurrent contracts of service with two or more employers under which he has worked at one time for one and at another time for another, his average weekly earnings are to be computed as if his earnings under all such contracts were earnings in the employment of the employer for whom he was working at the time of the accident.

A stoker on board a merchant ship was also a member of the Royal Naval Reserve, receiving from the Crown a retaining fee of £6 a year. He was injured by accident on board the ship in circumstances entitling him to compensation. The only question in dispute between him and the shipowners was whether in assessing compensation the amount of such retaining fee should be taken into account.

On appeal to the Court of Appeal it was held that the man's service with the Crown was a concurrent contract of service with that with the shipowners, and that the amount of the retaining fee should be taken into account in assessing compensation, although the Crown were not liable under the Act.—*Brandy v. Owners of Steamship Raphael. Court of Appeal, December 3rd, 1910.*

WHO IS A DEPENDANT? ASSESSMENT OF COMPENSATION: DEDUCTION OF COST OF MAINTENANCE.

A dependant is a member of the workman's family who is wholly or in part dependent upon the earnings of a deceased workman at the time of his death.

A boy of 14 years of age employed by a colliery company was killed by an accident in the course of his employment. His wages were 6s. 11d. a week which were paid in full to his father and helped to maintain the family. The father, who was also employed at the colliery, used to supplement his wages by carrying on the business of a barber on certain evenings in the week. He was assisted in this business by his son. The father claimed compensation on the ground that he was partially dependent on the earnings of his son, and the estimated value of his services in the barber's shop was 6s. a week.

The County Court judge however held, that as the 6s. 11d. a week received from the son was not more than sufficient to maintain him, the father was not wholly or partially dependent on the earnings of his son, and refused to make an award in his favour. The father appealed.

The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that in considering whether a person was partially dependent, the Court should consider the amount contributed by the deceased without any deduction for the cost of maintenance.

The case therefore should be sent back to the County Court judge to award compensation.—*Hall v. Tamworth Colliery Company, Ltd. Court of Appeal. December 3rd, 1910.*

(2) Factory Acts.

FENCING OF MACHINERY: HOIST NOT CONNECTED WITH MECHANICAL POWER.

With respect to the fencing of machinery in a factory, it is provided by the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, that "every hoist or teagle and every fly-wheel directly connected with the steam or water, or other mechanical power" must be securely fenced.

In the factory of a carriage-building company there was a hoist which was worked by a hand windlass and was not directly connected with any mechanical power. This hoist was entirely unfenced, and in consequence, one of the workmen met with an accident which caused injuries from which he died.

Proceedings were then taken against the company for an offence against the Act. At the hearing it was contended on behalf of the company that there was no obligation upon them to fence the hoist, as it was not connected with any mechanical power. The magistrate adopted this contention and dismissed the information, but stated a case for appeal.

On appeal, the High Court held that the words "directly connected with the steam or water or other mechanical power" do not qualify the words "every hoist or teagle," but only the words "every fly-wheel," and that therefore the hoist should have been fenced, and an offence had been committed. The appeal was therefore allowed.—*Jackson v. A. G. Mulliner Motor Body Co., King's Bench Division. December 15th, 1910.*

(3) Trade Union Acts.

TRADE UNION: USE OF FUNDS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES: ACTION BY MEMBER FOR INJUNCTION: SECURITY FOR COSTS.

It has been laid down by the House of Lords, in the case of *Osborne v. Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants*, that a trade union has no power to collect or administer funds for political purposes, and will be restrained from so doing at the suit of a member.

A member of a trade union brought an action against his union for a declaration that they were not entitled to use any part of the funds of the society for political purposes, and for an injunction to restrain them from so applying any of the funds or from levying contributions from the members for such purposes. The society applied to the court for an order that the plaintiff should be ordered to give security for the costs of the society, alleging that the plaintiff was merely a nominal plaintiff, having no real interest in the matter, but being urged on by persons outside who were finding the money to prosecute the action.

The judge said that as the plaintiff was a member of the defendant union, and therefore personally interested in the application of the funds, he was not satisfied that the plaintiff was a mere nominal plaintiff: therefore there was no ground for asking for security for costs. The application accordingly was dismissed.—*Thurloway v. Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen, and Clerks. Chancery Division. December 8th, 1910.*

(4) Miscellaneous.

THE DOCTRINE OF COMMON EMPLOYMENT: ILL-FITTING BOOT SUPPLIED BY MASTER: NEGLIGENCE OF FELLOW-SERVANT.

By the common law a servant is not entitled to damages against his master for injuries caused by the negligence of a fellow-servant in a common employment with him.

A man employed at an industrial farm colony suffered an injury to his foot from a badly fitting boot supplied to him at the colony. The injury caused such serious mischief, that his leg had to be amputated. He brought an action for damages for negligence against the members of the Council and Committee of Management of the institution, alleging that his injuries were caused by negligence and breach of duty on their part. The defendants denied these allegations and said that if there was any negligence, it was on the part of fellow-servants of the plaintiff for which they were not responsible. The shoes had been served to the plaintiff by the "house father" of the colony, who was one of the employees. The court held that there was no evidence of negligence for which the defendants were responsible, as there was nothing to show they had ever heard that the shoes served to the plaintiff by his fellow-servant were ill-fitting. Judgment was therefore given for the defendants.—*Wedder v. Schroder, King's Bench Division. December 6th, 1910.*

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

RETURNS showing the predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on January 2nd, 1911, have been received from 140 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom and 30 from other sources. The returns are summarised in the following Table, in which the highest predominant rates and the lowest predominant rates are shown, together with the mean of all the predominant rates in each district:—

District.	January 2nd, 1911.			December 1st, 1910.			January 1st, 1910.		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
London:—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. & N.W. ...	5½	4½	5½	5½	5½	5½	6	5½	5½
E. & N.E. ...	5½	4½	5½	5½	5½	5½	6	5½	5½
S.E. ...	5½	5	5½	5½	5	5½	6	5½	5½
S. & S.W. ...	6	5	5½	5½	5	5½	6	5½	5½
W. & W.C. ...	6	5	5½	5½	5	5½	6	5½	5½
N. Counties & Yorks, Lancs. & Cheshire	6	5	5½	5½	5	5½	6	5½	5½
Midlands ...	6	5	5½	5½	5	5½	6	5½	5½
Eastern Counties ...	6	5	5½	5½	5	5½	6	5½	5½
Southern Counties ...	6	5	5½	5½	5	5½	6	5½	5½
S. Western Counties and Wales	6	5	5½	5½	5	5½	6	5½	5½
Scotland ...	7	5½	6½	7	5½	6½	7	5½	6½
Great Britain ...	7	4½	5½	7	4	5½	7	5	5½

Compared with a month ago, the mean of the predominant prices remains unaltered. Compared with a year ago, a decrease of ¾d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

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

Place.	Predominant Price per 4 lbs. on Jan. 2nd, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Last Change.
		Month ago.	Year ago.	
London ...	d. 5½	d. - ½	d. - ½	Nov. '10 - ½
Birmingham ...	5½ & 6	...	...	Aug. 2, '10 + ½
Bolton ...	5½	...	...	Nov. '10 - ½
Bristol ...	5½ & 6	...	...	Feb. '10 - ½
Cardiff ...	5½	...	...	June '10 - ½
Derby ...	5	- ½	- ½	Dec. '10 - ½
Hull ...	5½	...	...	June '10 - ½
Ipswich ...	5½	...	...	June '10 - ½
Leeds ...	6½	...	...	May '10 - ½
Leicester ...	5	...	...	Nov. '10 - ½
Liverpool ...	5	...	...	May '10 - ½
Manchester ...	5	...	...	Nov. '10 - ½
Middlesbrough ...	5	...	...	June '10 - ½
Norwich ...	5½ & 6	...	...	Nov. '09 - ½
Nottingham ...	5	...	...	Nov. '09 - ½
Oldham ...	5½	...	...	June '10 - ½
Plymouth ...	5	...	...	Nov. '10 - ½
Portsmouth ...	6	...	...	June '10 - ½
Potteries ...	6	...	...	Oct. 3, '10 + ½
Southampton ...	5 & 6	...	...	May '10 - ½
Wolverhampton ...	5	...	...	Nov. '09 - ½
Aberdeen ...	5½	...	...	June '10 - ½
Dundee ...	5½	...	...	July '10 + ½
Edinburgh ...	6½	...	...	July '10 + ½
Glasgow ...	6	...	...	May 2, '10 - ½
Belfast ...	6	...	...	June '10 - ½
Dublin ...	6	...	...	May '10 - ½

As compared with a month ago, the price of bread has fallen ½d. per 4 lbs. in Derby. As compared with January 1st, 1910, the price is lower in 20 of the towns. In the remaining towns no change is shown.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The imports of wheat during September—December, 1910, amounted to 36,662,938 cwts., or 1,940,958 cwts. more than in the corresponding months of 1909. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September—December, 1910, amounted to 3,952,670 cwts., or 844,209 cwts. less than in September—December, 1909.

Month.	British Wheat Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Imports. (Average Declared Value.)		Average Monthly Price of Flour (Town Households or Mill for cash.)
		Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
1909.	Per cwt. s. d. 7 8	Per cwt. s. d. 8 11½	Per cwt. s. d. 11 5½	Per cwt. s. d. 11 11
December ...	7 8	8 11½	11 5½	11 11
1910.	7 8	8 11½	11 5½	11 11
November ...	7 0	7 11½	11 1½	10 10
December ...	7 1	7 10	10 10½	10 9½

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

Quarterly Returns of Sales.

The following Table gives details as to the sales, in the third quarter, of 1910, 1909, and 1905 respectively, by the three Co-operative Wholesale Societies of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

Names of Societies and Nature of Business.	Sales.*				
	In the third quarter of			Percentage Increase compared with	
	1910.	1909.	1905.	A year ago.	Five years ago.
ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—	£	£	£		
Distributive Departments ...	6,307,796	6,227,062	4,998,722	2.7	28.0
Productive " ...	1,618,332	1,509,149	870,963	3.1	85.8
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments ...	1,824,656	1,838,715	1,697,621	0.8	7.5
Productive " ...	6,0,083	650,641	498,522	3.8	25.6
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE:—					
Productive Departments ...	44,019	36,762	34,309	19.7	28.3
IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments†	14,773	9,527	1,735	55.1	751.5
Totals—Distributive Depts. ...	8,237,225	8,075,304	6,698,078	2.0	23.0
" Productive " ...	2,286,434	2,256,552	1,403,794	1.4	63.0
Grand Total ...	10,523,659	10,331,856	8,101,872	1.9	29.9

* The amounts given for the productive departments represent sales and transfers to distributive departments.
† This Society has no productive departments.

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 December, 1910, was 53, consisting of 49 cases of lead poisoning, 1 of mercurial poisoning, and 3 of anthrax; 7 deaths due to lead poisoning, 1 to mercurial poisoning and 1 to anthrax were also reported. In addition, 9 cases of lead poisoning (4 of which were fatal) were reported among house painters and plumbers.

During the twelve months ended December, 1910, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 574, as compared with 625 in 1909. The number of deaths was 48 in 1910, as compared with 42 in 1909. In addition there were 232 cases of lead poisoning (including 35 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during 1910, as compared with 241 cases (including 47 deaths) during 1909.

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

INDUSTRY.	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	Month of Dec., 1910.	Twelve Months ended December, 1910.	Month of Dec., 1910.	Twelve Months ended December, 1910.
	1910.	1909.	1910.	1909.
Lead Poisoning.				
Among Operatives engaged in—				
Smelting of Metals ...	2	34	66	1
Brass Works ...	1	7	5	5
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ...	—	4	9	—
Plumbing and Soldering ...	2	25	28	1
Printing ...	5	33	21	4
File Cutting ...	1	9	8	1
Timing ...	3	17	22	—
White Lead Works ...	1	34	32	1
Red and Yellow Lead Works ...	3	10	10	—
China and Earthenware* ...	7	78	58	2
Litho-Transfer Works ...	—	1	1	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing ...	—	17	7	—
Vitreous Enamelling ...	6	1	—	2
Electrical Accumulator Works ...	1	31	27	—
Paint and Colour Works ...	—	17	39	—
Coar h making ...	6	70	95	1
Shij bu lding ...	1	21	27	2
Paint used in other Industries ...	8	51	42	3
Other Industries ...	2	47	53	2
Total in Factories and Workshops	49	806	883	7
Among House Painters & Plumbers...	9	232	241	4
Total, "Other Forms of Poisoning"	1	17	16	1
Other Forms of Poisoning.				
Mercurial Poisoning—				
Barometer and Thermometer Making	—	2	1	—
Furriers' Processes ...	—	4	4	—
Other Industries ...	—	4	4	—
Total ...	—	10	9	—
Phosphorus Poisoning—				
Lucifer Match Works ...	—	—	3	—
Other Industries ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	—	—	3	—
Arsenic Poisoning—				
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic.	—	5	4	—
Other Industries ...	—	2	—	—
Total ...	—	7	4	—
Anthrax.				
Wool ...	2	28	28	3
Handling of Horsehair ...	—	6	8	1
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	1	14	18	3
Other Industries ...	—	3	2	—
Total Anthrax †	3	51	56	7
Total reported under Factory and Workshop Act	53	874	886	13
Grand Total ...	62	806	866	23

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

* Of the 7 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry 3 were females.
† In addition there was one case which affected a dock labourer

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN DECEMBER.

(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 December, 1910, was 619, an increase of 328 as compared with November, 1910, and 367 as compared with December, 1909. The mean number for December during the years 1905-1909 was 256, the maximum year being 1907, with 277 and the minimum year 1908, with 246 deaths.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines and quarries in December, 1910, was 473, compared with 147 in November, 1910, and 120 in December, 1909, the large increase in the figures for December, 1910, being due to the explosion in Lancashire at the Atherton Pits Nos. 3 and 4 of the Hulton Colliery Company, Limited.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in December, 1910, was 128, as compared with 121 in November, 1910, and 302 in December, 1909.

During the twelve months ended December, 1910, the total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment (exclusive of seamen) was 3,344, as compared with 2,869 in 1909. The total number of seamen killed during the same period was 1,102 in 1910 and 1,152 in 1909.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1910, on a	
	Dec., 1910.	Nov., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Railway Service—					
Brakemen & Goods Guards	1	3	—	- 2	+ 1
Engine Drivers ...	3	4	1	- 1	+ 2
Firemen ...	1	4	2	- 3	- 1
Guards (Passenger) ...	—	2	1	- 2	- 1
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	5	8	11	- 3	- 6
Porters ...	2	4	5	- 2	- 3
Shunters ...	3	2	2	+ 1	+ 1
Miscellaneous ...	17	16	9	+ 1	+ 8
Contractors' Servants ...	2	1	—	+ 1	+ 2
Total, Railway Service	34	44	81	- 10	+ 3
Mines—					
Underground ...	452	125	101	+ 327	+ 351
Surface ...	14	16	13	- 2	+ 1
Total, Mines ...	466	141	114	+ 325	+ 352
Quarries over 20 feet deep ...	7	6	6	+ 1	+ 1
Factories and Workshops—					
Textile—					
Cotton ...	8	3	1	+ 5	+ 7
Wool and Worsted ...	3	1	4	+ 2	- 1
Other Textiles ...	2	2	1	—	+ 1
Non-Textile—					
Extraction of Metals ...	2	3	3	- 1	- 1
Founding and Conversion of Metals ...	7	12	20	- 5	- 13
Marine and Locomotive Engineering ...	3	2	4	+ 1	- 1
Ship and Boat Building ...	11	8	8	+ 3	+ 3
Wood ...	2	2	—	—	+ 2
Chemicals ...	10	1	3	+ 9	+ 7
Laundries ...	—	—	1	—	- 1
Other Non-Textile Industries	36	45	36	- 9	—
Total, Factories & Workshops	84	79	81	+ 8	+ 3
Accidents reported under Factory Act, 1904—					
Docks, Wharves and Quays	19	7	10	+ 12	+ 9
Warehouses ...	3	2	2	+ 1	+ 1
Buildings to which Act applies	4	11	6	- 7	- 2
Total under Factory Act, 1904	26	20	18	+ 6	+ 8
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	2	1	2	+ 1	—
Total, excluding Seamen	619	291	25		

TRADE DISPUTES IN DECEMBER*

Number and Magnitude.—The total number of disputes commencing during the month was 16, as compared with 35 in November, 1910, and 8 in December, 1909. By the 16 disputes 5,101 workpeople were directly, and 264 indirectly involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in old disputes which began before December and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 71,614 workpeople involved in trade disputes in December, 1910, as compared with 92,961 in November, 1910, and 8,522 in December, 1909.

New Disputes in December, 1910.—In the following Table the new disputes in December are summarised by trades affected:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Coal Mining	4	3,940	107	4,047
Iron Ore Mining and Quarrying	2	262	116	378
Engineering	1	40	31	71
Steel Manufacture	1	50	...	50
Textile	4	329	...	329
Boot and Shoe Trade	1	282	...	282
Transport	1	180	...	180
Other Trades	2	18	20	28
Total, December, 1910	16	5,101	264	5,365
Total, November, 1910	35	31,609	4,906	36,515
Total, December, 1909	8	1,569	353	1,922

Causes.—Of the 16 new disputes, 3 arose on demands for increased wages, 7 on other wages questions, 1 on a question of hours of labour, 2 on details of working

arrangements, 2 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, and 1 on a question of Trade Union principles.

Results.—Definite results were reported in the case of 10 new disputes, directly involving 4,772 persons, and 8 old disputes, directly involving 26,440 persons. Of these new and old disputes, 4, directly involving 3,241 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 4, directly involving 11,162 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and 10, directly involving 16,809 persons, were compromised. In the case of 1 other dispute terminated during the month, work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in December of disputes which began or were settled in that month was 688,600 working days. In addition 490,400 working days were lost during December, owing to disputes which began before that month and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus, the total duration in December of all disputes, new and old, was 1,179,000 working days, as compared with 1,813,400 in the previous month, and 131,900 in the corresponding month of 1909.

Summary for 1909 and 1910.—A Table showing the disputes of 1909 and 1910 summarised by trades will be found on p. 3.

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute began in 1910.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.†	Result.†
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.†				
Coal Mining—							
Miners	Aberdare Valley	5,800	...	20 Oct.	61	Grievances as to working conditions	Work resumed on old conditions; grievances to be considered by employers.
Miners	Aberdare Valley	5,100	...	5 Nov.	36	In sympathy with strikers at other collieries in the same valley	Work resumed on old conditions.
Shipbuilding—							
Iron Shipbuilders, Helpers, Labourers, &c.	North of England and Scotland	15,300	20,000	5 Sept.	87	Demand of employers for assurances that Edinburgh Agreement of 1909 would be observed	See p. 403 of "Labour Gazette," December, 1910.
Clothing Trades—							
Boot and Shoe Operatives	Leicester ...	282	...	8 Dec.	18	Dispute as to payment of bonus ...	Quantity statements to be introduced.

* 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.

† 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.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

RETURNS received by the Department from Co-operative Credit Societies in the United Kingdom for the year 1909 show that there were then 241 societies at work, with an aggregate membership of 22,389, and a total capital (share, loan and reserve) of £157,861. These societies had made advances to members during the year amounting to £72,874; repayments by borrowers—including interest—amounted to £77,923, and the amount still owing at the end of the year—including interest—was £102,838.

Many of these societies are managed by honorary officials, and the total expenses during 1909, including interest on capital, amounted to £6,677 only for the whole of the 241 societies, or an average of less than £28 per society. The total net profits of all the societies amounted to £1,119.

Of the 241 societies 35, with a total membership of 3,783, were in England, one, with 353 members, was in

Scotland, and 205, with 18,253 members, were in Ireland. Nineteen of the societies (18 in England and one in Scotland) were in urban districts, the remaining 222 (of which 205 were in Ireland) being all in agricultural districts.

The following Table gives particulars of the Societies making returns for the years 1905-1909:—

	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
No. of Societies making returns	No. 221	No. 238	No. 249	No. 240	No. 241
Number of Members	16,545	18,288	20,793	20,848	22,389
Total Capital (Share, Loan & Reserve)	£ 131,764	£ 130,061	£ 135,100	£ 146,761	£ 157,861
Amount of Loans:—					
Advanced (including Renewals) ...	66,668	77,629	74,593	70,817	72,874
Repaid (including Interest)	55,734	65,443	69,015	75,386	77,923
Owing by Borrowers (including Interest)	87,334	95,282	105,092	105,149	102,838
Working Expenses (including Interest on Capital)	5,550	5,157	5,607	5,929	6,677
Net Profit (after allowing for Interest)	953	825	1,217	1,004	1,119

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Wages.—Changes taking effect in December.—The net result of all the changes taking effect in December, 1910, was an increase of £6,783 per week, as compared with an increase of £152 per week in November, 1910, and a decrease of £5 per week in December, 1909. The number of workpeople affected was 345,450, all of whom received advances. The total number affected in November, 1910, was 23,365, and in December, 1909, 333. Two changes, affecting 315,000 workpeople, were

arranged by Conciliation Boards; and two changes, affecting 4,500 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 25,950 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Hours.—The changes in hours of labour reported as taking effect in December, 1910, affected 6,070 workpeople whose working time was reduced by 28,755 hours per week. For Summary of changes in 1910 see article on p. 3.

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

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect in 1910.	Occupation.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)
				In-crease.	De-crease.	
I.—RATES OF WAGES.						
Coal Mining	Durham	26 Dec.	Hewers, other Underground Workers, Deputies, Enginemen, Boiler-makers, Mechanics, Coker-men and Banksmen	125,000	...	Increase of 2½ per cent., making wages 43½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
	S. Wales and Mon.	1 Dec.	Miners, &c.	190,000	...	Increase of 2½ per cent., making wages 40½ per cent. above the standard of 1879. Increase of 1½ per cent., making wages 51½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
Iron & Steel Manufacture	West of Scotland	12 Dec.	Steel Millmen Enginemen, Cranemen, &c. ... Gas Produccermen and Charge Wheelers	2,750 1,750 1,000	...	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent. Increase of 2½ per cent.
	North-East Coast	1st full pay after 15 Dec.	Other Workpeople Fitters, Turners, Smiths, Machinemen, Brass Moulders & Finishers, Electrical Workers, Ironmoulders, Boilermakers, Strikers, Enginemen, Cranemen, Labourers, &c.	250 20,000	...	Increase of 2½ per cent. on piece rates and of 1s. per week on time rates to men receiving 25s. per week and over, and of 6d. to men receiving 22s. and under 25s. per week.
Textile ...	Scotland (one firm)	Dec.	Woollen and Worsted Yarn Operatives	1,750	...	Increase of 5 per cent.
Printing ...	London	19 Dec.	Printers' Warehousemen & Cutters	600	...	Average increase of 3s. per week.
Food ...	Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Walsall	5 Dec.	Bakers	860	...	Increases to a minimum rate of 26s. per week.
Transport ...	London (one firm)	15 Dec.	Motor Omnibus Conductors...	1,476	...	Increase of 59 per cent.
II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.						
Transport	Liverpool	5 Dec.	Carters	3,500	...	Decrease of 1 hour per week.
	Glasgow	1 Dec.	Railway Carters	2,500	...	Decreases to uniform hours of 60 per week.

NOTE.—Full Particulars will appear in the February GAZETTE of the following important changes which have been arranged to take effect in January. **Coal Mining.**—Decrease of 1½ per cent. in the wages of underground workers, &c., in Northumberland. **Big Iron Manufacture.**—Decreases in the wages of blastfurnacemen of 2 per cent. in Cleveland and Durham, and of 1 per cent. in West Cumberland, and an increase of 1 per cent. in South Wales and Mon. **Iron and Steel Manufacture.**—Increase of 1 per cent. in the wages of iron and steel workers and mechanics in South Wales and Mon.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN HOLLAND IN 1909.*

The Report of the Netherlands Central Statistical Bureau on Labour Disputes in 1909 shows that in Holland strikes and lock-outs were more frequent and lasted much longer in that year than in 1908.

The figures for the two years are as follows:—

Year.	Number of Strikes and Lock-outs.	Number of Workpeople directly affected.	Number of Working Days lost by Workpeople directly affected.
1908	135	7,165	91,860
1909	189	8,455	272,013

Thus there were in the year under review 18 per cent. more workpeople directly affected by disputes than in 1908, while the loss in working days was nearly three times as great in 1909 as in the previous year. The greater part of the increase shown under each of these heads was occasioned by strikes and lock-outs in the building trades, of which there were recorded 65 with 3,565 participants and a loss of 178,684 working days in 1909, as against 34, with 676 participants and 4,234 working days lost in the previous year.

In the metal trade a loss of 25,980 working days was incurred by 251 participants in four disputes, and in the textile trades a loss of 17,370 working days by 678 participants in four disputes.

Of the 189 disputes recorded 50 terminated in favour of the workpeople, 58 in favour of the employers and 63 were compromised, while in 16 cases the results were

* Werkstakingen en Uitsluitingen in Nederland gedurende 1909 (Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland cxl). Dutch Central Statistical Office, Gebroeders Belinfante, The Hague, 1910: Price, 5d.

indeterminate or unknown. The two remaining disputes were "sympathetic," and came to an end with the settlement of the primary disputes out of which they arose.

TRADE UNIONS IN HOLLAND.

A REPORT just issued by the Central Bureau of Statistics at the Hague† shows the aggregate membership of the Trade Unions of Holland on January 1st, 1910, to have been 143,850. Of these 113,078 belonged to 124 national or district unions with 1,781 branches, while the remaining 30,772 members were distributed among 472 independent local unions. The five occupational groups in which the largest numbers of organized workers are found are:—

Railway and Tramway Service, with	9,700	trade unionists.
Diamond Workers	9,297	"
Municipal "	8,508	"
Police "	8,424	"
Textile Trades	8,019	"

Of the whole body of organised workers 40,660, or about 28 per cent., belong to unions affiliated to the "National Federation of Labour." The other federations of trade unions in Holland are relatively insignificant. They are (1) that of the Roman Catholic workpeople, with a membership of 11,650; (2) the "Christian National Trade Union Federation," with 6,587 members; (3) the "National Labour Secretariate," with 3,454 members; and (4) the "National Federation of Transport Workers," with 3,020 members.

† Beknopt Overzicht van den Omvang der Vakbeweging over 1910 (Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland cxlv). Central Statistical Bureau of Holland, The Hague.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES IN DECEMBER.

The two following Tables show the work of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges during the five weeks ended December 30th, analysed by trades and districts. The period covered is 28 working days. The total number of Exchanges included in the return is 146.

The "workpeople's applications remaining on the register" at any date are the applications of persons who have registered or renewed their registration during the seven days ending on that date, and have not had their registration cancelled on obtaining employment either through the Exchanges or by their own efforts. The total number on the register was 64,763 at December 30th, the corresponding number at November 25th being 100,273. These numbers represent separate individuals, except in so far as there may have been duplicate registration in London and in other places where more than one Exchange is easy of access to the same person.

The total number of applications received during December was 152,737, a daily average of 5,455, as compared with a daily average of 6,424 during November. The figures given above do not include renewals, but do include re-applications by persons whose registration had lapsed or been cancelled. For this reason, and on account of the possibility of duplicate registration previously referred to, the numbers cannot be taken as representing separate individuals.

Large numbers of applicants have reported that they have obtained employment otherwise than through the Exchanges. Such persons are not, of course, included in the statistics of "Vacancies Filled," which only relate to applicants for whom situations have been found by the Exchanges.

The number of vacancies filled during the period was 62,185, an average per working day of 2,221, compared with 1,571 during November. Excluding the temporary staff for Post Office Christmas work, the number of vacancies filled was 41,463, an average per working day of 1,481, compared with 1,539 during November. The vacancies for Post Office work are excluded in the figures which follow. The work of the Exchanges was considerably affected during December by the Christmas holidays.

The vacancies filled during December include 2,912 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 1,726 were in London, being 19 per cent. of the vacancies filled in the Metropolitan area.

The proportion of vacancies filled by the Exchanges to vacancies notified by employers has remained at the same figure as in November, viz.:—85 per cent. (men 88 per cent., boys 79 per cent., women 80 per cent., and girls 78 per cent.).

Of the men's applications on the register at the end of December, the largest percentages occur in the following groups of trades:—Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, 18.9; Building and Works of Construction, 18.1; General Labourers, 16.5; and Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances, 13.7.

Of the men's vacancies filled during December (excluding those for Post Office Work) the largest percentages are yielded by the same groups of trades in slightly different order:—Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, 22.8; General Labourers, 22.6; Building and Works of Construction, 14.1; and Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances, 12.4.

The demand for workers exceeds the supply in the case of the cotton, woollen and worsted trades, and in the case of women in the clothing, linen and hosiery trades, and in laundry work.

All the above figures are exclusive of the work of the Manchester Cloth Porters' Exchange. During the month employment was found here for 217 men, each of whom obtained, on the average, work on nearly 19½ days out of the 28 working days included in the period.

The figures relating to the Liverpool Cotton Porters' Exchange are also excluded from the above figures. There were 3,553 cotton porters on the register of this Exchange on December 31st. The number at work during the month was 2,765, of whom 2,042 worked the full number of working days.

Table showing by Trades the Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled for the five weeks ended December 30th, 1910, and the number of Applications by Workpeople remaining on the Register at December 30th, 1910.

[SUBJECT TO REVISION.]

Trades.	VACANCIES NOTIFIED.					VACANCIES FILLED.					WORKPEOPLE'S APPLICATIONS remaining on Register at Dec. 30th.					Total on Register at Nov. 25th.
	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
Building and Works of Construction	4,215	108	...	...	4,323	3,873	77	...	...	3,950	9,181	94	...	...	9,275	13,339
Mining and Quarrying...	263	55	...	...	318	249	33	...	...	282	478	38	...	...	516	795
Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances	4,055	475	130	52	4,712	3,391	384	82	33	3,890	6,975	447	67	20	7,509	11,153
Textiles ...	1,147	213	1,624	302	3,286	929	147	1,256	...	1,207	70	573	129	1,979	3,129	
Dress ...	557	190	740	326	1,813	355	128	509	244	1,236	1,256	106	576	147	2,085	3,150
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	6,083	2,219	29	161	9,092	6,238	1,803	20	111	8,172	9,595	1,486	60	77	11,218	16,345
Agriculture ...	429	159	32	3	623	319	141	23	3	486	1,390	92	11	3	1,496	1,851
Paper, Prints, Books and Stationery	505	146	445	207	1,304	382	115	371	177	1,045	705	56	204	57	1,022	1,263
Wood, Furniture, Fittings and Decorations	757	137	104	23	1,021	559	109	83	21	772	1,225	55	42	7	1,329	1,734
Chemicals, Oil, Grease, Soap, Resin, &c.	205	45	65	32	347	186	31	59	30	306	237	6	28	30	301	494
Bricks, Cement, Pottery and Glass...	131	25	58	3	217	89	17	39	4	149	234	13	20	1	268	425
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	1,114	258	1,015	214	2,611	758	190	775	173	1,896	2,602	209	849	81	3,741	6,139
Skins, Leather, Hair and Feathers...	44	29	35	34	142	31	23	25	32	111	210	12	36	20	278	361
Precious Metals, Jewels, Watches, Instruments and Games	160	51	12	5	228	107	43	11	4	165	213	16	4	...	233	434
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service	457	14	...	...	471	411	9	...	...	420	455	19	1	1	476	573
Commercial ...	1,245	339	317	135	2,036	1,005	253	228	112	1,598	2,705	576	592	333	4,206	6,162
Domestic (Outdoor) ...	187	74	4,170	535	4,957	140	45	3,529	395	4,109	1,343	32	3,649	463	5,467	9,185
Other, General and Undefined—	6,542	60	...	...	6,602	6,191	53	...	...	6,244	8,392	86	...	...	8,478	13,297
(a) General Labourers ...	2,308	413	1,211	658	4,590	2,181	353	1,009	541	4,084	4,373	713	997	803	4,886	6,547
Total (excluding Post Office Temporary Christmas Staff)	31,008	5,010	9,987	2,691	48,693	27,394	3,981	8,029	2,086	41,463	50,756	4,126	7,709	2,172	64,763	98,182
Post Office Temporary Christmas Staff	21,015	54	14	1	21,084	20,654	54	13	1	20,722	...	...	...	...	...	3,891

Table showing by Districts the Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled for the five weeks ended December 30th, and the number of Applications by Workpeople remaining on the Register at December 30th.

[SUBJECT TO REVISION.]

Districts.	VACANCIES NOTIFIED.*					VACANCIES FILLED.*					Post Office temporary Christmas Staff—Vacancies Filled.†	WORKPEOPLE'S APPLICATIONS remaining on Register at Dec. 30th.					Total on Register at Nov. 25th.
	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.		Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
London—	818	322	535	111	1,786	629	241	392	84	1,346	784	2,420	130	339	65	2,954	4,639
West ...	1,359	417	726	234	2,736	1,107	361	602	210	2,370	1,663	3,338	232	368	96	4,034	6,491
North ...	1,299	508	567	208	2,582	1,070	414	446	179	2,109	396	2,477	441	432	155	3,505	5,465
East ...	1,794	518	918	346	3,576	1,603	443	736	292	3,074	1,061	5,152	483	888	251	6,774	10,404
South ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	5,267	1,765	2,746	899	10,677	4,499	1,459	2,176	766	8,899	3,904	13,387	1,286	2,027	567	17,267	26,999
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	175	25	162	11	373	159	18	88	6	271	104	246	17	48	12	323	352
Barrow ...	133	15	22	4	174	133	15	23	4	175	124	122	7	20	6	155	373
Birkenhead ...	318	35	104	13	470	317	35	94	12	458	403	21	166	27	617	990	
Birmingham ...	577	128	182	90	977	497	113	103	61	774	1,147	958	66	106	35	1,656	2,478
Blackburn ...	202	25	229	11	467	164	21	212	7	404	73	244	9	138	5	396	544
Bolton ...	419	39	146	16	620	402	34	129	14	579	383	362	5	58	8	433	820
Bradford ...	199	52	61	12	324	168	21	45	9	243	322	413	14	21	1	449	762
Brighton ...	121	20	95	32	274	91	23	73	24	214	165	348	30	100	12	490	983
Bristol ...	166	69	55	38	328	135	42	54	11	222	457	472	50	109	19	650	1,111
Burnley ...	266	14	46	4	330	193	13	27	3	236	67	141	14	13	2	170	318
Cardiff ...	263	46	54	14	377	211	37	48	12	308	278	527	65	96	16	619	841
Coventry ...	385	17	34	6	442	313	10	26	5	354	76	168	4	7	1	180	362
Derby ...	156	33	40	24	253	135	28	34	13	190	44	172	25	21	18	236	337
Dudley ...	107	20	14	19	160	101	15	13	19	148	44	158	41	34	10	243	452
Grimsby ...	63	43	60	20	186	55	39	44	19	157	47	158	41	34	10	243	452
Halifax ...	163	17	60	10	250	127	8	51	12	198	134	236	3	26	5	479	557
Huddersfield ...	268	65	70	26	429	235	41	48	9	333	336	391	47	27	44	509	955
Hull ...	138	46	25	15	224	111	35	18	14	178	79	251	15	62	16	374	550
Ipswich ...	91	32	34	16	173	84	14	29	12	139	79	251	15	62	16	374	550
Leeds ...	340	74	156	41	611	250	95	93	16	454	286	415	35	50	14	514	1,150
Leicester ...	202	74	88	14	378	154	50	79	12	295	382	746	63	171	46	1,026	2,405
Liverpool ...	1,132	208	321	59	1,720	1,062	190	290	53	1,595	—	2,058	39	80	14	2,191	2,516
Manchester ...	161	9	37	7	214	161	9	108	7	285	140	406	28	71	11	516	604
Middlesbrough ...	92	47	113	27	279	87	43	27	262	541	603	63	206	84	91	1,688	2,089
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	209	64	99	40	403	171	54	48	25	298	134	429	11	23	4	467	689
Northampton ...	131	39	48	31	259	81	34	35	16	166	86	693	65	124	37	919	1,394
Norwich ...	470	119	259	71	919	391	84	172	45	692	491	567	51	114	23	755	1,142
Nottingham ...	249	93	236	23	531	235	20	230	43	504	93	227	20	154	6	427	666
Oldham ...	184	47	24	8	263	156	27	14	7	204	125	488	30	58	14	590	660
Plymouth ...	742	18	10	3	775	738	13	8	3	762	328	621	18	19	5	863	1,157
Portsmouth ...	180	33	120	10	352	152	26	111	15	304	203	703	51	111	21	886	883
Preston ...	132	23	23	10	188	104	21	18	10	153	228	623	39	47	37	746	1,104
Reading ...	244	31	135	18	428	240	19	135	18	392	86	291	10	43	7	353	505
Rochdale ...	199	20	12	7	238	199	19	5	3	226	46	141	41	12	9	203	249
Rotherham ...	287	61	85	39</													

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN DECEMBER, 1910.

(NOTE.—These are not connected with the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges.)
 DURING December 529 fresh applications (276 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 9 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 497 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 169 persons, of whom 99 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 169 situations found for applicants 113 were of a more or less permanent character, while 56 were temporary only.
 The demand for cooks, parlourmaids and children's nurses exceeded the supply; the supply of ladies' maids and companions exceeded the demand.

Bureau	Applications by Work-people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
	Dec., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Dec., 1910.	Dec., 1909.	Permanently.	Temporarily.
Central Bureau:— 5, Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W.	102	114	66	71	26	7
Y.W.C.A.— 26, George Street, (1)... Hanover Sq. (1a)...	80	243	279	302	37	33
Dublin:— 30, Molesworth Street ...	15	20	12	12	...	1
Other Bureaux (Manchester Liverpool, Leeds, Edin- burgh and Glasgow) ...	128	116	92	98	36	7
Total of 9 Bureaux ...	529	551	497	504	113	61

In addition to the above registered applications, the returns show that 21 persons in London and 35 in the provinces were referred to other agencies; 310 persons in London and 58 in the provinces were given advice as to training, &c., but were not registered.

Returns received from two Labour Bureaux (Westminster and Salvation Army) not under the control of the Board of Trade, show that during December, 1910, 1,105 new applicants were registered, and that 435 situations were found (100 permanent and 335 temporary). The total number remaining on the registers at the end of the month was 669.

Appointment of Certifying Surgeons during December, 1910.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination.*
Brigg ...	J. Mitchell, Bridge Street	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Hornsea ...	W. L. Wyatt, New Road	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Leven ...	D. M. Macdonald, Waveney	Surgery, Pleasance, Leven, Thursday, 9-10 a.m.
Poole ...	J. H. Drew, Clovelly, Parkstone Road	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Stourport ...	H. E. Moore, Stourport	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Timoleague, co. Cork	P. L. O'Driscoll ...	The Dispensary, Timoleague; weekdays, at Dispensary hours
Twyford, Berks.	L. G. H. Furber ...	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Ullapool ...	D. Wallace ...	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Whitstable ...	F. P. Piper ...	Cromwell House, Cromwell Rd.; weekdays, 9-10 a.m.

* Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the certifying surgeon.

RECIPROCAL APPLICATION OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION; NEW ZEALAND.
 THE (New Zealand) Workers' Compensation Act, 1908, provides (S. 53) that subject to conditions of reciprocity, the Governor of New Zealand may by Order in Council declare that in regard to compensation for accidents payable to the relatives of a deceased worker, relatives resident in any other part of the British Dominions shall have the same rights and remedies under the Act as if resident in New Zealand. An Order in Council† made in pursuance of this provision and dated October 24th, 1910, provides that relatives of a deceased worker, resident in the United Kingdom, Queensland or Western Australia, shall have the same rights and remedies under the Workers' Compensation Act, 1908, as if resident in New Zealand.

* i.e. of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.
 † New Zealand Gazette, October 27th, 1910.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Summary for the year 1910.

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.

Year ended 31st December,	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1910, as compared with	
	1908.	1909.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	244,134,089	254,319,383
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured*	203,455,017	220,145,496
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured†	143,085,597	147,671,094
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	2,278,784	2,568,984
Total value of Imports	592,953,487	624,704,957

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.

Year ended 31st December,	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1910, as compared with	
	1908.	1909.
I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco	21,707,770	23,335,891
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured†	52,755,940	51,156,007
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured‡	296,581,975	296,758,468
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	6,058,139	6,929,981
Total value of Exports of British Produce	377,103,824	378,180,347

The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £103,776,104 during the year 1910, as compared with £91,344,819 during 1909 and £79,623,697 during 1908.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The goods and mineral traffic receipts of twenty of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended December 31st, 1910, amounted to £5,506,527, an increase of £189,525 (or 3.6 per cent.) on the total for the corresponding weeks of 1909.

During the year ended December 31st, 1910, the receipts amounted to £57,162,164, an increase of £1,597,860 (or 2.9 per cent.) on the total for 1909.

Railway	5 weeks ended Dec. 31st, 1910.		52 weeks ended Dec. 31st, 1910.	
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1909.	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1909.
English Lines:— L. & N. W., Midland, N. London, and N. Staffs.	1,733,773	+ 67,360	18,069,665	+ 545,240
Gt. Northern, Gt. Central, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury	884,754	+ 22,839	9,225,834	+ 310,687
Lanes. and Yorks., and N. Eastern	1,048,687	+ 37,531	10,448,071	+ 191,633
L. & S.W., and Gt. Western	785,000	+ 18,400	8,683,300	+ 213,600
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	192,792	+ 4,700	2,036,850	+ 45,342
Scottish Lines:— Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian	705,014	+ 28,300	7,044,454	+ 237,886
Irish Lines:— Gt. Southern and Western, Midland Gt. Western, and Gt. Northern	156,507	+ 10,395	1,653,990	+ 53,472
Total ...	5,506,527	+ 189,525	57,162,164	+ 1,597,860

* 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.

PAUPERISM IN DECEMBER.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in December, 1910, in the 35 urban districts named below, corresponded to a rate of 228 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with November, 1910, the total number of paupers relieved increased by 10,260 (or 2.5 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 5. The number of outdoor paupers relieved increased by 5,528 (or 2.5 per cent.) and the number of indoor paupers by 4,732 (or 2.6 per cent.). There were increases in all districts except one, the most marked being in the Stockton and Tees district (48 per 10,000). The only decrease (6 per 10,000) occurred in the Cork, Waterford and Limerick district.

Compared with December, 1909, the rate per 10,000 decreased by 5. The number of outdoor paupers decreased by 2,383 (or 1.0 per cent.) and the number of indoor paupers by 1,071 (or 0.6 per cent.). In 23 districts there were decreases, the most marked being in the North Staffordshire district (19 per 10,000). In 11 districts there were increases, the most marked being 25 per 10,000 in the Stockton and Tees district, and in one district there was no change.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of Dec., 1910.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population on a	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		Month ago.	Year ago.
	1908.	1909.	1910.		1909.	1908.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolis.						
West District ...	12,758	3,511	16,269	188	+ 4	+ 1
North District ...	17,352	10,954	28,306	259	+ 4	+ 4
Central District ...	6,868	2,161	9,029	506	+ 3	- 7
East District ...	16,295	7,185	23,480	324	+ 4	- 13
South District ...	28,145	19,006	47,151	241	+ 3	- 9
Total, Metropolis ...	81,418	42,817	124,235	258	+ 3	- 6
West Ham ...	5,344	12,440	17,784	230	+ 2	+ 3
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ...	3,153	6,300	9,453	202	+ 7	...
Stockton & Tees District ...	1,628	7,649	9,277	409	+ 48	+ 25
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	5,167	7,141	12,308	156	+ 3	- 1
Wigan District ...	2,590	6,511	9,101	220	+ 40	+ 8
Manchester District ...	12,669	10,944	23,613	238	+ 8	- 15
Liverpool District ...	14,583	12,210	26,793	248	+ 3	+ 6
Bradford District ...	2,202	2,287	4,489	120	+ 3	- 8
Halifax & Huddersfield ...	1,390	3,890	5,280	143	+ 2	- 7
Leeds District ...	3,361	5,286	8,647	170	+ 6	- 7
Barnsley District ...	936	2,889	3,825	146	+ 3	- 5
Sheffield District ...	3,675	3,676	7,351	157	+ 5	- 8
Hull District ...	2,021	6,428	8,449	288	+ 13	+ 19
North Staffordshire ...	2,624	6,854	9,478	240	+ 10	- 19
Nottingham District ...	2,416	5,818	8,234	189	+ 2	- 7
Leicester District ...	1,846	4,727	6,573	228	+ 14	- 8
Wolverhampton District ...	4,256	12,098	16,354	339	+ 3	- 16
Birmingham District ...	5,834	4,846	10,680	178	+ 3	- 2
Bristol District ...	3,260	6,308	9,568	234	+ 4	+ 3
Cardiff & Swansea ...	2,572	8,387	10,959	272	+ 7	+ 2
Total, "Other Districts" ...	76,183	124,249	200,432	213	+ 8	- 3
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District ...	6,313	18,911	25,224	243	+ 5	- 4
Paisley & Greenock District	974	2,878	3,852	200	+ 6	- 10
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,906	6,041	7,947	186	+ 3	+ 2
Dunfermline and Dunfermline ...	1,082	2,896	3,978	196	+ 4	+ 5
Aberdeen ...	733	3,197	3,930	219	+ 7	- 13
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	475	1,981	2,456	245	+ 10	+ 2
Total for the above Scottish Districts ...	11,489	35,904	47,393	222	+ 5	- 3
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District ...	6,813	5,794	12,607	310	+ 5	- 12
Belfast District ...	3,623	1,283	4,906	112	+ 3	- 14
Cork, Waterford and Limerick District ...	4,134	5,200	9,334	384	- 6	- 5
Galway District ...	324	332	656	190	+ 2	- 5
Total for the above Irish Districts ...	14,894	12,609	27,503	245	+ 2	- 12
Total for above 35 Districts in Dec., 1910	199,328	228,019	417,347	228	+ 5	- 8

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

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN DECEMBER.

THE total number who received employment-relief was 7,765, of whom 3,431 were in London and "Outer London," 2,503 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 1,116 in Scotland, and 715 in Ireland. The average duration of employment-relief was 10.9 days per person employed; and the wages paid amounted to about 31s. 10d. per head, or 2s. 11½d. per day.

The net total number of applicants remaining on the registers at the end of December (after deduction of persons disqualified, those who had found work, &c.), was 47,694, of whom 24,088 were in London and "Outer London," 17,948 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 2,854 in Scotland and 2,804 in Ireland.

Registration has been resumed at Burton-on-Trent, Cardiff, Grimsby, Hastings, Hyde, Portsmouth and Drogheda.

The Table given below summarises the information received from the various Distress Committees as to their operations in December, 1910.

Distress Committees.	Net No. of Applicants on Registers at end of Dec., 1910.	No. given Employment-relief.	Aggregate duration of Employment-relief.	Total Amount of Wages paid.
London Central Unemployed Body	17,121 *	1,692	25,644	£ 4,324
Outer London:				
Barking ...	325	90	420	91
Croydon ...	653	181	1,080	187
East Ham ...	552	369	2,326	474
Edmonton ...	503	35	161	32
Leyton ...	790	107	1,193	209
Tottenham ...	857	267	970	170
Walthamstow ...	747	141	663	143
West Ham ...	1,207	318	4,576	699
Willesden ...	936	214	2,443	493
Other Towns (3) ...	397	17	62	13
Provincial Towns in England and Wales				
Northern Counties:				
Tynemouth ...	220	100 †	540	84
West Hartlepool ...	236	104 †	305	56
Other Towns (2) ...	639	...	...	...
Lancashire and Cheshire:				
Barrow-in-Furness ...	141	34 †	636	152
Bolton ...	325	33	328	33
Bootle ...	831	...	...	...
Liverpool ...	551	21	379	24
Other Towns (5) ...	844	...	...	...
Yorkshire:				
Bradford ...	1,210	25	271	45
Hull ...	1,150	267	660	132
Leeds ...	1,339	226	2,043	385
Sheffield ...	...	35 †	534	120
Other Towns (3) ...	665	...	...	...
Midlands:				
Dudley ...	...	85	349	33
Leicester ...	877	22	74	12
Northampton ...	136	116	1,640	205
Smethwick ...	60	62	Piecework	32
Wolverhampton ...	113	41	215	32
Other Towns (6) ...	745	26	190	28
Rest of England and Wales:				
Bournemouth ...	201	111	1,212	194
Brighton ...	1,381	108	578	82
Bristol ...	887	119	926	175
Cardiff ...	595	328	437	149
Grimsby ...	203	58	172	29
Hastings ...	330	50	129	21
Norwich ...	1,314	190	2,951	246
Plymouth ...	569	102	612	79
Portsmouth ...	733	21	280	51
Reading ...	174	55	876	136
Swansea ...	438	164	1,594	400
Other Towns (4) ...	730	...	...	...
Total, England and Wales	42,036	5,934	57,369	9,809
Scotland:				
Aberdeen ...	659	194	1,600	170
Edinburgh ...	871	553	7,374	841
Glasgow ...	755	369	9,993	800
Other Towns (6) ...	569	...	...	...
Total, Scotland ...	2,854	1,116	18,937	1,811
Ireland:				
Drogheda ...	80	42	290	30
Dublin ...	2,724	673	8,076	718
Total, Ireland ...	2,804	715	8,366	748
Total, United Kingdom	47,694	7,765	84,672	12,368

* This is the number on the registers of 29 London Committees.
 † Some not registered under Act.
 ‡ Register closed to new applicants.
 § No unemployment-relief was provided by the Distress Committee, but the Municipality found work for some of the men.<

The following Table affords a comparison between the work done by Distress Committees in December, 1910, November, 1910, and December, 1909 :-

Table with columns for No. of Distress Committees in operation and No. of applicants given Employment-relief, broken down by month (Dec., Nov., Dec.) for 1910, 1909, and 1908. Includes sub-tables for Aggregate Duration of Employment-relief and Total Amount of Wages Paid.

PASSENGERS TO AND FROM PLACES OUT OF EUROPE.

THE balance outward of passengers from the United Kingdom to places out of Europe was 328,172 in the eleven months ended November, 1910, as compared with 216,253 in the eleven months ended November, 1909, and an average of 241,077 in January-November of the years 1905-1909; the corresponding numbers of British subjects were 234,821, 141,457, and 162,104 respectively.

Table showing passenger statistics for Outward and Inward travel, categorized by British and Total passengers, with sub-tables for To British N. America and To United States.

HOME OFFICE ORDERS.

Explosives in Coal Mines.—Acting under the powers conferred upon him by the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, the Home Secretary has made an Order,* which is to be known as "The Explosives in Coal Mines Order of the 16th December, 1910." By this Order a new explosive, called Nationalite is added to the list of "Permitted Explosives." The composition of this substance, and the conditions under which it may be used, are set out in the Order.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1910. No. 1338. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 1d.

Boards for Examinations have been constituted for the following Inspection Districts defined by the Secretary of State's Order of the 19th May, 1910, viz.:—the Scotland District; the York and North Midland District; the South Wales District; and the Midland and Southern District.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING DECEMBER.

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.

Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for year ending 31st December, 1909. Part A. Proceedings under the Friendly Societies and other Acts, Schemes certified under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, Friendly and other Societies in the Colonies and other Countries, &c. [H.C. 171: pp. 173: price 1s. 7d.]

Supplement containing the Report of the Medical Officer for 1909-10. Among the special subjects dealt with during the year were those of Back-to-Back Houses, and Infant Mortality. [Cd. 5312: pp. xxv. + 604: price 3s. 7d.]

Aliens Act, 1905. Return of the Alien Passenger Traffic between the United Kingdom and Ports in Europe or within the Mediterranean Sea during the three months ending September 30th, 1910; with the number of Expulsion Orders made during that period. Home Office. [Cd. 5419: pp. 8: price 1s.]

Old Age Pensions Act. Copy of Old Age Pensions Regulations, 1910. Dated September 13th, 1910. [H.C. 295: pp. 7: price 1d.]

Comparative Statistics of Pauperism and Cost of the Relief of the Poor in certain years from 1848-9 to 1909-10. Local Government Board. [Cd. 5454: pp. 3: price 1d.]

Annual Report of Proceedings under Acts relating to Sea Fisheries for the year 1908. Quantity and value of fish landed, number of vessels engaged and men and boys employed, number of vessels engaged in the fishing trade in certain foreign countries and the number of persons employed. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 5416: pp. lxxxviii. + 123: price 2s.]

Banking, Railway and Shipping Statistics, Ireland, June, 1910. Deposits and depositors in Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks, &c. Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. [Cd. 5462: pp. 75: price 6d.]

Report and Tables relating to Irish Agricultural Labourers. Migration to England and Scotland, the supply of agricultural labour in Ireland, and wages of agricultural labourers. Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. [Cd. 5033: pp. 37: price 2s.]

Seventy-eighth Annual Report of the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for year ending March 31st, 1910. Proceedings with regard to Housing, Labourers, &c., Acts, provision of Labour Exchange buildings, &c. [Cd. 5301: pp. 113: price 11s.]

BRITISH COLONIES. Canada. The Labour Gazette. November, 1910.—Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act in October, 1910; Canadian legislation with regard to Workmen's Compensation; Nova Scotia labour legislation in 1910; industrial accidents, Fair Wages Schedule, trade disputes, &c., during October. [Ottawa: C. H. Parmelee, King's Printer.]

Report of the Department of Labour for the Fiscal Year ending March, 31st, 1910. [Ottawa: C. H. Parmelee, King's Printer: pp. 231.]

New Zealand. Journal of the Department of Labour, November, 1910. Condition of trade and employment as at 31st October; accidents, co-operative works, persons assisted to employment, &c. [Wellington: John Mackay, Government Printer.]

Awards. Agreements and Decisions under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, Vol. XI. Part 4. [Wellington, John Mackay, Government Printer: pp. 95.]

Labour Bills Committee. 1910. Report on the Shops and Offices Amendment Bill, with Minutes of Evidence. Report on the Factories Act Amendment Bill, with Minutes of Evidence.

Wages Board Act, 1908. Determinations. Brewing, Malting and Distilling Industry Board for the South-Eastern Division, dated October 17th, 1910; Iron, Brass and Steel Moulding Board for the South Eastern Division, dated 1st November, 1910; Coopers' Board for the South-Eastern Division, dated November 1st, 1910.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

International.—Bulletin of the International Labour Office, Nos. 3, 4 and 5, 1910. Current labour legislation in various countries. [Paris: Berger-Levrault & Cie.]

Report of Proceedings of the Sixth General Meeting of the Committee of the International Association for Protection of Workpeople, 1910. [Jena: Verlag von Gustav Fischer.]

Report of the Second International Congress organised by the French National Federation of the Building and Public Works Industries, Paris, November 16th-19th, 1908. International Commission of Building Congress, 1910. [Rouen: L. Wolf: pp. 470.]

United States.—Special Reports of the Bureau of the Census. Telephones: 1907. [Washington; Government Printing Office: pp. 129.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Labour Bulletin, No. 77. October, 1910. Quarterly report on the state of employment in the organized industries, September 30th, 1910. [Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co.; State Printers.]

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Annual Report of the Secretary of Internal Affairs. Part III. Industrial Statistics, 1909. Industrial accidents, prices of meat and other food products and agricultural produce, population, mortality, &c. [Harrisburg: C. G. Aughinbaugh, State Printer: pp. 394.]

France.—Journal of the French Labour Department, November, 1910. Co-operative societies (stores) and trade unions on January 1st, 1910; employment and labour disputes in October. [Paris: Berger-Levrault & Cie.: price 2d.]

Journal of the French Ministry of Agriculture, November, 1910. Price of bread in Paris and wheat in French towns in October. [Paris: Imprimerie Nationale: price 6d.]

Germany.—Journal of the German Labour Department, December, 1910. Employment in November; miners' earnings in third quarter of 1910; principal statistics relating to sickness insurance, 1905-1909; legislation for prevention of strikes in Canada, Transvaal, United States, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Turkey. [Berlin: Carl Heymanns Verlag: price 1d.]

Quarterly Statistical Journal of the German Empire, Part IV., 1910. Prices of cereals, meat, &c.; savings banks in 1908; labour disputes in third quarter of 1910. Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin: Pattkammer & Mühlbrecht.]

Industrial Conditions in Baden, 1910. Technical education; trade unions and employers' associations; labour registries; labour disputes. (Reprint from Statistical Yearbook of Baden for 1910). Statistical Office of Baden. [Carlsruhe: pp. 27.]

Journal of the Statistical Office of Alsace-Lorraine, November, 1910. Municipal labour registries in October. [Strassburg: Kommissionsverlag der Heinrich'schen Buchhandlung.]

Statistics of the State of Hamburg. Part XXV. Housing and rents. Hamburg Statistical Office. [Hamburg: Otto Meissners Verlag: pp. 137.]

Administrative Report of the Municipal Gas, Water and Electricity Works at Leipzig for 1909. Contains particulars of wages, pension funds, &c. [pp. 37 + charts.]

Fifty-first Congress of Schulze-Delitzsch Co-operative Societies of Germany at Bad Nauheim, September, 1910. [Berlin: J. Guttentag: pp. 447.]

Austria-Hungary.—Journal of the Austrian Labour Department, November, 1910. Strikes and lock-outs, and work of labour registries in October; factory inspection in 1909, &c. [Vienna: A. Hölder: price 2d.]

Statistical Journal of Hungary, October, 1910. Work of Budapest Labour Exchange, 1900-1909. Hungarian Ministry of Commerce, November, 1910. [Vienna: A. Hölder.]

Report on the Dutch State Insurance Bank for 1909. Contains particulars of accident compensation. [The Hague: pp. 160 + vi. + charts.]

Russia (Finland).—Journal of the Finnish Industrial Department; Work of labour registries in 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarters of 1910; factory inspection in 1909; unemployment in winter of 1908-9. [Helsingfors: Keiserliga Senatens Tryckeri: price 2s.]

Denmark.—Statistical Year Book of Denmark, 1910. Trade unions; unemployment; trade disputes; wages and hours according to census of 1906; co-operation. Danish Statistical Office, [Copenhagen: pp. xviii. + 209.]

Norway.—Journal of the Norwegian Central Statistical Office, October, 1910. Employment in October. [Christiania.]

Industrial Statistics of Norway, 1906-7. Statistics of establishments, workpeople, wages, &c. Norwegian Insurance Department, 1910. [Christiania: H. Aschehoug & Co., pp. 79: price 7d.]

Sweden.—Journal of the Swedish Labour Department, No. 11, 1910. Labour registries in September; prices of food in September; strikes and lock-outs in the third quarter of 1910. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner: price 2d.]

Bulgaria.—Foreign Trade and Navigation of Bulgaria; prices of articles of food, &c. Contains rates of wages of bricklayers and general labourers. Bulgarian Statistical Department. [Sofia: pp. lxxxvi. + 561 + charts.]

Spain.—Journal of the Spanish Labour Department, November, 1910. Labour disputes in October; prices of food in certain provinces October, 1909, to March, 1910. [Madrid: D. V. Suarez, Libreria, calle de Preciados, 48: price 2s.]

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED DURING DECEMBER.

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

(1) REGISTERED. Among the new societies registered in December were the following:—

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—3, viz., Leeds Jewish Master Tailors' Trade Assoc., 2, Cross Harrison St., Leeds; Skelmersdale and Dist. Enginemen and Boilermens' Trade Union, 7, Taylor St., Skelmersdale, Ormskirk; Society of Operative Stonemasons, 28, John St., Bedford Row, W.C. Scotland.—Nil. Ireland.—Nil.

Industrial and Provident Societies. England and Wales.—22, viz., Working Men's Clubs (9): Hirst Premier Social Club and Inst., Ltd., Hirst, Northumberland; Stakeford Social Club, Ltd., Choppington, Northumberland; Castle Cary Constitutional Club, Ltd., Castle Cary, Som.; Leigh-on-Sea Conservative and Unionist Club, Ltd., Leigh-on-Sea, Essex; Thurmaston Conservative Club, Ltd., Thurmaston, Leicester; Netherton Workmen's Social Club, Ltd., Netherton Colliery, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Easington and District, Workmen's Club and Inst., Ltd., Easington, Castle Eden, Co. Durham; Middle Market (Ashington) W. M. Social Club and Inst., Ltd., Ashington, Northumberland; Wirksworth Unionist Club, Ltd., Wirksworth, Derbyshire. Agricultural Distributive: (6), Pontardawe and Dist. Farmers' Assoc., Ltd., Corbwl Farm, Ynysudw, Glam.; Pembroke and Dist. Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Dairy Hayes, Carew, Pembroke; Cotswold Farmers' Assoc., Ltd., Upper Slaughter Farm, Upper Slaughter, Glos.; North West Flintshire Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Tan-y-Graig, Dysert, Flintshire; Barstable Hundred Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Barstable Hall Estate, Laindon Station, Romford; Merriott and Dist. Egg and Poultry Depot, Ltd., Merriott, Som. Agricultural Produce: (1), St. Edmundsbury Co-op. Bacon Factory, Ltd., Newsons, Elmstew, Bury St. Edmunds. Small Holdings: (4), Mitcham and Dist. Smallholders' Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Fieldgate House, Western Rd., Mitcham; Oakley and Dist. Smallholders' and Farmers, Ltd., Grafton, East Oakley, Basingstoke; Cheshunt Land Club Co-op. Soc. Ltd., 49, Colledge Rd., Cheshunt, Waltham Cross; West Lavington Smallholders' Soc., Ltd., Pagnell Villa, Littleton Panel, Wilts. Miscellaneous: (2). Scotland.—Nil. Ireland.—Nil.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—47, viz.:—South End W. M. Club and Inst., Clay Cross, Chesterfield; South West Manchester W. M. Club and Inst., Hulme, Manchester; Northern Counties Enginemen and Firemen's Federation, Burnley and Dist. W. M. Social Club, Burnley; Levenshulme W. M. Club and Inst., Levenshulme, Manchester; British Secular League W. M. Club and Inst., Islington, N.; Ynysddu W. M. Club and Inst., Ynysddu, Newport, Mon.; Great Park St. W. M. Club and Inst., Wellingborough; Worksop North End W. M. Club and Inst., Worksop; Polesworth W. M. Club and Inst., Polesworth, Tamworth; Lee Brigg W. M. Club and Inst., Lee Brigg, Altofts, Normanton; Bolton-upon-Dearne Central W. M. Club and Inst., Bolton-upon-Dearne, Rotherham; Lister Hills W. M. Club and Inst., Bradford; Maesteg Catholic W. M. Club and Inst., Maesteg, Bridgend; Morriston W. M. Club and Inst., Morriston, Glam.; Blaenclydach Liberal W. M. Club and Inst., Blaenclydach, Rhondda, Glam.; Bootle Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., Bootle, Liverpool; Miles Platting Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., Miles Platting, Manchester; Radcliffe and Whitefield Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., Radcliffe, Manchester; Wigan Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., Wigan; Pineapple Loan Soc., Kentish Town, N.W.; Profitable Permanent Money Soc., Tredegar; Newcastle Investment and Advance Soc., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mansfield Woodhouse Co-op. Credit Soc., Mansfield; Heyford Agric. Credit Soc., Upper Heyford, Banbury; Stoke-on-Trent Taylor-Mills Mutual

Self-Help Money Soc., Stoke-on-Trent; Hanley Taylor-Mills Mutual Self-Help Money Soc., Hanley, Staffs.; Summerfield Mutual Investment Loan Soc., Birmingham; Neston Inst. Tontine Soc., Neston, Cheshire; Derby United Order of Goodfellows Friendly Soc., Derby; Leicester Economic Friendly Soc., Leicester; St. Matthew's (St. Marylebone) Sick and Death Benefit Soc., Marylebone, W.; Maygrove Sick Benefit and Dividing Soc., Regent's Park, N.W.; Oakley Slate Club, Camden Town, N.W.; West Norwood Brotherhood Slate Club, West Norwood, S.E.; Fulham Primitive Methodist Men's Sick and Provident Soc., Fulham, S.W.; Borough of Chelsea Sick and Provident Soc., Chelsea, S.W.; Ivanhoe (Denmark Park) Provident Soc., Denmark Park, S.E.; Caxton Sick Benefit Soc., Holborn, E.C.; Askew Rd. Wesleyan (Women's) Dividing Friendly Soc., Shepherd's Bush, W.; Fulham Jubilee Sick and Benefit Soc., Fulham, S.W.; All Saints' Edmonton and Dist. Sick Benefit and Annual Sharing Out Club, Lower Edmonton; Nottingham Mission (Albert Hall) Sick and Annual Soc., Nottingham; National Provincial Friendly Collecting Soc., South Norwood, S.E.; St. Martin's (Addiscombe) Men's Dividing Friendly Soc., Croydon; Cherrywood Sick and Dividend Soc., Small Heath, Birmingham; Queen's Head Inn Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Flower of Glamorgan Juvenile Friendly Soc., Dowlais, Glam. Scotland.—I, viz., Banks of Lavern Juvenile Foresters' Sick and Funeral Soc., Barrhead, Ireland.—I, viz., Temperance Loan Fund Soc., Dublin.

(2) SOCIETIES AND UNIONS CEASING TO EXIST.

Class of Society.	Notices received in December, of		Registry Cancelled.
	Commencement of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up.	
Trade Unions	2	3	1
Industrial & Provident Societies	2	2	5
Friendly Societies .....	...	23	...
Branches .....	...	48	...
Building "	2	9	...

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, DECEMBER 1910.

ADMIRALTY, CONTRACT AND PURCHASE DEPARTMENT.

BLOCKS—Tangyes, Ltd., Cornwall Works, Birmingham.
 BOXES, ELECTRICAL—Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham.
 CANVAS, BROWN, FOR KIT BAGS—
 F. Webster & Sons, Alma Works, Arbroath.
 Edinburgh Roperie and Sailcloth Co., Leith, N.B.
 Richards, Ltd., Broadford Works, Aberdeen.
 COATS, LEGGINGS, OILSKIN SUITS—
 Johnson, Bros. & Co., Eastern Waterproof Works, Ford Rd., E.
 Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth.
 Rinder & Co., East St. Mills, Cambridge Heath, N.E.
 OILSKIN SUITS—
 Chamberlins, Ltd., Norwich.
 Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth.
 Johnson Bros. & Co., Eastern Waterproof Works, Ford Rd., E.
 SEA BOATS—
 Adams Bros., Raunds, Wellingboro'.
 R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds, Wellingboro'.
 W. Nichols & Son, Kettering.
 WATER BOATS—
 John Horrell & Son, Raunds, Wellingboro'.
 KNEE BOATS—
 St. Crispin Prod. Society, Ltd., Raunds, Wellingboro'.
 COMFORTERS, JERSEYS, &c.—
 Henry Bates & Co., Ltd., Station St., South Wigston, Leicester.
 A. E. Hill, Frederick St., Wigston, Leicester.
 W. & H. Howe, Curzon St., Leicester.
 Arthur Kemp, Dover St., Leicester.
 I. & R. Morley, 18, Wood St., E.C.
 T. Morley & Son, 122, Highcross St., Leicester.
 D. Payne & Son, Ltd., Hinckley, Leicester.
 Star Knitting Company, Ltd., Thornes, Wakefield.
 W. P. Skevington, Knitonia Works, Sanvey Gate, Leicester.
 S. D. Stretton & Sons, Southgate St., Leicester.
 H. Waddington & Co., 123, Highgate, Kendal.
 Alfred Yates & Co., Millstone Lane, Leicester.
 CUTLERY—
 Harrison Bros. & Howson, Sheffield.
 Walker & Hall, Electro Works, Sheffield.
 William Hutton & Sons, Ltd., West St., Sheffield.
 T. Ellin & Co., Ltd., Sylvester Works, Sheffield.
 J. Fenton & Sons, Sykes Works, Sheffield.
 H. G. Long & Co., Ltd., Hallamshire Works, Sheffield.
 Frank Mills & Co., Ltd., Hanover Works, Division St., Sheffield.
 T. Turner & Co., Suffolk Works, Sheffield.
 ELECTRO-PLATE—
 Barker Brothers, Silversmiths, Ltd., Unity Works, Constitution Hill, Birmingham.
 Fenton Brothers, Ltd., South Moor Works, Earl St., Sheffield.
 Martin Hall & Co., Ltd., Shrewsbury Works, Broad St., Sheffield.
 William Hutton & Sons, Ltd., West St., Sheffield.
 Potosi Silver Co., 143, Newhall St., Birmingham.
 T. Wilkinson & Sons, Pelican Works, 45, Great Hampton St., Birmingham.

FLOOR CLOTH, CANVAS—
 J. Hare & Co., Bristol.
 Ridley, Whitley & Co., Ltd., Angell Rd., Edmonton.
 GERMAN SILVER, &c., ARTICLES—
 Barker Bros., Silversmiths, Ltd., Constitution Hill, Birmingham.
 James Deakin & Sons, Ltd., Sidney Works, Sheffield.
 James Dixon & Sons, Cornish Pl., Sheffield.
 Gallimore & Sons, Arundel St., Sheffield.
 William Hutton & Sons, Ltd., West St., Sheffield.
 J. Round & Son, Ltd., Tudor St., Sheffield.
 T. Wilkinson & Sons, Pelican Works, Gt. Hampton St., Birmingham.
 HANDKERCHIEFS, BLACK SILK—Birchenough & Sons, Ltd., Macclesfield.
 LAMPS, INCANDESCENT—
 General Electric Co., London.
 British Thomson Houston, Rugby.
 LINOLEUM—
 Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Forth Works, Kirkcaldy, N.B.
 Fife Linoleum Co., Ltd., Fife Works, Kirkcaldy, N.B.
 M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy, N.B.
 Tayside Floorcloth Co., Ltd., Newburgh-on-Tay, Fife.
 Ridley, Whitley & Co., Ltd., Angel Rd., Edmonton.
 MOP HEADS—T. M. Clewes & Son, Park Mills, Cradley.
 NAILS, COPPER—
 D. Powis & Sons, Floodgate St., Birmingham.
 Bulpitt & Sons, 153, Camden St., Birmingham.
 Kings Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Kings Norton, Nr. Birmingham.
 NAPHTHALINE—Gas Light & Coke Co., Beekton.
 NAVYPHONES—A. Graham & Co., London.
 PICKLES—
 Barnes & Co., Ltd., Fishmongers' Hall Offices, E.C.
 Hayward Bros., Ltd., Montford Place, Kennington, S.E.
 Lazenby & Son, Ltd., 18, Trinity St., S.E.
 Lipton, Ltd., City Road, E.C.
 Maconochie Bros., Ltd., Millwall, E.
 Edward Manwaring, 4-6, Garnies St., Peckham, S.E.
 E. & T. Pink, Staple St., Borough, S.E.
 Purnell & Painter, Ltd., Houlton St., Bristol.
 J. Moir & Son, Ltd., Great Tower St., E.C.
 CANVAS, SAILCLOTH—
 Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee.
 Boase Spinning Co., Ltd., Dundee.
 Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Port Glasgow.
 Richards, Ltd., Broadford Works, Aberdeen.
 F. Webster & Sons, Alma Works, Arbroath.
 SCREWS—
 The Automatic Standard Screw Co., Charles St., Halifax.
 The British Screw Co., Ltd., 153, Kirkstall Rd., Leeds.
 Butler & Spragg, Ltd., Cambridge St., Birmingham.
 Henry Cox, Albion Screw Works, Charles Henry St., Birmingham.
 Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., 16, Broad St., Birmingham.
 T. Haddon & Co., Moseley Street, Birmingham.
 Partridges, Ltd., 128, Northwood St., Birmingham.
 A. Stokes & Co., 56, Green St., Deritend, Birmingham.
 Tetley Brothers, Ltd., 46, Floodgate St., Birmingham.
 Warne, Wright & Rowland, Ltd., 56, Watery Lane, Birmingham.
 SHIRTING, BLUE STRIPED—
 Bailey & Berry, Ltd., Spring Mill, Earby, Nr. Colne.
 W. A. Rothwell, 21, Marsden Square, Manchester.
 Rylands & Sons, Ltd., 55, Wood St., E.C.
 TAPE, WORSTED—
 James Carr & Sons, Clarence Mills, Chester Rd., Manchester.
 F. H. Holmes & Co., Arundel St. Mills, Manchester.
 TARTAN, NAVY—Smith & Hutton, Eccleshill, Nr. Bradford.
 WARE, HOLLOW—J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich.
 WORSTED—Harrap Bros., Bective Mills, Alverthorpe, Wakefield.
 WARE, ENAMELLED—
 Anglo-American Tin Stamping Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.
 Orme Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.
 J. Sankey & Son, Ltd., Albert St., Bilston, Staffs.
 FORAGE CAPS—
 Hobson & Sons, 154-164, Tcoley St., S.E.
 Myers & Co., 226, Cambridge Rd., N.E.
 Poulton & Davis, 421, Old Kent Rd., S.E.
 Schneiders & Son, 39-41, Durward St., E.

ADMIRALTY; WORKS DEPARTMENT.

STEELWORK, &c., for Storehouse, Colombo—Francis Morton & Co., Ltd., Hamilton Ironworks, Garston, Liverpool.
 WORKS SERVICES—
 Alterations to Captain's House, R.N. College, Osborne—S. Salter, York St., Southsea.
 Extension of Laboratory, Lodge Hill, Chatham—Kirk and Randall, Warren Lane Works, Woolwich.
 Pier and Land Approaches to Detention Quarters at Bull Point, Devonport—W. E. Blake, Sutton Building Yard, Plymouth.
 WAR OFFICE.
 ACCOUTREMENTS, WEB (Haversacks)—
 Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., Imperial Works, Fountayne Rd., Broad Lane, Tottenham, N.
 M. Wright & Sons, Ltd., Quorn Mills, Nr. Loughborough, &c.
 BOARDS, DISTRIBUTING—
 Cox, Walkers, Ltd., North Eastern Electric Works, Darlington.
 Edison & Swan United Electric Light Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.
 Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Victoria Rd., Charlton, S.O. Kent.
 Spagnoletti, Ltd., Goldhawk Works, Goldhawk Rd., W.

BOOTS AND SHOES—
 Adams Bros., Raunds.
 J. Cave & Sons, Ltd., Rushden.
 R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds.
 Cridland & Rose, King Square, Bristol.
 Finedon Co-operative Boot Society, Ltd., Obelisk Hill, Finedon.
 J. T. Hawthorne, Finedon & Walgrave.
 J. Horrell & Son, Raunds.
 W. Lawrence, Raunds.
 Neal & Gates, Raunds.
 C. E. Nichols, Raunds.
 W. Nichols & Son, Kettering.
 Northamptonshire Productive Society, Ltd., Wollaston.
 O. Smith, Raunds.
 St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd., Raunds.
 Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Raunds.
 Unity Co-operative Society, Ltd., Ringstead.
 S. Walker, Walgrave.
 Wilkins & Denton, Ltd., Rushden & Irchester.
 CLOTHING, UNIFORM—
 E. Broderick & Co., Ltd., St. James' Barton, Bristol.
 J. Compton & Sons, Swindon, Crewe, &c.
 G. Glanfield & Son, 1, 3 & 5, Brick Lane, E.
 D. Gurteen & Sons, Chantry Mills, Haverhill.
 J. Hammond & Co., Ltd., Enderley Mills, Newcastle, Staffs.
 Limerick Clothing Factory, Ltd., Limerick.
 Limerick Shirt Factory, Ltd., Hartstone St., Limerick.
 J. & B. Pearce & Co., 28, Floral St., W.C., and 95 & 97, Church St., Bethnal Green, N.E.
 J. Smith & Co. (Derby), Ltd., Drewry Lane Works, Derby.
 C. & J. Webb & Co., Ltd., Fenchurch Wharf, Burdett Rd., E.
 DRAWERS, COTTON—
 Atkins Bros., Hinckley.
 G. Braund, Ltd., 10, Woodgate, Loughborough.
 J. Clarke & Co., Arnold, Notts.
 Drewry & Edwards, Ltd., Stanford St., Nottingham.
 ENGINE AND BOILER—Robey & Co., Ltd., Globe Works, Lincoln.
 FURNITURE—Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich.
 HARNES AND SADDLERY—
 Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.
 Martins—Birmingham, Ltd., Granville St., Birmingham.
 HEAD-DRESSES—
 Almond & Smith, 67, Willow Walk, Bermondsey, S.E.
 Hobson & Sons, 154-164, Tooley St., S.E.
 Poulton & Davis, 421, Old Kent Rd., S.E.
 HYDRANTS, FIRE, &c. (Running Contract)—Ham, Baker & Co., Ltd., Langley Green, near Birmingham.
 IRONMONGERY, SADDLERS—
 Fellows Bros., Cradley Heath.
 Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Neale St., Walsall.
 J. Wheway & Son, Walsall.
 S. Woodhouse & Sons, Cradley Heath.
 LACES, LEATHER—
 C. H. Averill, Vincent Parade, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.
 E. B. Balmforth, 4, Meanwood Rd., Leeds.
 J. Dawbarn & Sons, 73-81, Bermondsey St., S.E.
 LIGHTERAGE (Running Contract)—A. R. & S. Sales, Royal Arsenal Wharf, Woolwich.
 LOCKERS, STEEL—Milner's Safe Co., Ltd., Carpenters Rd., Stratford, E., and Phoenix Safe Works, Liverpool.
 MACHINES, BORING AND SURFACING—J. Lang & Sons, Johnstone, near Glasgow.
 MISCELLANEOUS CAST IRONWORK, &c. (Running Contract)—
 Falkirk Iron Co., Falkirk, N.B.
 D. King & Sons, Keppoch Ironworks, Possilpark, Glasgow.
 POLES, TELEGRAPH—Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.
 PRESSES, BALING, HAY AND FODDER—Musgrave Bros., Crown Point Foundry, East St., Leeds.
 PUTTEES—
 Fox, Bros., & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset.
 T. & J. Tinker, Holmfirth.
 WORKS SERVICES—
 Alterations and Additions to Sergeants' Mess, Wrexham—W. E. Samuel, Market St., Wrexham.
 Construction of Rifle Range, Ballycannon, Co. Clare—M. Gough, Coloony St., Limerick.
 Construction of Road, Bovisand and Lentney—E. Shellabear, 1, Mutley Plain, Plymouth.
 Erection of Annexes, Cambridge Cottages, Woolwich—Kirk & Randall, Warren Lane Works, Woolwich.
 Erection of Annexes, Canterbury—Johnson & Co., 97-9 Southwark Bridge Road, S.E.
 Erection of Annexes, Maryhill Barracks, Glasgow—C. Macandrew, 13, Lauriston Gardens, Edinburgh.
 Erection of Annexes, Ross Barracks, Shorncliffe—W. H. Grigg, Salisbury House, Beaconsfield Av., Dover.
 Erection of Annexes, Winchester—Avery Bros., Winchester.
 Erection of Barrack Buildings, St. Peter's Barracks, Jersey—B. E. Nightingale, Albert Embankment, S.E.
 Erection of Officers' Mess, Golden Hill, Freshwater, Isle of Wight—T. & E. W. Jenkins, 49, Upper St. James St., Newport, Isle of Wight.
 Improvements and Additions to Married Quarters, Spike Island—D. Creedon, Rathealy Rd., Fermoy.
 Installation of Acetylene Lighting, St. Peter's Barracks, Jersey—Imperial Light, Ltd., 123, Victoria St., S.W.
 Installation of Electric Lighting, Blackdown, Aldershot—G. E. Taylor & Co., 8, Bush Lane, Cannon St., E.C.
 Provision of Single Men's Accommodation, Horfield Barracks, Bristol—T. Weeks, 6, Beaulley Rd., Bedminster, Bristol.

Supply and Erection of Heating Apparatus, Dirigible Balloon Shed, Farnborough—H. & J. Cash, Limited, Caxton House, Westminster, S.W.

INDIA OFFICE, STORE DEPARTMENT.

BEARING PLATES—North-Eastern Steel Co., Middlesbrough.
 BODY FITTINGS—J. Leveck, Aston Manor, Birmingham.
 BOILERS—North British Loco. Co., Glasgow.
 BRIDGEWORK—Horsehay Co., Horsehay.
 COKE—J. Joicey & Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
 COOKING APPARATUS—Adams & Son, Neal St., W.C.
 COTTON WASTE—Greenfield Mill Co., Greenfield, near Oldham.
 COUPLINGS—Horseley Co., Tipton.
 CRESOL—Jeyes Sanitary Compounds, Ltd., 64, Cannon St., E.C.
 ELECTRIC FITTINGS—J. Stone & Co., Deptford.
 FISHPLATES—Dorman, Long & Co., Middlesbrough.
 IRONWORK—J. Leveck, Aston Manor, Birmingham.
 LATHES—Dean, Smith & Grace, Keighley.
 LOCOMOTIVE—Vulcan Foundry Co., Newton-le-Willows.
 MACHINES, BOLT SCREWING, &c.—J. Heap & Co., Ashton-under-Lyne.
 MACHINES, CLIPPING—A. Martin & Co., Woolwich Common.
 MILK, CONDENSED—Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Milk Co., 6, Eastcheap, E.C.
 MOTORS, &c.—British Westinghouse & Co., Norfolk St., Strand, W.C.
 PIPES—
 (2) John Russell & Co., 145, Queen Victoria St., E.C.
 (2) Stewarts & Lloyds, Glasgow.
 RAILS—
 Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Middlesbrough.
 Dorman, Long & Co., Middlesbrough.
 RAILS AND FISHPLATES—Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, 66, Cannon St., E.C.
 ROAD ROLLER—Aveling & Porter, Rochester.
 STEEL—Jonas & Colver, Sheffield.
 STEEL PLATES—J. Reid & Co., 101, Leadenhall St., E.C.
 SWITCHBOARD EXTENSIONS—Whipp & Bourne, Castleton, near Manchester.
 TELEPHONE SETS—Siemens Bros. & Co., Caxton House, Westminster.
 UNDERFRAMES—Leeds Forge Co., Leeds.
 WHEELS & AXLES—
 J. Baker & Co., Rotherham.
 Glasgow Railway Engineering Co., Govan.
 Pat. Shaft, &c., Co., Wednesbury.
 CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.
 AXLEBOXES, CAST STEEL—Patent Axlebox Foundry Co., Ltd., Wednesfield Foundry, Wolverhampton.
 BUFFERS, CARRIAGE—Ibbotson Bros. & Co., Ltd., Globe Steel Works, Sheffield.
 BARS, IRON—The Lilleshall Co., Ltd., Royal London House, Finsbury Sq., E.C.
 BOILERS, LOCOMOTIVE—Kerr, Stuart & Co., Ltd., 1, Broad St. Pl., E.C.
 BANDAGES, LINT AND COTTON WOOL—Vernon & Co., Penwortham Mills, Preston.
 CEMENT—
 A.P.C.M., 8, Lloyd's Av., E.C.
 I. C. Johnston & Co., Ltd., 4, Eastcheap, E.C.
 Peters Bros., 72, Victoria St., S.W.
 CRANE—Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., 32, Victoria St., S.W.
 CRANE, HAND POWER—Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., 32, Victoria St., S.W.
 DESTRUCTOR CELLS—Horsfall Destructor Co., Leeds.
 DRUMS, OIL—Channing Bros., Bow Common, E.
 DRILL, KHAKI—E. Spinner & Co., Bannister Hall Works, Preston.
 FISHPLATES—Workington Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., 14, Sherborne Lane, King William St., E.C.
 LIGHTHOUSE APPARATUS—Trinity House, Tower House, E.C.
 LOCOMOTIVES—Nasmyth, Wilson & Co., Ltd., Patricroft, nr. Manchester.
 LOCOMOTIVES, ENGINES AND TENDERS—Kitson & Co., Airedale Foundry, Leeds.
 PORTABLE TRAMLINE, &c.—Decauville Co. (of Paris), 40, Trinity Sq., E.C.
 PIPES, CAST IRON AND SPECIALS—
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