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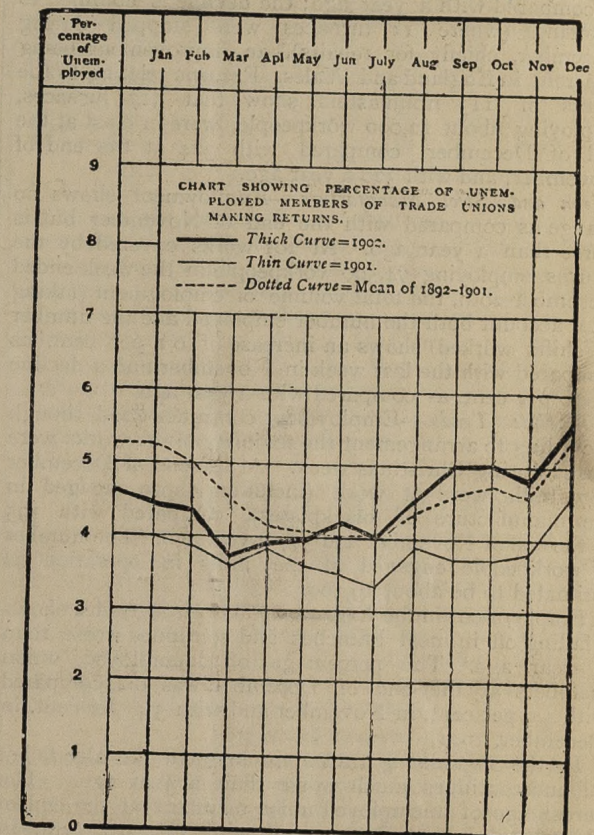
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## EMPLOYMENT CHART.



## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN DECEMBER.

[Based on 2,305 returns, viz.: 1,149 from Employers, 555 from Trade Unions, and 601 from other sources.]

The general state of employment declined slightly during December. As compared with a year ago, a decline is shown in the Iron and Steel, Engineering, and Shipbuilding industries. On the other hand Mining shows no falling off, and there is an improvement in the Textile, Clothing, and Printing trades.

A comparison of the returns for the end of December with those of the previous month is, to some extent, affected by Christmas and New Year holidays, and allowance must, therefore, be made for this disturbing influence when considering the figures given below.

In the 224 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 552,415, making returns, 30,302 (or 5.5 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 4.8 per cent. in November, and 4.6 per cent. in the 216 unions, with a membership of 544,018, from which returns were received for December, 1901. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of December during the past decade was 5.3.

**Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.**—Employment in the four weeks ended December 20th continued good, and was practically the same as a year ago. At collieries at which 493,133 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.51 days per week during



the four weeks ended December 20th, compared with the same number of days in the four weeks ended November 22nd, and 5.46 days per week in the four weeks ended December 21st, 1901. The number employed at the pits was 1.4 per cent. greater than a year ago.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment continues good. In the 135 mines and open works covered by the returns, employing 15,746 workpeople, the average number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended December 20th was 5.76 per week, as compared with 5.81 in the four weeks ended November 22nd and 5.77 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed was 1.4 per cent. greater than a year ago.

**Fig Iron Industry.**—Employment shows a decline as compared with a month ago, and a smaller decline as compared with a year ago; the decline is confined to Scotland (where 11 furnaces were stopped during December, chiefly for repairs), an improvement being apparent in England and Wales. Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 317 furnaces, employing about 22,000 workpeople, were in blast at the end of December, compared with 324 at the end of November, and with 320 a year ago.

**Iron and Steel Manufacture.**—Employment shows no change as compared with the end of November but is worse than a year ago. At 201 works covered by the returns, employing 74,500 workpeople in the week ended December 20th, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows an increase of 0.1 per cent. as compared with the last week in November and a decline of 4.0 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

**Tinplate Trade.**—Employment continues good, though according to arrangement the majority of the works were closed during Christmas week. At the end of December 387 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of blackplates), compared with 395 at the end of November and 377 a year ago. The number of workpeople engaged at the mills in operation is estimated to be about 19,300.

Employment in the **Engineering and Metal** trades shows a falling off in most branches and continues worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 6.2, compared with 5.0 per cent. in November and with 5.4 per cent. in December, 1901.

In the **Shipbuilding** trades employment has also fallen off and continues much worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 11.7, compared with 10.7 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1901, was 5.8.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is very dull and on the whole shows a slight decline as compared with a month ago, and little change as compared with a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members among **Carpenters and Joiners** was 5.9 at the end of December, as compared with 4.4 in November and 6.0 in December, 1901. The percentage for **Plumbers** was 5.6 at the end of December, as compared with 5.7 at the end of November, and 4.4 in December, 1901.

In the **Furnishing** trades employment has continued to decline, and is about the same as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 5.6, compared with 4.3 per cent. in November and 5.9 per cent. in December, 1901.

Most branches of the **Printing and Bookbinding** trades have fallen off as is usual at this season, but employment generally is better than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 3.7, compared with 3.0 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1901, was 4.7.

Employment in the **Paper** trades remains unchanged, and is about the same as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 2.2, compared with 2.3 per cent. in November, and 2.5 per cent. in December 1901.

Employment in the **Glass** trades is not so good as in November, and is also worse than a year ago.

Employment in the **Coachbuilding** trades has continued to fall off, but is about the same as a year ago. The

percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 6.9, compared with 5.6 per cent. in November, and 7.0 per cent. in December, 1901.

In the **Leather** trades employment has somewhat improved, but is still considerably worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 6.5, compared with 7.3 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1901, was 3.6.

Employment in the **Boot and Shoe** trade has slightly improved in some centres, but is still quiet on the whole.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the **Tailoring** trade continues moderate; in the ready-made branch it shows a decline in some centres, and an improvement in others, and is fair on the whole.

Employment in the **Hat-making** trade has slightly improved, and is better than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 3.2, compared with 3.6 per cent. in November, and 3.7 per cent. in December, 1901.

Employment in the **Spinning** branch of the **Cotton** trade is good, and shows a further improvement; in the **Weaving** branch it is still only moderate.

Information respecting cotton factories employing about 91,400 women and girls shows that 94 per cent. of those in spinning mills were working in mills giving full employment during the whole month, compared with 85 per cent. during November, and 91 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding percentage of full time for those employed in weaving factories was 78 per cent. during December, compared with 82 per cent. during November, and 73 per cent. a year ago.

Employment continues good in the **Woollen** trade. It is fairly good in the **Worsted** trade. In the **Hosiery** trade it continues good.

**Agricultural Labourers** have been, for the most part, fully employed during December. Some casual labourers, however, lost a little time owing to unfavourable weather.

Employment for **Dock and Riverside Labour in London** showed a further decline during the month. During the four weeks ended December 27th the number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves averaged 14,693, compared with 15,080 in the preceding five weeks, and 16,322 in the corresponding period a year ago. The average number employed in December during the five years 1897-1901 was 16,352.

**Trade Disputes.**—Fifteen new disputes began in December, involving 3,928 workpeople, of whom 2,215 were directly and 1,713 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in November was 24, affecting 5,436 workpeople, and in December, 1901, 14, affecting 3,236 workpeople. Of the 15 disputes in December, 1902, 1 took place in the building trades, 8 in the coal mining industry, 3 in engineering and shipbuilding trades, and 3 in other trades. Of the 11 new and old disputes, affecting 2,958 workpeople, of which definite results were reported, 3, involving 155 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople, 6, involving 1,598 persons, in favour of the employers, and 2, involving 1,205 persons, were compromised.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The changes in rates of wages reported during December affected about 20,400 workpeople, of whom nearly 10,900 received advances and 9,500 sustained decreases. The net effect of all the changes was an increase averaging 4.4d. weekly per head of those affected. The changes of the previous month affected 247,300 workpeople, the net result being an increase averaging 7.4d. weekly per head. During December, 1901, the number affected was 44,700, and the net weekly result was a decrease averaging 1s. 0.4d. weekly per head.

The principal advances affected 4,000 slate quarrymen at Festiniog and 5,500 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham. The principal decrease affected 5,000 iron and steel workers in South Wales. Two changes, affecting 650 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards, and 12 changes, affecting about 15,550 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting about 4,200 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives. All the changes were arranged without stoppage of work.

## WAGES AND DISPUTES IN 1902.\*

### CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

#### Changes in Rates of Wages.

DURING 1902 the fall in wages which began in 1901 continued. While the net aggregate fall was somewhat less than in the previous year, a larger number of workpeople sustained decreases. The net result of all the changes in wages reported during the year 1902 was an average weekly decrease of 1s. 7.4d. per head in the wages of nearly 875,000 workpeople. Of the total number of workpeople thus affected, 785,000 sustained a weekly decrease averaging 2s. 0d. per head, and 90,000 received a weekly increase averaging 1s. 2d. per head. These figures compare with a total of 922,233 workpeople affected by wages-changes in 1901, of whom 492,518 sustained decreases averaging 4s. 9.3d. per head and 429,715 received increases averaging 1s. 10.3d. per head, the net result being an average weekly decrease of 1s. 8d. per head. The net results of the changes during 1901 and 1902 are shown in the following summary by groups of trades.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople whose wages were changed in		Net amount of Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the weekly wages of those affected.	
	1902.	1901.	1902.	1901.
Building ... ..	15,490	39,687	s. d.	s. d.
Coal Mining ... ..	735,380	606,203	+1 24	+0 11
Iron, &c. Mining ... ..	7,121	16,098	-2 02	-1 73
Quarrying ... ..	6,707	4,971	+0 84	-6 64
Iron and Steel ... ..	47,995	68,729	+0 102	-1 23
Engineering and Shipbuilding ... ..	29,022	21,444	+0 34	-0 33
Other Metal ... ..	13,948	11,965	+0 8	-1 104
Textile ... ..	1,903	3,098	+1 3	+1 104
Clothing ... ..	3,112	5,274	+1 104	+2 63
Miscellaneous ... ..	15,995	54,966	+0 114	+1 34
Total ... ..	874,673	922,233	-1 74	-1 8

As will be seen from the above Table, the fall in wages in both years was confined mainly to coal miners. In this industry in 1902 wages fell in every district, over 735,000 workpeople being affected.

In the shipbuilding industry reductions were reported in 1902, affecting 29,000 workpeople employed in shipyards on the North-East Coast and at Barrow.

#### Changes in Hours of Labour.

The number of workpeople affected by changes in hours of labour during 1902 was small, apart from the reduction in the Saturday hours of labour of workpeople employed in the Textile Industry. If that change be included, about a million workpeople were affected, the average reduction per head, in working time, being about one hour per week.

#### LABOUR DISPUTES.

The number of separate labour disputes reported in 1902 was less, but the number of workpeople affected was larger than in any of the years 1896-1901. The best statistical comparison is, however, the aggregate duration, *i.e.*, duration in working days multiplied by numbers of workpeople involved. Tested in this way, it will be seen from the following Table that the year 1902 was less affected by labour disputes than 1901, and was well below the annual average for the past seven years:—

Year.	Number of Disputes beginning in each year.	Workpeople affected by disputes beginning in each year.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in each year.†
1896	No. 926	No. 198,190	Days. 3,746,368
1897	864	230,267	10,345,523
1898	711	253,907	15,289,478
1899	719	180,217	2,516,416
1900	648	188,538	3,152,694
1901	642	179,546	4,142,287
1902	427	254,930	3,477,962

\*The figures for 1902 are preliminary only. They will be amended, completed and further analysed in the Departmental Annual Reports which are now being prepared.

†When a dispute extended into two years the days lost have been credited to the year in which they fell.

Of the 427 disputes which began in 1902, 159 occurred in the coal-mining industry, and those disputes affected 205,954 workpeople, or 80 per cent. of the total number affected by all disputes in 1902. Including the Dewsbury and Rhymney coal mining disputes, both of which began before 1902, the aggregate duration of coal-mining disputes last year amounted to over 2½ million working days, or 68 per cent. of the total duration of all disputes in the year.

The following Table groups the disputes by trades:—

Group of Trades.	No. of Disputes which began in 1902.	Number of Workpeople affected by Disputes which began in 1902.			Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
		Directly	Indirectly	Total.	
Coal Mining ... ..	159	83,348	122,606	205,954	2,396,158
Other Mining ... ..	2	326	139	465	4,570
Quarrying ... ..	5	827	139	966	150,894
Building ... ..	38	4,802	527	5,329	111,744
Metal, Engineering & Shipbuilding ... ..	66	9,634	6,253	15,887	421,310
Textile ... ..	77	8,032	8,220	16,252	237,772
Clothing ... ..	23	2,281	534	2,815	56,888
Transport ... ..	14	1,335	255	1,590	10,027
Other Trades ... ..	43	4,658	1,014	5,672	89,399
Total ... ..	427	115,243	139,687	254,930	3,477,962

Among the principal new disputes in 1902 may be mentioned those affecting about 102,500 pit lads and other colliery workpeople in the Federated Districts, 12,030 enginemen and colliery workpeople in the Western District of Monmouthshire, 5,200 colliery workpeople at Merthyr, 2,000 coal miners at Kilnhurst, Rotherham, 2,977 coal miners at Denaby Main, Rotherham, 1,855 colliery workpeople at Castleford, 1,600 ship joiners and plumbers on the North-East Coast, 4,030 enginemen and tinplate workers at Llanelly, and 1,600 locksmiths at Willenhall.

#### NOTIFICATION OF ACCIDENTS.

THE Report\* of a Committee, appointed by the Home Office to report upon the present system of notification of Industrial Accidents, has been issued. The Committee consisted of Mr. H. H. S. Cunynghame, C.B., Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, Mr. C. E. Troup, C.B., of the Home Office, and Mr. H. Llewellyn Smith, of the Board of Trade, with Mr. Malcolm Delevingne as Secretary.

#### Mines and Quarries.

Non-fatal accidents notifiable in mines and quarries are: (1) accidents from certain special causes (*viz.*, explosions of gas or of any explosive or any steam boiler) if any personal injury at all results to any person employed, and (2) other accidents when serious personal injury is caused. No definition, however, is given in the Acts of "serious personal injury." The Committee recommend (a) that power should be given to the Secretary of State to add to or modify the list of accidents due to special causes, and (b) that "serious personal injury" should be defined, so as to include, at least, all fractures of heads or limbs, all dislocations of limbs and other accidents of equal gravity.

The Committee further recommend that owners of mines and quarries should be required to make periodical returns of all accidents which cause disablement for more than a fortnight.

#### Factories, Workshops, etc.

Non-fatal accidents notifiable under the Factory Act are (1) accidents from special causes (caused by machinery moved by power, vats or other structures filled with hot liquid or molten metal or other substance, or explosion or escape of gas, steam or metal), referred to in the Report as "Class A," and (2) all other accidents, referred to as "Class B"; accidents of either class being required to be reported if on any one of the 3 working days next after the accident the injured person is disabled for working at least 5 hours at his ordinary work. The Committee recommend that in future the time standard shall be for Class A one clear day's absence from the man's ordinary work at any time subsequent to the accident, and for Class B absence for more than a fortnight, whether occurring immediately

\* Cd. 998 of 1902 (Eyre & Spottiswoode). Price 2d.



after the accident or subsequently; that those classes of accidents at present coming under Class B, which are to some extent preventable, and which therefore ought to be brought to the notice of the Inspector immediately in all cases, e.g., accidents due to electric shock, vats of corrosive liquid, certain classes of machines not worked by power, falls from scaffolding or staging, &c., shall be transferred to Class A; and that power to modify from time to time the list of accidents included in Class A should be given to the Secretary of State.

The Committee point out that many of the accidents under Class A are not such as to call for medical investigation by the Certifying Surgeon, while some Class B accidents might be usefully referred by the Inspector to the Surgeon for inquiry, and recommend that the report of an accident under Class A should be made in the first place to the Inspector only (instead of to the Inspector and the Certifying Surgeon), and that the Inspector should refer to the Surgeon (whose report should be fuller than at present) such accidents both in Class A and Class B, as require his investigation.

The Committee recommend that the time standard for accidents to Railway Employees be altered in the same manner as in the case of Class A accidents in factories.

The Committee also point out that, if returns of all cases in which compensation is claimed or paid under the Workmen's Compensation Acts were required to be made, definite information could be obtained of the number of accidents causing more than a fortnight's disablement in the different industries to which those Acts apply.

Summing up the conclusions to which they have arrived, the Committee report as follows:—

"The general scheme, then, which we suggest is that there should be three classes of reportable accidents in each of the industries under review:

- (1) Fatal accidents.
- (2) Accidents from special causes as described hereunder.
- (3) Accidents causing more than a fortnight's disablement.

The first two classes will cover most of those accidents of which notice will be wanted for administrative purposes, and which must therefore be reported promptly. The third class will be chiefly useful for statistical purposes, and in some industries will be most conveniently reported by means of a periodical return.

"The definition of the accidents in the second class and the conditions under which they are to be notified will require to be adapted to the special needs of each class of industry. In the case of railways the definition will probably include all non-fatal accidents. In the case of factories it will include accidents from machinery and all the chief classes of accidents in respect of which preventive action on the part of the Inspectors is practicable. In the case of mines it will include accidents caused by explosions, electric shock, and possibly some other causes, and will be supplemented by continuing the existing requirement of reporting at once all accidents causing serious injury.

"In practice the two most important changes which will result from our recommendations will be that in mines there will be a complete and uniform system of reporting non-fatal accidents, now entirely wanting, and that in factories there will be a clear standard of reportable accident and reports of trivial accidents of an unpreventable character will be excluded."

**General Report of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.**

The Second Annual General Report of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland [Cd. 1314] is divided into three parts. Part I. deals with the administration and funds of the Department; Part II deals with its relations with Local Authorities, Schemes and Means of Action and Educational Policy; Part III. gives details of the Department's operations with regard to Agriculture, Technical Instruction, Fisheries, Transit and Markets, and the Veterinary branch. Appendices covering 243 pages are given, with a detailed index.

**THE PRICE OF BREAD.**

THE returns relate to London and 25 large provincial towns at the beginning of January and of each of the ten preceding months. Though it is not possible to state that the quality of the bread referred to is in all cases the same, the figures for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable over the whole period, and to represent the prices most usually paid by workpeople for ordinary household bread of average quality.

As compared with a month ago the price has remained unchanged in all the towns given in the Table.

Place.	1902.					1903.		
	1st March.	1st April.	5th May.	1st July.*	1st Sept.*	1st Oct.	1st Dec.*	1st Jan.
London ...	d. 3½ & 4	d. 3½ & 4	d. 4 & 4½	d. 4½ & 5	d. 4½ & 5	d. 4½ & 5	d. 4½ & 5	d. 4½ & 5
Birmingham	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5
Bolton ...	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Bristol ...	4½	4½	5	5	5	5	5	5
Burslem ...	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Cardiff ...	4½	4½	5	5	5	5	5	5
Derby ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Huddersfield	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Hull ...	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5
Ipswich ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Leicester ...	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Liverpool ...	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Manchester	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Middlesbro'	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Newcastle-on-Tyne	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Norwich ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Nottingham	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Oldham ...	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4	4	4
Plymouth ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wolverpton	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Aberdeen ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Dundee ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Edinburgh	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Glasgow ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Belfast ...	4½	4½	5	5	5	5	5	5
Dublin ...	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the colonies from 1st September to 31st December, 1902, amounted to 29,353,267 cwts. (6,849,096 quarters), compared with 23,129,220 cwts. (5,396,818 quarters) in the corresponding four months of 1901. The imports of wheat-meal and flour amounted to 7,223,028 cwts., compared with 6,860,457 cwts. from 1st September to 31st December, 1901. The Table below gives the mean *London Gazette* price of British wheat, and the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, for each of the months January to December, 1902:—

Month.	British Wheat.		Imports.			
	Quantity.	Average <i>Gazette</i> Price.	Wheat.		Wheat-meal and Flour.	
			Quantity.	Average Declared Value.	Quantity.	Average Declared Value.
	Cwts.	Per cwt. s. d.	Cwts.	Per cwt. s. d.	Cwts.	Per cwt. s. d.
January ...	1,297,766	6 5½	5,429,100	6 9½	2,173,480	9 1½
February ...	1,234,450	6 3½	3,657,200	6 8½	1,300,931	9 0
March ...	1,008,060	6 3½	4,013,200	6 5½	1,218,986	9 3½
April ...	791,751	6 6½	6,908,468	6 5½	1,408,975	9 0
May ...	659,739	7 3½	8,354,061	6 11½	1,574,625	9 2
June ...	454,106	7 2½	8,369,544	6 9½	1,506,631	9 4½
July ...	254,934	7 3	7,406,629	6 9½	1,665,859	9 4
August ...	158,828	7 4½	6,832,417	6 7½	1,406,584	9 2½
September ...	539,767	6 5½	7,599,673	6 7½	1,522,827	9 3½
October ...	1,381,879	5 10½	8,793,654	6 6½	1,820,192	9 2½
November ...	899,199	5 10	7,044,300	6 6½	1,586,243	9 2½
December ...	1,035,137	5 9½	5,615,640	6 8	1,993,766	9 1½

The price of British wheat was lower in December than in any of the previous months of 1902, being 5s. 9½d. per cwt. The highest price during the year was in August (7s. 4½d. per cwt.), since which date there has been a fall in the price each month. The average declared value of imported wheat in December shows a rise as compared with November (from 6s. 6½d. to 6s. 8d.), while wheat-meal and flour shows a fall (9s. 2½d. to 9s. 1½d.).

\* No change was recorded in any of the towns at 2nd June, 5th August, or at 3rd November.  
† Import Duty commenced in this month.

**CO-OPERATIVE DISTRIBUTION AND PRODUCTION IN 1901.**

The following Table showing the position at the end of 1901 of Workmen's Distributive and Productive Co-operative Societies in the United Kingdom, is based upon returns sent direct to the Labour Department, supplemented by particulars furnished by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society, and the Co-operative Union. The Table is in continuation of the information published in the *LABOUR GAZETTE* of February, 1902, page 38.

Details are given of 1849 societies, with a total membership of 1,870,374 (including 5,711 societies) and sales and transfers amounting to a total of £89,608,539, of which £76,407,833 are the sales of distributive societies, and £13,200,706 the sales of productive societies and transfers of the productive departments of distributive societies.

Of the £76,407,833 total distributive sales, the sales of 1,438 retail societies amounted to £52,761,171 and those of the four wholesale federations to £23,556,439, the remaining £90,223 being the sales of 111 Irish societies formed for the purchase and sale of seeds, manures, and poultry, and for the sale of the products of various home industries, &c.

Of the £13,200,706 of productive sales and transfers, goods amounting to £3,790,048, or 28·7 per cent., were produced by the 296 societies established primarily for production, £4,729,736, or 35·8 per cent., by the productive departments of 722 retail distributive societies, and £4,680,922, or 35·5 per cent., in the productive departments of the English and Scottish wholesale societies. The details of these figures were dealt with more fully in the November issue of the *LABOUR GAZETTE* (page 303).

The total number of persons employed by 1805 societies was returned as 87,855, no particulars being obtainable as to the number employed by the remaining 44 societies, all of which were in Ireland. Of the total of 87,855 employees, 38,649 were engaged in production, and 49,206 in distribution.

The total share, loan, and reserve capital of 1804 societies amounted to £33,257,062, of which £11,818,737 was reinvested otherwise than in the trade of the individual societies. Of this £5,605,907 was invested in house property let or sold to members, £4,630,992 in other co-operative societies, and £1,581,838 in various other securities. The particulars as to their capital furnished by the remaining 45 societies were too incomplete to include in the Table.

TABLE showing certain Particulars relating to Workmen's Co-operative Societies for Distribution and Production in the United Kingdom, for the year ending December 31st, 1901:—

	Number of Societies making Returns.	Number of Members.		Capital.		Sales.	Profit, including interest on Share Capital.	Number of persons directly employed by the Societies.†
		Individuals.	Societies.*	Share and Loan.	Reserve and Insurance.			
<b>Distribution:—</b>								
England and Wales	1,133	1,489,615	—	£ 21,014,588	744,204	41,543,850	£ 6,414,305	34,464
Scotland	290	300,043	1,092	1,484,293	802,340	17,642,082	256,196	3,106
Ireland	15	3,509	—	4,257,901	228,487	11,126,869	1,844,884	9,931
				1,128,754	260,548	5,700,745	174,778	1,490
				20,096	1,198	99,452	6,087	89
				5,854	50	46,838	1,035	10
				67	—	166,776	—	17
				44	—	67,095	920	99
				—	—	23,128	—	—
<b>Total Distribution ... 1901 ...</b>	<b>1,583</b>	<b>1,807,611</b>	<b>1,487</b>	<b>27,931,645</b>	<b>2,038,797</b>	<b>76,407,833</b>	<b>8,698,205</b>	<b>49,206</b>
<b>Production:—</b>								
England	8	5,199	418	394,298	10,807	1,234,311	61,500	398
	10	2,935	159	40,009	2,345	63,519	3,534	175
Scotland	14	6,765	138	294,343	22,387	459,752	62,390	1,155
Ireland	6	2,195	441	91,612	7,306	104,589	7,326	531
	150	26,534	12	142,835	18,828	862,077	12,331	790
	4	112	—	720	520	3,398	264	134
<b>Total ... 1901 ...</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>87,082</b>	<b>4,284</b>	<b>1,497,611</b>	<b>114,082</b>	<b>3,790,048</b>	<b>198,982</b>	<b>9,616</b>
<b>By Distributive Societies:—</b>								
England and Wales	549§	—	—	—	—	3,277,662	—	11,179
Scotland	170§	—	—	1,129,416	—	3,148,382	78,477	8,171
Ireland	3§	—	—	545,511	—	1,450,951	59,405	4,961
	3§	—	—	—	—	1,532,540	—	4,702
	—	—	—	—	—	1,123	—	17
<b>Total Production ... 1901 ...</b>	<b>724§</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,674,927</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>9,410,658</b>	<b>137,882</b>	<b>29,033</b>
<b>Totals Distribution and Production in the United Kingdom 1901</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>1,807,611</b>	<b>1,487</b>	<b>31,104,183</b>	<b>2,152,879</b>	<b>89,608,539</b>	<b>9,036,069</b>	<b>87,855</b>

\* The same society may hold shares in several others, and may therefore be counted several times in this column.  
† In some cases the number of employees was not stated, and an estimate has been made.  
‡ These societies did not supply particulars for this column.  
§ Included under the head of Distribution.  
¶ The societies are also shown in the totals for Distribution, but are counted only once in the grand totals.  
¶ These particulars relating to production by distributive societies are included under the head of Distribution, and accordingly no totals can be given.

**HOME OFFICE ORDERS.**

**Explosives in Coal Mines.**—The Home Secretary has made an Order,\* dated December 20th, 1902, under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, relating to the use of explosives in coal mines. The Order revokes, as from January 1st, 1903, the Explosives in Coal Mines Order of October 1st, 1901, and the subsequent Orders amending that Order, dated December 17th, 1901, and March 24th, June 7th, July 26th, and October 10th, 1902, and re-enacts these Orders with the following modifications, (1) Two new explosives (Bobbinit and Dragonite), which have passed the Test since the making of the last Order, are added to the list of Permitted Explosives. (2) "Special Bull-Dog" is retained on the permitted list only until March 1st, 1903.

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, No. 916, 1902 (Eyre & Spottiswoode), Price 2½d.

**Particulars Clause (Wholesale Tailoring).**—By an Order of the Home Secretary, dated January 5th, 1903, the provisions of Section 116 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (Particulars) have been extended to factories and workshops in which wholesale tailoring is carried on, and to outworkers employed in wholesale tailoring. The existing Order of August 6th, 1898 (see *GAZETTE*, September, 1898, p. 286), is repealed and re-enacted in the Order. In this Order the term "out-worker" means any person employed in the business of a factory or workshop outside the factory or workshop, whether directly employed by the occupier thereof or by any contractor employed by him and also any person employed by the occupier of any place from which work is given out, or by a contractor employed by him. The Order will come into force on February 2nd, 1903.



LABOUR DISPUTES IN GERMANY IN 1901. THE Imperial Statistical Office in Berlin has issued its third Annual Report on Strikes and Lock-outs in the German Empire, the figures being those for the year 1901. Only the disputes terminated in the course of the year are dealt with, while strikes and lock-outs in agriculture do not come within the scope of the statistics.

The number of disputes terminated in 1901 was 1,091, as compared with 1,468 the year before (a decrease of 25 per cent.), while the number of workpeople directly or indirectly affected by disputes was 68,191, less than half the number (141,121) affected by disputes in 1900.

The extent, to which the various groups of trades distinguished in the German Industrial Statistics were affected by disputes in 1901, is shown by the following Table:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Trade Disputes terminated.	Number of Workpeople affected by Trade Disputes referred to in column (2).		
		On Strike or Locked out.	Indirectly affected.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Building Trades ... ..	386	19,518	2,801	22,319
Mining and Smelting ... ..	21	2,118	562	2,680
Metal Working ... ..	99	3,218	145	3,363
Engineering and Implements ... ..	43	5,241	102	5,443
Textiles ... ..	61	5,645	923	6,568
Clothing and Cleaning ... ..	70	6,125	601	6,726
Transport ... ..	14	373	...	373
Gardening ... ..	4	120	...	120
Printing and Allied Trades ... ..	8	184	...	184
Paper Trades ... ..	12	185	...	185
Wood, etc., Trades ... ..	116	2,567	104	2,671
Chemical Trades ... ..	4	227	...	227
Gas, Oil, Soap, Varnish, etc., Manufacture ... ..	2	250	3	253
Stones and Earths Trades ... ..	109	8,404	2,218	10,622
Food, Tobacco, etc., Preparation ... ..	72	3,692	19	3,711
Hotels and Restaurants ... ..	1	27	...	27
Leather Trades ... ..	44	1,793	5	1,798
Art Work ... ..	4	29	...	29
Commercial Employment ... ..	18	760	32	792
Other Trades ... ..	3	94	...	94
<b>Total (1901) ... ..</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>60,676</b>	<b>7,515</b>	<b>68,191</b>
<b>Total (1900) ... ..</b>	<b>1,468</b>	<b>131,888</b>	<b>9,233</b>	<b>141,121</b>

The causes or objects of disputes in 1901, as compared with 1900, will be seen from the following statement (where a dispute has more than one cause or object it is counted under each).

Cause or Object.	Number of Disputes, the causes or objects of which were as shown in Col. 1.	
	1900.	1901.
(1)	(2)	(3)
<b>Wages—</b>		
For increase ... ..	1,166	578
Against decrease ... ..	100	172
Other ... ..	264	232
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1,530</b>	<b>982</b>
<b>Hours of Labour—</b>		
For decrease ... ..	444	196
Other ... ..	29	34
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>Employment of particular classes or persons ... ..</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>239</b>
<b>Working arrangements ... ..</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Other causes ... ..</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>270</b>

The proportion of the disputes which terminated in favour of the employers was somewhat larger in 1901 than in 1900, as will be seen from the following Table:—

Percentage of Disputes which ended					
In favour of the workpeople.		In favour of the employers.		In a compromise.	
1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
Per cent. 19'07	Per cent. 19'34	Per cent. 45'37	Per cent. 53'80	Per cent. 35'56	Per cent. 26'86

In the 3 years (1899-1901) for which official statistics of labour disputes in Germany have been collected, the proportion of disputes which terminated in favour of the employers is found to have increased from 40'73 per cent. in 1899 to 53'80 per cent. in 1901.

With respect to the methods by which disputes were

\* *Streiks und Aussperrungen im Jahre 1901. (Statistik des Deutschen Reichs, Neue Folge, Band 148.)* Berlin, 1902. Puttkammer und Mühlbrecht. Price marks (2 shillings).

adjusted, the Report states that 392 disputes were settled by direct arrangement between the parties concerned, 170 through the intervention of trade organisations or by mediation, and 32 before the Industrial Courts acting as Boards of Conciliation (See GAZETTE, August, 1901, p. 234).

**RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES**

**UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.**

**Engineers and Boilermakers at Glasgow.**

Sir W. Markby, K.C.I.E., the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade in this case (see GAZETTE for December, p. 332) issued his award on January 5th.

The questions in dispute between the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society were as to which of the Societies was entitled to do certain work in connection with the construction of Niclausse boilers, viz.: (a) to reduce the back end of the tubes; (b) to put up the risers and connect steam drums; (c) to put in the tubes, put on the dogs and make good the joints; (d) to do the usual testing when the boiler is completed. It was agreed between the two Societies that the matters in dispute should be made the subject of a demarcation agreement, the terms to be drawn up and settled by an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade.

Sir W. Markby awards that an agreement shall be executed by each of the Societies in the following terms:—

"(a) That neither engineers nor boiler makers are exclusively entitled to reduce the back end of the tubes of the said boilers, but that either party may do this work if directed to do so by the employer. (b) That boiler makers and not engineers are entitled to put up the risers and connect steam drums in the said boilers. (c) That boiler makers and not engineers are entitled to put in the tubes, put on the dogs and make good the joints in the said boilers. (d) That neither engineers nor boilermakers are exclusively entitled to do the usual testing when the said boilers are complete, but that, as regards so much of the work then tested as is engineers' work, engineers are entitled to do the usual testing, and that, as regards so much of the work as is boilermakers' work, boilermakers are entitled to do the usual testing."

**Cabinet Makers in London.**

Mr. A. A. Hudson, who was appointed by the Board of Trade to decide a matter upon which the London Cabinet Makers' Conciliation Board had failed to agree (see GAZETTE for December, p. 332), issued his award on January 7th. The question submitted for decision was whether a certain firm, in the fact that there are one or more shops under their control at Highgate working piece work, had broken the terms of the rules entitled "Working Rules to govern the Cabinet Trade in the London district."

Mr. Hudson decided that the firm in question had not broken any of the rules in the fact that there are one or more shops under their control at Highgate working piece-work.

**Tube Workers at Landore.**

On December 23rd, a joint application to the Board of Trade was made on behalf of the British Mannesmann Tube Company, Limited, and the Gas Workers and General Labourers' Union for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide a question as to the amount of reduction, if any, to which the employers were entitled from the piecework rates paid in certain classes of manufacture carried on at the works.

The Board of Trade on December 29th appointed His Honour Judge Austin to act as arbitrator. His Honour heard the parties on January 3rd and issued his award on January 9th.

In his award the arbitrator decides that under the existing circumstances the employers are justified in the interests of the workmen, as well as in their own interests, in asking the workmen to accept reductions in the rates. The reduced rates, which are set forth at length in a schedule to the award, took effect from January 5th.

**TRADE DISPUTES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1881-1900.**

THE Sixteenth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour of the United States is devoted primarily to the strikes and lock-outs occurring in the United States from July 1st, 1894, to December 31st, 1900. The Third Annual Report gave an account of strikes and lock-outs occurring from January 1st, 1881, to December 31st, 1886, and the Tenth Annual Report related to the same subject from January 1st, 1887, to June 30th, 1894 (see *Second Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics*, Cd. 720 of 1901, published by the Board of Trade, pp. 181-186). All the salient facts in the two former Reports have been consolidated and reproduced in the Sixteenth Report, thus giving a connected collection of statistics of trade disputes in the United States for a period of 20 years (1881-1900).

The distinction drawn in the Report between a strike and a lock-out is: "A strike occurs when the employees of an establishment refuse to work unless the management complies with some demand; a lock-out occurs when the management refuses to allow the employees to work unless they will work under some condition indicated by the management. . . in a strike the employees take the initiative, while in a lock-out the employer first makes some demand and enforces it by refusing to allow his employees to work unless it is complied with."

So far as concerns the trade disputes which have occurred in the United States in each of the last 7 years, the Report shows the number of strikes and lock-outs, the number of employees thrown out of employment by these disputes, and the results of these industrial conflicts, to have been as under:—

Year.	Number of Strikes.	Number of Employees thrown out of employment by Strikes, the results of which were				Total Number of Employees thrown out of Employment.
		In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employers.	Compromised.	Unsettled or unknown.	
1894 ...	1,349	117,500	405,391	137,534	...	660,425
1895 ...	1,215	156,388	192,286	43,729	...	392,403
1896 ...	1,026	99,823	106,839	34,508	...	241,170
1897 ...	1,078	158,818	97,221	152,312	...	408,351
1898 ...	1,056	108,660	117,321	23,012	...	249,002
1899 ...	1,797	227,203	139,214	59,555	...	417,072
1900 ...	1,779	145,218	163,477	195,307	1,064	505,066

Year.	Number of Lock-outs.	Number of Employees thrown out of employment by Lock-outs.	Number of Establishments, in which results of Lock-outs were				Total Number of Establishments in which Lock-outs took place.
			In favour of Employers.	In favour of Workpeople.	Compromised.	Unsettled.	
1894 ...	55	29,619	99	755	21	...	875
1895 ...	49	14,785	49	320	1	...	379
1896 ...	40	7,668	41	9	1	...	51
1897 ...	32	7,763	104	61	6	...	171
1898 ...	42	14,217	104	59	1	...	164
1899 ...	41	14,817	35	262	2	...	323
1900 ...	60	62,653	2,151	123	7	...	2,281

The aggregate number of the workpeople, who have been involved in trade disputes in the United States in the 20 years, 1881-1900, was 6,610,001. With regard to the distribution of these trade disputes among the different parts of the United States, it is pointed out that the five States of Illinois, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, which contained 45'0 per cent. of all the manufacturing establishments, and employed 55'2 per cent. of the capital invested in the mechanical industries of the United States, contained 74'8 per cent. of all the establishments involved in strikes, and 84'8 per cent. of all involved in lock-outs during the 20-year period dealt with in the Report.

Taking the whole period of 20 years (1881-1900), the group of trades, in which the greatest number of workpeople have been involved in trade disputes, is that of mining (including gas and coke making) and quarrying

(which includes stone-cutting), with a total of employees directly and indirectly affected of 2,031,701, and the next, the clothing trades, with 821,658, and the building trades, with 786,003 persons involved, while the corresponding number was 694,176 for the metal trades (including ship-building), 495,329 for transport, 454,281 for the textile trades, 236,019 for the timber, woodworking, and furnishing trades, and 1,090,834 for the "miscellaneous" group.

The mining, etc., group of trades also takes the first place in respect of the severity of the struggles in which its workpeople were engaged, the average number of days of duration of the mining disputes (per establishment) having been 48'9, as against 33'8 in the building trades, 27'8 in the metal trades, 25'7 in the timber, etc., group, 25'3 in the textile trades, 21'1 in the "miscellaneous" group, and 16'3 in both the clothing trades and transport. Taking all trades together, it is found that the average duration of disputes in the entire period covered by these statistics (1881-1900) was 29'4 days. If disputes classed in the Report as strikes and as lock-outs respectively are taken separately, it is found that the average duration of disputes of the former class was 23'8 days, and of disputes belonging to the latter class 97'1.

With respect to the principal causes of trade disputes, in 46'7 per cent. of all the establishments involved in disputes classed as strikes the dispute arose out of a demand for increased wages. In no less than 46'0 per cent. of all establishments involved in lock-outs, the dispute concerned Trade Unionism; on the other hand, the corresponding percentage in the case of strikes was only 4'7.

Taking the average of 20 years (1881-1900) we find that the results of strikes and lock-outs were as follows:—

Results.	Strikes (Percentage of Workpeople Affected).	Lock-outs (Percentage of Establishments Involved).
Wholly in favour of workpeople ... ..	35'0	42'3
In favour of employers ... ..	48'2	50'1
Compromised ... ..	16'7	6'2

**STRIKES IN BELGIUM IN 1901.**

A SUMMARY of the statistics relating to strikes in Belgium in 1901, published in the current issue of the *Revue du Travail*, shows that the Belgian Labour Department recorded 118 strikes terminating in that year, affecting a total of 38,993 workpeople. Of these 38,993 workpeople, 3,176 were thrown out of employment without taking part in disputes. The most important of these strikes, so far as concerns the number of strikers involved, were a strike of dock labourers with 15,000 and a strike in the glass trade with 8,000 strikers concerned.

The causes or objects of 109 strikes directly involving 34,107 workpeople are classified as under:—

Cause or Object.	Number of	
	Strikes.	Strikers.
<b>Wages.</b>		
For increase ... ..	37	2,772
Against decrease ... ..	27	18,161
For establishment of minimum wages ... ..	3	96
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>21,029</b>
<b>Employment of particular classes or persons and Trade Unionism.</b>		
For dismissal of managers, foremen, &c., workpeople, or apprentices ... ..	8	967
For re-instatement of discharged workpeople ... ..	15	2,421
Questions connected with Trade Unionism ... ..	3	8,193
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>11,581</b>
<b>Hours of Labour and organisation of labour</b> ... ..	<b>9</b>	<b>663</b>
<b>Workshop rules and fines</b> ... ..	<b>7</b>	<b>821</b>
<b>Grand Total ... ..</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>34,107</b>



As regards the duration of 112 strikes, the following particulars are given:—

Duration of Strikes.	Number of	
	Strikes.	Strikers.
Less than 2 days ...	28	2,029
2 and up to 5 days ...	39	6,802
Over 5 and up to 10 days ...	21	2,157
" 10 " 15 " ...	3	75
" 15 " 20 " ...	5	281
" 20 " 30 " ...	6	15,561
" 30 days ...	10	8,723

Out of 100 strikes, of which the results are stated, only 11, involving 2·7 per cent. of the total number of strikers, ended entirely in favour of the workpeople; 72 strikes, involving 90 per cent. of strikers, ended entirely in favour of the employers; 15 strikes, with 4·7 per cent. of the total number of strikers, were compromised, and 2 strikes, with 2·6 per cent. of the strikers, had results of an indefinite character.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES OF LEAD, MERCURIAL, PHOSPHORUS, AND ARSENIC POISONING AND OF ANTHRAX REPORTED TO THE HOME OFFICE UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, DURING THE UNDERMENTIONED PERIODS.

[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.]

Disease and Industry.	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	Dec., 1902.	Year ended December 1901.	Dec., 1902.	Year ended December 1901.
	1902.	1901.	1902.	1901.
<b>Lead Poisoning—</b>				
Smelting of Metals ...	1	28	—	3
Brass Works ...	1	5	—	1
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ...	—	12	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering ...	—	23	—	1
Printing ...	5	19	—	1
File Cutting ...	3	27	—	1
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron Hollow-ware ...	1	11	—	—
White Lead Works ...	6	143	189	7
Red and Yellow Lead Works ...	3	13	14	—
China and Earthenware* ...	11	86	106	4
Litho-transfer Works ...	—	2	7	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing ...	—	8	11	2
Enamelling of Iron Plates ...	1	3	9	1
Electrical Accumulator Works ...	1	16	49	1
Paint and Colour Works ...	5	46	58	—
Coach Making ...	5	63	6	4
Shipbuilding ...	—	15	25	1
Paint used in other Industries ...	3	44	61	1
Other Industries ...	3	64	89	1
<b>Total Lead Poisoning†</b> ...	<b>49</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Mercurial Poisoning—</b>				
Barometer and Thermometer making ...	—	1	6	—
Furriers' processes ...	—	2	4	—
Other Industries ...	3	5	8	—
<b>Total Mercurial Poisoning</b> ...	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Phosphorus Poisoning—</b>				
Lucifer Match Works ...	—	1	4	—
Other Industries ...	—	—	—	2
<b>Total Phosphorus Poisoning</b> ...	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Arsenic Poisoning—</b>				
Paints, Colours and Extraction of Arsenic ...	—	5	3	—
Other Industries ...	—	—	9	—
<b>Total Arsenic Poisoning</b> ...	<b>—</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Anthrax—</b>				
Wool Sorting ...	—	3	3	1
Wool Combing ...	3	9	3	1
Handling of Horsehair ...	1	10	9	2
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.) ...	—	11	20	5
Other Industries ...	—	5	4	—
<b>Total Anthrax</b> ...	<b>4</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>9</b>

\* Of the 11 cases in the china and earthenware industry in December, 5 affected females.

† House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 24 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during December among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported for the year 1902 was 179 (including 32 deaths), and for the year 1901, 169 (including 41 deaths).

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

"ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT."

The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, provides that if in any employment to which this Act applies, personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment is caused to a workman, his employer shall, subject as therein mentioned, be liable to pay compensation as therein specified, "provided that . . . if it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman, any compensation claimed in respect of that injury shall be disallowed."

Compensation was claimed from a coal company by the father of a drawer-off, employed by the company, for the death of his son, upon whom he was wholly dependent, and who was killed under the following circumstances. The deceased left the pithead, at which his work was situated, for a few minutes to get a drink of water at the boilers; and, when returning, he was struck by a runaway hutch, and killed. The Sheriff-Substitute found it proved that there were two methods of reaching the boilers, one by means of a staircase, which was the proper and recognised way, and one by means of a hutchway, which the workmen were in the habit of using, and were not prohibited from using, and that it was on the hutchway that the deceased was killed, and he found that the deceased was not killed in the course of his employment, and awarded no compensation. On appeal, the Court of Session recalled the decision of the Sheriff-Substitute, and awarded the father of the deceased the compensation claimed by him, with expenses.—*Keenan v. The Flemington Coal Company, Limited, Court of Session, December 2nd.*

In a second case a gang boy, employed by a colliery company, claimed compensation from the company in respect of injuries received under the following circumstances. While at work, under the superintendence of a "corporal," in one of the passages of a pit belonging to the company, along which a tramway ran, at the distance of 240 yards from the bottom of the pit, this boy had a dispute with the corporal, who suspended him from work for the day. The corporal gave evidence that he told the boy to go to the pit bottom; but this was denied by the boy. The boy, knowing that he could not be taken up out of the pit for some hours, did not go to the pit bottom, but remained in a pass-by (a refuge by the side of the gangway). Soon after he had gone to the pass-by, the deputy of the colliery, as he swore, told the boy to go to the pit bottom; but the boy denied this. The boy remained in the pass-by, and some hours later was injured by a fall of mineral.

The County Court Judge considered it not proved that the corporal had ordered the boy to the pit bottom, and though the deputy had done so, yet the order had not been given in such a distinct and peremptory manner as to make disobedience to it serious and wilful misconduct; but he found that the boy had no business and ought not, after having been stopped from work, to have stayed in the pass-by, and held that the accident did not arise out of and in the course of the boy's employment. The boy appealed; and the Court of Appeal held that, as the grounds of the decision of the County Court Judge were grounds of fact, and there was evidence, on which he could fairly come to that conclusion, and he had not misdirected himself on any point of law, that Court ought not to interfere. The Court of Appeal accordingly dismissed the appeal.—*Smith v. Normanton Colliery Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, December 17th.*

In a third case compensation was claimed from an iron and steel company by a boy in their employment, who was injured while playing a game with other boys in an interval in his work (which was of an intermittent nature). The County Court Judge made an award in favour of the boy; but on appeal the Court of Appeal held that the accident did not arise out of and in the course of the boy's employment, and allowed the appeal, with costs.—*Barkham v. The Rotherwood Iron and Steel Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, December 17th.*

In a fourth case a girl, employed by a colliery company, claimed compensation from her employers for injuries, which she sustained under the following circumstances. She was employed at a "band" worked by an engine, which was under the charge of a man, during whose temporary absence she started the engine, and was caught and injured. Her duty was to pick dirt out of coal passing along the band. Some of the girls working with her, who had themselves been warned by the engineman not to touch the engine, had told her not to do so. The engineman, however, had not warned her not to touch the engine, and most of the other girls had at various times stopped and started it. The County Court Judge found that it was no part of the girl's duty to interfere with the engine, and held that the accident did not arise out of and in the course of her employment, and that she was not entitled to compensation. She appealed; and the Court of Appeal held that there was evidence justifying the County Court Judge in finding as he had done, and that he had not misdirected himself on any matter of law, and dismissed the appeal.—*Losh v. Richard Evans and Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, December 20th.*

SUB-CONTRACTOR: LIABILITY TO INDEMNIFY CONTRACTOR.

The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, provides that "where, in an employment to which this Act applies, the undertakers as

hereinafter defined contract with any person for the execution by or under such contractor of any work, and the undertakers would, if such work were executed by workmen immediately employed by them, be liable to pay compensation under this Act to those workmen in respect of any accident arising out of and in the course of their employment, the undertakers shall be liable to pay to any workman employed in the execution of the work any compensation which is payable to the workman . . . by such contractor, or would be so payable if such contractor were an employer to whom this Act applies, provided that the undertakers shall be entitled to be indemnified by any other person who would have been liable independently of this Section."

A firm of builders, having contracted to construct a house, sublet the plastering to a sub-contractor, to whom they supplied all materials. One of the sub-contractor's workmen, having met with an injury while at work, claimed compensation from the builders. They thereupon brought in the sub-contractor as a third party, claiming that he was liable to indemnify them. The County Court Judge made an award in favour of the workman, but declared that the builders were not entitled to be indemnified by the sub-contractor. The builders appealed from this part of the award. The sub-contractor did not appear on the hearing of the appeal. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, with costs, holding that the sub-contractor, having undertaken a substantial part of the construction of the building, was himself an "undertaker," and was therefore liable to indemnify the builders.—*Wagstaff v. Perks & Son; Firth, third party, Court of Appeal, December 12th.*

WHAT IS A "WAREHOUSE"?

The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, applies only to certain classes of employment, including "employment by the undertakers as hereinafter defined, on or in or about a . . . factory." In the Act "Factory" has the same meaning as in the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1878 to 1891, and also includes any dock, wharf, quay, warehouse, machinery, or plant to which any provision of the Factory Acts is applied by the Factory and Workshop Act, 1897."

A lorryman claimed compensation from a firm of drysalter for injuries sustained by him at their premises while he was removing casks to a lorry belonging to his employers. The premises in question consisted of 2 large rooms, with counters, on the ground floor, and 2 cellars in the basement. The Sheriff-Substitute held that these premises were not a warehouse within the meaning of the Act, and dismissed the lorryman's application. He appealed; and the Court of Session upheld the decision of the Sheriff-Substitute.—*Colvine v. Anderson and Gibb, Court of Session, December 18th.*

"ON IN OR ABOUT" A BUILDING.

One of the classes of employment, to which the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, applies, is employment "on in or about any building which exceeds 30 feet in height, and is either being constructed or repaired by means of a scaffolding."

A bricklayer, employed by a firm of builders in executing a contract for the building of a new wing to a dwelling-house, was injured while at work, and claimed compensation from his employers. There was a cesspool into which the house was drained, situated at a considerable distance from the house, but connected with it by a drain. Close to this cesspool there was a heap of bricks, to be used in repairing it. The bricklayer was chipping off a piece of brick from one of the heap, when a piece flew into his eye and injured it. The County Court Judge awarded the bricklayer compensation; and the employers appealed, contending that, although the main building was over 30 feet in height, and scaffolding was being used on the new wing, and also in connection with one of the chimneys, there was no evidence to show that the bricklayer at the time of the accident was working on in or about a building which exceeded 30 feet in height, and which was either being constructed or repaired by means of a scaffolding. The Court of Appeal held that there was ample evidence on which the County Court Judge could come to the conclusion at which he arrived, and dismissed the appeal with costs.—*Harrison v. Guthrie and Son, Court of Appeal, December 12th.*

WHO IS A "DEPENDANT"? FATHER IN WORKHOUSE.

In fixing the amount of compensation payable under the Acts provision is made as to the compensation payable if the workman leaves any dependants wholly or in part "dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death."

The father of a workman, who had met with a fatal accident, claimed compensation from his employers. The deceased had been earning about 36s. a week, and was not married. His father, who had been blind for some years, went into the workhouse in 1897, and remained there until the end of the year, the deceased, under an order, contributing 1s. 6d. a week, through the relieving officer, towards the cost of his father's maintenance. In 1899 the father lived for about three months with a married daughter, the deceased paying her 8s. a week towards his father's maintenance. From May, 1900, to May, 1901, the father lived with another married daughter, the deceased paying 7s. to 8s. a week towards his maintenance and also paying for his clothes. In May, 1901, the father again went into the workhouse, and stayed there until the day after the death of the deceased. During this period the deceased did not contribute towards his father's maintenance, nor was any order made against him, the officer of the Union stating that he could not find the deceased. The County Court Judge made an award in favour of the employers, and the father appealed. The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that, the County Court Judge

having found, as a fact, that the father was not a dependant of the deceased, the Court of Appeal was bound by his decision, unless that finding involved a mistake in point of law, which they held it did not.—*Rees v. Penrhyber Navigation Colliery Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, December 13th.*

"AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS": CALENDAR OR TRADE WEEK.

The amount of compensation under the Act, where death results from the injury, if the workman leaves any dependants wholly dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death is "a sum equal to his earnings in the employment of the same employer during the three years next preceding the injury, or the sum of £150, whichever of these sums is the larger, but not exceeding in any case £300."

The widow of a miner, employed by a colliery company, who had met with a fatal accident while at work, claimed compensation for herself and pupil child. The period, during which the miner had, at the time of the accident, been employed by the company, was 26 days extending over 5 calendar weeks but only 4 colliery weeks (from pay-day to pay-day). His total earnings in this period were £6. The Sheriff-Substitute awarded the widow £234 (on the basis of weekly earnings of 30s., viz., £6 divided by 4). The company appealed, contending that the weekly earnings should be taken as one-fifth of £6, i.e., 24s. only. The Court of Session sustained the decision of the Sheriff-Substitute, and found the widow entitled to expenses since the date of his award.—*Campbell v. The Fife Coal Company, Limited, Court of Session, December 2nd.*

REVIEW OF COMPENSATION.

A miner was injured while working for an oil company. The company, by agreement, paid him 18s. 6d. a week from July to October 14th, 1901, when they stopped the payment, on the ground that his incapacity had ceased. On April 8th, 1902, they applied to the Sheriff-Substitute to have the compensation reviewed; and on July 23rd, 1902, the Sheriff-Substitute found that since October 14th, 1901, the miner had earned 10s. 1d. less per week than before the accident, and reduced the compensation to 7s. a week from the date of his judgment. The company appealed, the Court of Session being asked to decide the date, from which the diminished compensation should be payable. The Court agreed with the Sheriff-Substitute that the company were bound to go on paying 18s. 6d. per week until July 23rd, 1902, and found the miner entitled to expenses.—*Steel v. The Oakbank Oil Company, Limited, Court of Session, December 16th.*

NEGLECT TO HAVE INJURY TREATED; REPORT OF MEDICAL REFEREE.

The employers of a workman, who had been injured by being struck on the ankle by a piece of iron, agreed to pay him a certain sum weekly during incapacity. After the payments had been made for a lengthy period, the employers lodged a minute asking review of the payments and an order ending or diminishing them. This minute was accompanied by a medical report which was to the effect that the stiffness of the ankle might well have been rectified by suitable massage and movement. The Sheriff, as the medical evidence was conflicting, referred the matter to a medical referee under the provision of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, which enacts that "The Secretary of State may appoint legally qualified medical practitioners for the purpose of this Act, and any committee, arbitrator, or judge may, subject to regulations made by the Secretary of State and the Treasury, appoint such practitioner to report on any matter which seems material to any question arising in the arbitration."

The medical referee reported that the condition of the workman's ankle was due, not to the accident, but to the want of proper treatment. The Sheriff granted an order bringing the payments to an end. The workman appealed; and the Court of Session held that, as the medical treatment proposed was simple, and within the workman's reach, it must be considered that the condition of his ankle was due to neglect, and that the employers were not bound to continue the payments. The Sheriff was not obliged to take the report of the referee as conclusive; but the judgment, which gave effect to the report, was correct, because it was a judgment on a question of fact.—*Dowds v. James Bennie & Son, Court of Session, reported December 20th.*

EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE: ACCIDENT AWAY FROM PREMISES OF EMPLOYER.

A workman, employed as a handy man, gardener, and groom, was killed while exercising a horse about 3½ miles from his employer's house. His widow claimed compensation from his employer. Section 2 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1900, which extends the Act of 1897 to workmen employed in agriculture or employed mainly in agriculture but partly or occasionally in other work, provides that the later Act is to be read as one with the earlier Act. The Act of 1897 applies only to employment "on or in or about a railway, factory, mine, quarry, or engineering work," and "on in or about" any such building as therein mentioned. It was contended on behalf of the employer that he was not liable to pay compensation, because the accident did not take place on or in or about his premises, and because the deceased was not employed wholly or mainly in agriculture, his main duty being to look after the horses, and to do odd jobs about the house. The County Court Judge found, as a fact, that the deceased was employed mainly in agriculture, but partly or occasionally in other work, and made an award in favour of the widow. The employer appealed; and the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that the employer was liable, though the accident did not take place on or in or about his premises, and



that with respect to the employer's contention that there was no evidence that the deceased was employed mainly as a gardener, there was such evidence, and accordingly the question was one of fact for the County Court Judge to decide.—*Smithers v. Wallis, Court of Appeal, December 12th.*

### (2) Employers' Liability.

#### VAGUENESS OF AVERMENTS.

An apprentice engineer brought an action against a firm of coal-masters, by whom he was employed, for payment of £200 in respect of personal injuries. The apprentice was engaged in unscrewing the bolts of the drum of a pit engine belonging to the firm, preparatory to its removal. In the operation of removing the bolts the wood on the under side of the drum was stripped off, causing the upper part to become top-heavy, whereby it revolved, and caught the apprentice, causing severe injuries. Fault was attributed to the firm or their foreman, for whom they are responsible, in respect that proper precautions were not taken to prevent the drum revolving while the work of unscrewing the bolts was being carried through. The firm pleaded that the apprentice had not stated a relevant case, and denied fault. The Sheriff-Substitute was of opinion that the averments of fault were too vague, and found that the apprentice had stated no relevant case against his employers, either at common law or under the Employers' Liability Act. He accordingly dismissed the action, with expenses. On appeal, the Sheriff adhered to this interlocutor. The apprentice appealed to the Court of Session, which recalled the Sheriff's judgment, opened up the record anew, allowed an amendment by the apprentice to be received on payment of £3 3s. expenses, and remitted the case back to the Sheriff Court for proof.—*Niven v. Archibald Kenneth and Sons, Court of Session, December 6th.*

### (3) Factory and Workshop Act.

#### MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE: FACTORIES ON SEPARATE FLOORS.

The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, provides, that, in the case of any existing factory in which more than 40 persons are employed, and which is not provided with such means of escape in case of fire for the persons employed therein as can reasonably be required under the circumstances, it shall be the duty of the district council to serve on the owner of the factory a notice in writing specifying the measures necessary for providing such means of escape, and requiring him to carry them out before a specified date, and thereupon the owner shall, notwithstanding any agreement with the occupier, have power to take such steps as are necessary for complying with the requirements, and unless the requirements are complied with, the owner shall be liable to a fine as in the Act specified. The first, third, and fourth floors of a large building were occupied as a factory by a catering company, and the fifth, sixth, and seventh floors were also occupied as a factory by a separate firm carrying on an entirely different business. The second floor was not occupied as a factory within the meaning of the Act. In order to facilitate escape in case of fire, the London County Council gave notice to the owner of the whole building requiring a new staircase to be constructed from the third to the seventh floors, and communicating with each floor. The company occupying the first, third and fourth floor disputed the owner's right to enter upon the premises occupied by them to execute the works; and the owner brought an action to establish his right to do so. The Judge of the Chancery Division dismissed the action, with costs, holding that the statute gave no power to open through the lower factory an exit for persons in the higher factory; that the two factories could not be treated jointly as one factory for the purpose of the fire provisions of the Act, and that consequently the owner of the building had no legal right to enter on the premises of the company for the purpose of doing the required works.—*Toller v. Spiers & Pond, Limited, Chancery Division, December 11th and 16th.*

### (4) Trade Union Acts.

#### ACTION FOR ACCIDENT BENEFIT NOT MAINTAINABLE.

By the Trade Union Act, 1871, it is provided that "nothing in this Act shall enable any Court to entertain legal proceedings instituted with the object of directly enforcing or recovering damages for the breach of the following agreements, namely—(3) Any agreement for the application of the funds of a Trade Union (a) to provide benefits to members."

An action was brought against a Trade Union to recover £50, to which the plaintiff said he was entitled under a rule of the Union providing for accident benefit in the case of a member being totally incapacitated by accident. The book of rules contained on a page preceding the rules themselves a copy of an address to be delivered by the branch president to members on admission. This address stated that the member would be expected to do all in his power to promote the extension of the Society, and as a trade unionist would unite in efforts to promote the best interests of the trade by endeavouring to increase the present rate of wages, and improve the conditions of labour. Should any question of wages or other matters arise affecting him, he was required to submit the same to his branch. Rule 2 stated that the objects of the Society were to raise funds for the protection and organisation of the trade, for mutual support in case of accident, for burial of members, for assistance in cases of distress, and to aid their own and any other organised trade.

The Judge of the King's Bench Division held that the action could not be maintained, and gave judgment for the defendants, with costs. A stay of execution was refused.—*Sayer v. The Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, King's Bench Division, December 17th.*

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

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

### Canada.

The lumbering and manufacturing industries have been very busy throughout Canada, and coal mining in Nova Scotia, but the ordinary emigrant ought not to go to Canada till the winter is over. Employment at the large Nanaimo collieries in British Columbia continues very dull. The large steel rail mines at Sault St. Marie, Ontario, have been closed down, at all events for a time, owing to German competition, and some 500 men have been thrown out of work. There is a large demand in the spring and summer for competent farm labourers, and boys accustomed to work on a farm and to look after horses and stock; all such persons, who are anxious to emigrate to Canada, should prepare now so as to be ready to start in the spring.

### Australia.

*New South Wales.*—The long drought has now to a great extent broken up both in New South Wales and in the other Australian States. Reports from Young and Robertson state that there is some demand for farm and general labourers, and female servants, but not for mechanics or miners. At Queanbeyan and Orange there is no demand for any except female servants. Owing to the recent rains several hundred miners have recommenced work at the Cobar and other mines. At Sydney, and in other parts of New South Wales, there are no openings at the present time except for female servants. The clothing factories in Sydney are very slack, and female hands, such as coat and trouser hands, boot hands, etc., are poorly paid, and should not emigrate in the hope of getting remunerative or constant employment.

*Victoria.*—A report from Melbourne states that the labour market is over supplied, and employment is scarce. Another from Horsham states that there is no demand for anyone except female servants and a few carpenters and bricklayers.

*South Australia.*—The recent reports from Adelaide and elsewhere state that there is no demand for more labour, and that there is an over-supply of general labourers and mechanics already on the spot. The scarcity of employment is largely owing to the effects of the long drought, which has just broken up. Female servants for towns or farms are wanted.

*Queensland.*—Reports from the south of Queensland state that there is no demand for any kind of labour except female servants, and a few farm labourers.

*Western Australia.*—It is proposed to reduce miners' wages at the northern goldfields of Menzies, Leonora, etc., to the level of those at Kalgoorlie. There is no demand for miners anywhere, nor for other kinds of labour except farm labourers and female servants.

*Tasmania.*—A report from Ulverstone in the North-West, states that there is a very fair demand for farm labourers on the North-West coast, a fair demand for general labourers, a declining demand for miners, a good demand for female servants, and a fair demand for plumbers, engineers, carpenters, blacksmiths, and fitters, but they must not be too specialised. At New Norfolk in the South there is practically no demand for more labour, but families with small children find plenty of employment in the fruit and hop picking season.

### New Zealand.

Farm labourers, miners, and mechanics are well employed in New Zealand at this season of the year.

### South Africa.

*Cape Colony.*—There is a demand for skilled mechanics, especially those in the building trades, in the inland towns, but not at Kimberley. Cape Town and other coast towns are already full of immigrants, many of whom are without skill at any trade, and therefore unable to find work: but for skilled men in the building trades, and for waggon blacksmiths, cart trimmers, and high-class tailors there is a good opening in these towns as well as in

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

the interior, provided they bring a little money with them. The cost of living is everywhere very high, and there is no demand whatever for miners, general labourers, or incompetent mechanics. There is a good demand for female servants in the towns, but they should not go without special precautions. Assisted passages at £3 a head are now being granted to female servants, and to male servants such as grooms, gardeners, coachmen, etc., who proceed under engagement to employers in the Colony; application must be made by the employers in the Colony.

*Natal.*—Bricklayers at Durban have struck for an increase of 2s. a day on their present wages of 16s. The labour market generally is well supplied with all kinds of labour.

*Transvaal.*—There is a good deal of work going on at Johannesburg and Pretoria, especially in the building trades. But employment is restricted by the difficulty of getting up materials from the coast, and many artisans are unable to procure work. There is no demand for more miners; and unskilled labourers have no chance of employment. The cost of living remains two or three times as high as in England, especially for men with families. Female domestic servants may obtain assisted passages, provided they undertake to repay £12 of the expenses out of their wages; they must apply to the South African Expansion Committee, 47, Victoria-street, London, S.W. Crown land is now open for purchase or lease; application must be made to the Commissioner of Lands in the Colony.

*Orange River Colony.*—There is some demand for good carpenters, masons, fitters and painters, but it is a fluctuating one, and the cost of living is very high. Crown land is now open for purchase or lease: application for any particular portion of land desired must be made to the "Land Settlement Board" at Bloemfontein.

## LABOUR ABROAD.

### FRANCE.

*Employment in November.*\*—The general strike in the coalmining industry, which began in October, came to an end in November. By the 14th of the latter month the miners of the Nord and Pas-de-Calais districts (comprising more than half the total number of the mining population) had resumed work, and by November 30th the dispute had entirely terminated, save in the district of Masseix (employing 300 miners), where the strike lasted till December 6th. Work in the building and allied trades was brought to a standstill by the frost, and the numbers unemployed in those trades thereby increased. The improved state of employment in metal smelting and manufacture was not sufficiently general to afford reason for expecting an early disappearance of the depression in that trade. A slight change for the better took place in the textile trades, especially in the Nord and Vosges districts, but silk manufacture remained slack, except in the ribbon-making branch, which was very actively employed. The garment-making trades entered upon their busy season. The printing and glass trades were fairly well employed.

The 983 Trade Unions, which made returns as to the state of employment during November, reported 17,829 workpeople, or 11 per cent. of their total membership, as being out of work during the month, the corresponding percentages for the preceding month and for November, 1901, being 10 and 8 respectively.

*Coal Mining in November.*\*—The average number of days worked per week by coalminers employed underground in November was 4.5, as compared with 2.33 the month before, and 6.00 in November, 1901. The considerable difference between the figures for November, 1901, and for the corresponding month in 1902 is due to the continuance during a part of the latter month of the great coal strike referred to in the previous paragraph. Taking all workpeople together (surface as well as underground), 41 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week) in November, 1902, as compared with 21 per

cent. the month before and 90 per cent. in November, 1901.

These particulars refer to 116,000 workpeople, or rather more than two-thirds of the total number employed in and about the mines, and were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coalowners.

*Labour Disputes in November.*\*—The number of disputes reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in November was 31, 30 of which involved 8,861 workpeople. In the previous month 27 disputes occurred, 24 of which involved 13,908 workpeople. Four of the new disputes occurred in the building trades, 3 in the metal trades, 11 in the textile trades, 4 in the clothing trades, 8 in transport, and 1 among chairmakers. Thirty-three new and old disputes were brought to a conclusion in November, 10 terminating in favour of the workpeople, 13 in favour of the employers, and 10 being compromised.

*Conciliation and Arbitration in November.*\*—Six cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in November. In 1 case the initiative was taken by the Justice of the Peace, in 1 case by the employer, and in 1 case by the workpeople, information on this point being wanting for the remaining 3 cases. Committees of Conciliation were formed in 4 cases, resulting in the settlement of 1 dispute, the other 3 being respectively concluded by arbitration on the part of the President of the local Tribunal of Commerce, by an agreement brought about by the intervention of the Prefect of the department, and by a compromise between the employer and workpeople. With regard to the 2 cases in which Conciliation Committees could not be formed, in 1 dispute the workpeople eventually returned unconditionally to work, and in the other case the employer closed the workshop until further notice.

*Strike of Seamen and Dock Labourers at Marseilles.*—In continuation of previous despatches concerning this dispute (see GAZETTE, December, 1902, pp. 336-7), Mr. Gurney, H.M. Consul-General at Marseilles, in a telegram to the Board of Trade, dated December 17th, reported the strike as having practically ended on that day, and stated that a considerable number of men were shipping under the terms of the 1900 agreement. H.M. Consul-General added that the strikers declared themselves satisfied, having drawn the attention of the Government to their grievances, more especially with reference to undermanning.

*Health and Safety of Workpeople: Report on Application of Laws.*—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated November 26th, Sir E. Monson, H.M. Ambassador at Paris, forwards a copy of the *Journal Officiel* containing the Report of the Minister of Commerce for the year 1901, on the application of the laws relating to the health and safety of workpeople.

The total number of accidents notified in 1901 to the Factory Inspectors was 239,045, as compared with 232,976 the year before; it is stated that the increase appears to be entirely due to improved notification.

Falls from ladders, stairs, or scaffolding represented the most frequent cause of accident in 1901 (45,622 cases); the carriage of loads came next, with 43,064 cases; while falls of objects of various kinds came third in the order of frequency, with 36,853 cases of accidents.

The total number of fatal accidents notified in 1901 was 1,524 (as against 1,735 the year before). Of these 1,524 fatal accidents, 929 occurred in trades as to which it was possible for the Inspectors to ascertain the number of workpeople employed. Among these trades, the highest death rate from accident was found to exist in the building trades (earthworks, and construction in stone), viz., 1.5 per 1,000 workpeople employed; next in this respect came the chemical trades (0.7 per 1,000); metal smelting and manufacture (0.5 per 1,000); and the food preparation trades (0.4 per 1,000).

In respect to the Law of December 29th, 1900, requiring the provision of seats for female shop assistants, 145 contraventions were recorded in 1901. It is stated that in certain cases employers, who had duly provided seats in accordance with the Law, expressly forbade their

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

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



employees to make use of them, and were condemned to penalties in consequence. The Report adds that, in spite of the decisions given by the Courts of Law, the application of the Act is attended with serious difficulties. "In fact, there is no proof that the women are actually allowed the full use of the seats provided for them, and there are many ways in which an employer can prevent his assistants from using the seats, while avoiding any direct infringement of the Law."

*Special Rules for Hollow-ware Manufacture.*\*—By a Presidential Decree, dated November 21st, 1902, in relation to the manufacture of tin hollow-ware, the testing of goods (in order to ascertain that they are water-tight) by the workmen's blowing down them is prohibited. In future, employers must provide suitable apparatus for testing mechanically.

*Wages, Hours of Labour, and Cost of Living, 1900-1901.* A report has recently been issued by the French Labour Department† containing statistics relative to wages, hours of labour, and cost of living in France in 1900 and 1901. The information has been derived from three sources. (1) Schedules of current rates of wages and hours of work inserted in contracts given out by public authorities, (2) Returns furnished by Councils of Prud'hommes and Mayors, and (3) Returns as to wages of day labourers and joiners, and as to the cost of living, placed at the disposal of the French Labour Department by the compilers of a "General Manual of Primary Instruction," by whom these details had been obtained in the course of an inquiry in relation to the economic position of school teachers in France.

*Trade Unions in 1901.*—Figures recently issued by the French Labour Department‡ show the number of Trade Unions in France to have been 3,680 on December 31st, 1901, as compared with 3,287 the year before (an increase of 12 per cent.), the membership having risen in the same period from 588,832 to 614,204 (an increase of 4·3 per cent.). Among the 614,204 members of Trade Unions at the end of 1901 were included 42,874 women, i.e., 6·98 per cent. of the total, as compared with 32,065, or 5·45 per cent. of the total the year before. In the same period the number of Federations of Trade Unions has grown from 95 to 121; and the number of Unions affiliated to Federations, from 1,533 to 2,025; and the membership of affiliated Unions, from 533,575 to 674,145. (With respect to these last figures, it should be observed that some organisations are affiliated to more than one Federation, their membership being therefore counted more than once in the total.)

The distribution of the French Trade Unions among various groups of trades is shown below:—

Group of Trades.	No. of Trade Unions.	Membership of Trade Unions.	Group of Trades.	No. of Trade Unions.	Membership of Trade Unions.
Building trades ...	710	119,683	Woodworking and Furnishing trades ...	275	20,643
Mining & Quarrying ...	91	83,409	Chemical trades	99	24,010
Metal trades ...	482	75,964	Glass, Pottery, &c., trades, and Stonecutting & Polishing ...	107	12,212
Textile trades ...	317	57,174	Food Preparations trades ...	226	26,355
Clothing & Cleaning trades (excl. Boot and Shoemaking & Glove-making) ...	206	17,121	Skins & Leather trades (incl. Boot and Shoemaking & Glove-making) ...	212	21,663
Transport, Warehousing, &c. ...	468	106,872	Other trades ...	99	14,437
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	149	15,515			
Printing, Paper & allied trades ...	242	19,146			
			Total ...	3,680	614,204

In the year under review there has been a notable increase in the membership of Trade Unions in the building trades, viz., from 50,640 to 119,683 (136 per cent.), while Unions in the Transport and Warehousing group of trades showed a falling off in membership from 152,041 to 106,872 (30 per cent.).

*Co-operative Associations for Distribution and Production (at July 31st, 1902).*—The number of distributive (store) associations in France, on July 31st, 1902, was 938, compared with 864 associations existing on January 1st, 1901. The associations for production existing on July 31, 1902, numbered 1,027 (as compared with 991 on January 1st, 1901), and consisted of 703 bakeries and 324 other productive Societies distributed among various trades, as follows:—

\* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department).  
 † Bordereaux des Salaires pour diverses Catégories d'Ouvriers en 1900 et 1901. Paris: Government Printing Office, 1902.  
 ‡ Annuaire des Syndicats Professionnels, Industriels, Commerciaux et Agricoles, 13e Année, 1902. Paris: Government Printing Office.

building trades, 116; mining and quarrying, 7; metal, engineering and shipbuilding, 34; textile trades, 13; clothing trades, 20; transport, 19 (of which all except three were associations of cab drivers); viticulture and horticulture, 9; printing, paper and allied trades, 26; woodworking and furnishing trades, 22; glass trades, 8; food preparation trades, 10; trades working in fibre, cane, etc., 6; leather trades, 8; workers in precious stones, 4; and trades not included in any of the foregoing groups, 22.

*Apprenticeship in the Printing Trade.*—The French Labour Department has published a Report on Apprenticeship in the Printing Trade,\* which traces the history of this subject from the earliest days down to the present time. The relations between apprentices and their employers in the letterpress printing trade in France are now governed by a series of regulations adopted by the Federation of Master Printers in 1899, and agreed to by the organised workmen in 1900. These regulations, which are in force in some 30 towns, are briefly as follows. A youth who desires to be apprenticed comes on a two-months' trial, after which, if the employer is willing to take him on, a regular agreement is made for his apprenticeship, which lasts for five years. In his first three years the youth is only entitled to such payment as his employer may give him as voluntary presents. After that, he is treated as an improver, and receives time-wages, at first at the rate of one-half, subsequently of two-thirds of the regular rate for adult workmen. It is stipulated that during his first three years the amount of time, which the apprentice may be called upon to expend in cleaning-up and running errands, shall not exceed 12 hours in a week. An employer is not allowed to take more than 1 apprentice for every 5 adult workmen in his employment.

The organised workmen in the lithographic section of the printing trade, at a Congress held in 1894, determined that employers ought not to take more than 1 apprentice for every 10 adult employees, and have frequently succeeded in compelling employers to restrict the number of their apprentices. At a Congress held in 1900 these workmen passed the following resolutions: (1) That it is desirable to oppose by all possible means the establishment of new technical schools, and that the organisations of the workmen ought to secure representation on the governing bodies of schools already in existence, in order to counterbalance the influence of the employers, and ultimately to place these schools directly under the control of the Trade Unions. (2) That it is necessary to limit the numbers of apprentices in town offices, and to give them adequate technical instruction, to be followed by technical education in evening classes placed under the direct supervision of the Trade Unions.

## GERMANY.

*Employment in December.*—The Berlin journal, *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, reports that the state of employment in December was better than in either the previous month or in December, 1901. The number of applications for work per 100 situations offered at the public employment registries was 203·9 in December, as compared with 225·8 the month before, and 242·5 in December, 1901.

*Labour Disputes in December.*—The same journal reports 12 disputes as having begun in December, as compared with 11 in November. Six of the new disputes occurred in the metal and engineering trades, three in the textile trades, and one each in the mining, clothing and building groups of trades respectively.

*Co-operation in Germany: Official Statistics.*—According to a report just issued by the Prussian Government‡ there were, on December 31st, 1900, 12,836 registered co-operative associations, with an aggregate of 2,070,661 members in the German Empire, exclusive of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Hesse and the Principality of Reuss (elder line); the territory, to which these figures relate, contained a population of 46,815,383 persons, or 83·1 per cent. of the total population of the German Empire according to the census of December 1st, 1900. Of the total of 12,836 associations referred to, 7,773, with a membership of 1,152,857 were credit associations; next in importance, so far as concerns membership, were associations for distribution (retail stores), numbering 1,118, with 570,880 members; associations for production, numbering 2,122, with 152,011 members; building societies numbering 358, with 66,086 members; associations for supplying raw materials, numbering 770, with 64,093 members; associations for supplying instruments of production, of which there were 307, with 23,239 members; and

\* Rapport sur l'apprentissage dans l'imprimerie. Paris, 1902. Government Printing Office.  
 † Preussische Central-Genossenschafts-Kasse, Mitteilungen zur deutschen Genossenschafts-Statistik für 1900. Bearbeitet von Dr. A. Petersilie. Sonderabdruck aus der "Zeitschrift des Königlich preussischen statistischen Bureaus," Jahrgang 1900. Berlin, 1902.

associations for the sale of members' products, numbering 130, with a membership of 14,731.

The foregoing figures do not include the wholesale federations of co-operative associations, of which there were 79, with a total membership of 7,958 (50 central organisations of credit associations, with 4,739 members; 20 central organisations of associations for the supply of materials, with 2,944 members; and 9 wholesale societies for the sale of agricultural produce, with 275 members). Of 7,262 members belonging to 66 wholesale federations in Prussia, 5,085 were co-operative associations, 62 were ordinary trading companies, and 2,115 were individuals.

## SWITZERLAND.

*Working Hours in Factories.*—The Federal Department of Industry has published the Report of a census of establishments subject to the Federal Factory Act, carried out on June 5th, 1901, by the Federal Factory Inspectors\*. The report contains particulars as to the number of hours worked as a regular week's work (exclusive of intervals) by persons employed in establishments coming under the Act. For all such persons (including adult males) the law fixes the maximum duration of labour at 11 hours on ordinary week days, and 10 hours on Saturdays or days preceding holidays. The number of workpeople employed in establishments coming under the Act on June 5th, 1901, was 242,534; and of these, 101,223, or 41·7 per cent., were found to be working over 6½ hours up to the legal maximum of 65 hours per week. On June 5th, 1895, the date of a previous inquiry carried out on similar lines, the workpeople, whose weekly hours of labour came within the limits just stated, made up 57 per cent. of the total; consequently the percentage proportion of those enjoying a shorter working week has increased by 15·3 in the 6 years. Most of the workpeople, whose weekly hours of labour are thus shown to have been reduced, are stated to have obtained a ten-hour day.

Among those working less than 60 hours per week, the printers and lithographers form by far the most prominent group; they represent nearly two-thirds of all those with a working day of 9 hours. Scarcely any movement towards reducing the hours of labour below the maximum permitted under the law is observable in the principal textile trades. For 98·9 per cent. of all cotton spinning operatives the weekly working time returned was over 6½ up to 65 hours; for cotton weavers the corresponding percentage was 83·2, and for machine embroiderers 83·5, while the percentage for all textile trades together was 61·3.

## BELGIUM.

*Additions to the List of Trades Classified as Dangerous, etc.*†.—By Royal Decrees dated July 22nd, September 6th, and October 8th, 1902, respectively, the following have been added to the list of establishments classed as dangerous, unhealthy, or unpleasant, and accordingly subject to inspection:—(1) Establishments in which the fruit of resiniferous trees is dried in ovens; (2) establishments for the manufacture of salts of barium; and (3) establishments for the manufacture of formic aldehyde (formaldehyde).

## HOLLAND.

*AMSTERDAM AND ROTTERDAM CONSULAR DISTRICTS.*  
 REPORTING to the Foreign Office under date of January 3rd, 1903, Sir H. Howard, H.M. Minister at the Hague, states that he is informed by H.M. Consul at Amsterdam that, with the exception of a few disputes between employers and employed as to the arrangement of wages, etc., there has been no movement of any significance among the working-classes of his Consular District in the quarter ending December 31st, 1902. H.M. Minister adds that there are, doubtless, not inconsiderable number of unemployed in Amsterdam, but, though there is a corresponding amount of distress, it is not of greater severity than is usual at this time of the year.

His Majesty's Consul at Rotterdam reports that nothing of any importance or interest occurred in the labour market there during the same quarter.

*Publication of Official Journal of Labour Statistics.*—The Dutch Central Statistical Bureau has begun the publication of an official Journal of Labour Statistics. The new periodical is intended chiefly as a medium for the publication of the data contained in the returns

\* Schweizerische Fabrikstatistik nach den Erhebungen des eidg. Fabrik-Inspektorates vom 5. Juni 1901. Published by the Swiss Department of Industry. Berne, 1902. A. Benteli.  
 † Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

which the Chambers of Labour are required to make to the Government at specified intervals (see GAZETTE, January, 1902, p. 12), and will, for the present, appear once a quarter.

The first number\* consists of 220 pages (besides introductory matter), of which 139 are occupied by tables based on the returns supplied by 41 of the 74 Chambers of Labour existing on January 1st, 1902. The returns thus tabulated have reference to current rates of wages, earnings, hours of labour, and trade disputes.

The other information supplied by the Chambers of Labour forms the subject of notices dealing with the state of the labour market; differences between employer and employed not involving strikes or lock-outs; wages and hours agreements (including "fair wages" clauses in public contracts), and the formation and dissolution of Trade Unions and Employers' Associations.

The Journal also contains statistics in relation to Labour Bureaux, and to the prices of necessaries, including bread.

*Labour Disputes in 1901.*—An official report on Labour Disputes in Holland in 1901† has been published by the Central Statistical Bureau in the form of a supplement to the first number of the new Journal, reviewed above.

So far as the first half of the year is concerned, the figures are based entirely on newspaper reports. As regards the second half of the year, the Central Statistical Bureau has endeavoured, as far as possible, to obtain information in every case by means of inquiry forms sent to the parties concerned. The Bureau had information concerning 115 strikes in the course of the year.

The groups of trades most frequently involved in strikes were as follows: agriculture and peatworking, 30 strikes; the building trades, 29 strikes; the food and tobacco trades, 13 strikes (including 7 in cigar manufacture); and the transport trades, 10 strikes.

In the case of 58 of the 115 strikes it was found possible to ascertain the number of workpeople involved, this figure being 4,182, of whom 1,578 were concerned in 21 disputes in the building trades and 1,421 in 11 disputes in agriculture and peatworking.

In 62 of the 115 strikes the workpeople demanded an advance, and in 15 they opposed a reduction in wages. With 7 other disputes, in which the question at issue also had reference to wages, we get a total of 84 strikes arising out of wages disagreements. Only 3 strikes had reference to the hours of labour; 15 were due to the dismissal of workpeople. Thirty-nine of the 115 strikes were decided in favour of the workpeople, 33 in favour of the employers, 17 were compromised, 3 ended indecisively, and in the case of 23 the result could not be ascertained.

In addition to the 115 strikes just referred to there were in 1901 in Holland 7 disputes classed as lock-outs, 3 of which arose out of causes connected with Trade Unionism; in 2 cases the lock-out was occasioned by the employees refusing to work with particular workmen; the cause in one case could not be ascertained, and in the remaining case is not stated. The total number of workpeople involved in lock-outs, so far as known, was 362. Two lock-outs terminated in favour of the workpeople, 2 in favour of the employers; 1 ended indecisively; the results of the other 2 could not be ascertained.

## AUSTRIA.†

*Employment in November.*—The statistics of the labour registries (public and private), which furnished returns to the Austrian Labour Department for November, show that on an average, 213 applications were made for every 100 situations offered in that month, as compared with 162 in October. Taking the sexes separately, there were, in the case of men, 288 applicants on the average for every 100 situations, as against 199 in October; while in the case of women there were 113, as compared with 111 in October.

*Labour Disputes in November.*—Six disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in November, the number of workpeople who took part in these being 388. Two of the disputes occurred in the textile trades, and two in the printing trades, the others occurring respectively in the metal and clothing trades. In three cases the results of the disputes were unknown; the remaining three ended in favour of the workpeople, in favour of the employers, and in a compromise respectively. The foregoing particulars do not include disputes in the mining industry, statistics as to which are prepared quarterly.

\* Tijdschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek. 1e Afl. 1902. The Hague, Belinfante Bros., 1902.  
 † Werkstakingen en Uitsluitingen in Nederland gedurende 1901. † Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.



*Domestic Service in Austria: Special Report.*—The first instalment of a report containing the results of a special inquiry carried out by Dr. Hugo Morgenstern has just been issued by the Austrian Labour Department. The volume gives a historical survey of the various enactments regulating the relations between masters and their servants (domestic and farm), in Austria, and contains statistics in relation to, and an account of the economic condition of these employees.

ITALY.

*Strike at Torre Annunziata.*—In a despatch dated December 17th, and transmitted through the Foreign Office, Mr. E. Neville-Rolfe, H.M. Consul at Naples, states that, according to a report from Mr. Vice-Consul Drinkwater, dated December 16th, a general strike took place at Torre Annunziata (near Naples) on December 13th, owing to the expulsion from a macaroni factory of four labourers belonging to the Trades Council ("Camera del Lavoro"). The labourers on strike numbered about 2,000. The Trades Council demanded that the four expelled, as well as the rest on strike, should be readmitted on the same terms as before. The owners having objected to the demand, the strike still continued.

RUSSIA.

*Strikes at Rostoff-on-Don, Tihoretzkaya, and Novorossisk.*—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated December 8th, 1902, Mr. P. Stevens, H.M. Consul at Batoum, reported that the movement, which recently took place at Rostoff-on-Don and Tihoretzkaya among the men employed at the Railway Depots, had also spread to the Port of Novorossisk.

At the last-mentioned place the fitters at the railway workshops, the workmen on the grain elevators, and the men connected with the work carried out on the railway piers first went out on strike on December 1st, for a higher rate of pay and shorter hours. They were joined, on the following day, by the labourers employed at the Cement Works and in the harbour, and on Wednesday, December 3rd, the strike became general. The men, however, resumed work on December 6th.

With regard to the movement at Rostoff-on-Don and Tihoretzkaya, to which the Consul refers, it is stated in the semi-official *Torgovo-Promishlennaya Gazeta* that the men at the Rostoff-on-Don workshops of the Vladikavkaz Railway Company, numbering about 3,000, went on strike on November 17th, for increased wages, a shorter working day and the dismissal of certain foremen. The movement extended to a number of other factories and workshops in Rostoff, and on November 28th, to the railway Company's workshops at Tihoretzkaya, where the men submitted the same demands as the Rostoff strikers.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.

*The National Civic Federation.*—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated December 11th, Sir Percy Sanderson, H.M. Consul-General, at New York, encloses cuttings from a New York newspaper giving an account of a three days' session of the annual meeting of the Industrial Department of the National Civic Federation, held in New York on December 8th and 10th (see GAZETTE, January, 1902, p. 13, and April, 1902, p. 106).

The meeting was attended by most of the persons chosen as members of the Board of Arbitration founded for the purpose of settling labour disputes when called upon, and included representatives of the employers, employees, and general public.

Mr. Alfred Moseley and several of the delegates of English Labour Unions, etc., brought by him to study trade conditions in the United States were also present, as well as the German Consul-General and many of the general public interested in labour questions.

Among the principal subjects discussed were "Capitalisation of Labour" (a proposed arrangement in the nature of profit-sharing), "A Labour Department for all

\* Mittheilungen des K. K. Arbeitsstatistischen Amtes im Handelsministerium 3. Heft. *Gesundheits- und Gewerkschaftsrecht in Oesterreich*, von Dr. Hugo Morgenstern. 1. Theil. *Geschichtlicher Ueberblick. Statistik und Wirtschaftliche Lage des Gesundes*. Vienna, 1902. Alfred Holder, I., Rothenurmstrasse, 15.

Industries," "Compulsory Influence" (in reference to the effect of public opinion in bringing about the settlement of labour disputes, and to the necessity for investigation by an authorised tribunal for the guidance of public opinion), "Restriction of Output," "Shorter Hours," "Piecework," and "Contracts and Agreements between Employers and Employees."

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

*British Stonemasons joining American Union to pay extra Entrance Fee.*—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated December 10th, 1902, Mr. W. Wyndham, H.M. Consul at Chicago, sends a cutting from a Chicago newspaper, stating that, at a Convention of stonemasons in progress in that city at the date of reporting, resolutions had been adopted establishing a minimum initiation fee of 50 dollars (£10 8s. 4d.) for all foreigners. Heretofore a membership card from a British Union has been accepted, and foreigners have been admitted at whatever rate the local Unions was charging for initiation. The delegates from the Eastern States, who attended the Convention, stated that stonemasons from Great Britain came over every spring, and after working all through the season at a high rate of wages, returned to their own country for the winter months.

NEW ORLEANS CONSULAR DISTRICT.

*Strike of Teamsters and Loaders at New Orleans.*—In despatches to the Foreign Office, dated December 11th, 19th and 24th, Mr. A. G. Vansittart, H.M. Consul at New Orleans, reports a strike of teamsters and loaders at that port, which had been inaugurated on December 9th, and which paralysed business on the levee front, and seriously interfered with all shipping interests. The demands of the strikers were for the following tariff, which is the original one presented by the Union: Spike teams and double floats, £2 14s. 2d. per week, overtime, 1s. 0½d. per hour; double spring wagons, £2 10s. per week, overtime, 1s. 0½d. per hour; single spring wagon, and single float, £1 17s. 6d. per week, overtime, 7½d. per hour. Sunday work shall be two days' pay. Hours of labour from 7 a.m. to 12 m., and 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., one hour for dinner. On December 11th there were some 1,000 men on strike. On December 19th the teamsters were returning to work at the rate of wages they were receiving before the strike, viz., £2 14s. 2d. per week.

On December 23rd the strike of freight handlers was declared at an end, and the men were to return to work on the following day on the old conditions, viz., 8d. per hour for a ten hours' day and 1s. 0½d. for all overtime and legal holidays, the employers agreeing that there shall be no discrimination in taking the men back. The agreement signed stipulates that the question of wages shall not be brought up again for a period of one year.

ARGENTINA.

With reference to the recent labour disturbances in the Argentine Republic (see GAZETTE, December, 1902, p. 337) further information is contained in despatches to the Foreign Office, dated November 19th and 27th, from Mr. A. C. Ross, H.M. Consul at Buenos Aires, from which it appears that martial law having been declared on November 24th, business was resumed at once.

Arbitration and Conciliation in Massachusetts.

The sixteenth annual report of the Massachusetts State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation for 1901 states that during that year the Board mediated in 108 cases arising out of 8 chief determining causes, occurring in 35 occupations and involving 95 strikes. Official action was taken in 37 cases on joint petition, in 27 cases on notice from one party, and in 44 cases the Board took the initiative.

Queensland: Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops.

The Annual Report for 1901 of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops of Queensland gives information as to the working of the Factories and Shops Act of 1900. It also gives particulars with regard to the employment of children and young persons, hours of work, wages and accidents.

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—BUILDING TRADES.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) EMPLOYMENT IN THE BUILDING TRADES IN DECEMBER.

(Based upon information supplied by the Trade Correspondent for the Building Trades, Local Correspondents, Employers' Associations and Trade Unions.)

RETURNS supplied by 89 Employers' Associations whose members are estimated to employ about 95,000 building operatives of all classes, and by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of about 200,000, show that employment in the building trades generally was very dull in December, and showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago, and little change as compared with a year ago. The returns from Employers' Associations covering 72 per cent. of the workpeople referred to in the returns show employment to have been dull or bad, 23 per cent. fair or moderate, and 5 per cent. good.

With bricklayers employment continues bad, and about the same as a year ago. With masons it continues fairly good generally, and rather better than a year ago, but is dull in Scotland. Employment is dull with carpenters and joiners and rather worse than a month ago. The percentage of unemployed members among union carpenters and joiners was 5.9 at the end of December, as compared with 4.4 in November, and 6.0 in December, 1901. Painters report employment as bad. Plasterers report it as bad generally and worse than a month ago, but fair in Scotland. With plumbers employment continues dull. The percentage of unemployed members among union plumbers was 5.6 at the end of December, as compared with 5.7 at the end of November, and 4.4 in December 1901. With slaters and tilers employment has been moderate in England, very dull in Scotland.

The Table given below shows the state of employment in the principal districts for carpenters and joiners and plumbers, as indicated by the proportions of Trade Union members of these trades returned as unemployed at the end of the month.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Dec. 1902.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for Dec., 1902, as compared with a	
		Dec., 1902.	Nov., 1902.	Dec., 1901.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.</b>						
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
London	7,022	6.0	6.8	4.2	+ 0.1	+ 2.7
Northern Counties and Middlesbro'	1,391	5.6	3.5	6.0	+ 2.1	- 0.4
Lancashire and Cheshire	9,358	5.9	4.2	7.9	+ 1.7	- 2.0
Yorkshire	5,035	7.8	7.0	8.0	+ 0.8	- 0.2
East Midlands	2,826	4.7	2.9	5.1	+ 1.8	- 0.4
West Midlands	4,745	5.7	3.4	4.9	+ 2.3	+ 0.8
Eastern Counties	1,127	3.6	3.2	5.2	+ 0.4	- 1.6
S. and S.W. Counties	5,690	4.4	3.6	3.5	+ 0.8	+ 0.9
Wales and Monmouth	1,720	5.7	4.0	4.7	+ 1.7	+ 1.0
SCOTLAND	4,866	4.2	1.7	8.1	+ 2.5	- 3.9
IRELAND	4,982	7.8	4.8	6.7	+ 3.0	+ 1.1
<b>PLUMBERS.</b>						
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
London	1,217	10.7	12.1	6.6	- 1.4	+ 4.1
Northern Counties and Middlesbro'	170†	4.7	3.1	2.0	+ 1.6	+ 2.7
Lancashire and Cheshire	1,941	6.0	5.5	4.6	+ 0.5	+ 1.4
Yorkshire	1,212	4.0	4.0	3.3	-	+ 0.7
East Midlands	656	3.0	2.7	1.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.6
West Midlands	306	3.9	4.6	4.0	- 0.7	- 0.1
Eastern Counties	130	4.6	1.5	3.8	+ 3.1	+ 0.8
S. and S.W. Counties	320	5.5	5.6	4.4	- 0.1	+ 1.1
Wales and Monmouth	274	6.2	5.4	5.8	+ 0.8	+ 0.4
SCOTLAND	1,681	4.4	4.2	5.9	+ 0.2	- 1.5
IRELAND	629	4.3	5.7	4.9	- 1.4	- 0.6

London.—Employment continues dull with most branches, but with masons it is reported as fair. The supply of labour continues abundant.

The returns received from employers by the Trade Correspondent show that 83 employers paid wages to 15,118 workpeople of all classes in the last week of December, as compared with 15,054 in November, and 14,416 in December, 1901.

\* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.  
† This total does not include members of branches returned as affected by strike.

Branches of carpenters and joiners with 7,022 members had 6.9 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, compared with 6.8 per cent. in November, and 4.2 per cent. in December, 1901. Branches of plumbers with 1,217 members had 10.7 per cent. unemployed, as compared with 12.1 per cent. in November, and 6.6 per cent. in December, 1901.

*Northern Counties.*—In the Tyne and Wear district employment is dull with bricklayers, masons, plumbers and painters. At Stockton and Hartlepool plumbers and carpenters report employment as moderate, bricklayers as slack; at Middlesbrough bricklayers and carpenters report it as moderate, plumbers as bad. At South Shields employment generally is moderate, at Carlisle it is very quiet.

*Lancashire and Cheshire.*—Employment generally continues dull. At Liverpool all branches report employment as very moderate, at Birkenhead it is stated to be fair generally. Employment is moderate with bricklayers' labourers and carpenters at Manchester, and with bricklayers at Warrington. At Oldham plumbers report an improvement, but employment generally is quiet.

*Yorkshire.*—Employment generally continues dull, but it is reported as fair at York, Bradford, and Dewsbury, as moderate at Rotherham. At Halifax it is stated to be very bad, and worse than a month ago. At Leeds masons and bricklayers report employment as moderate, other branches as slack. At Sheffield masons report employment as slightly improved, though quiet, plumbers as moderate, other branches as slack. Employment is moderate with masons and carpenters at Hull, and with plumbers at Doncaster.

*East Midland Counties.*—At Leicester and Northampton all branches report employment as bad. At Nottingham carpenters, plumbers, and builders' labourers report it as moderate, other branches as dull. Employment generally is quiet in Derby and district, dull at Loughborough and Lincoln, and fairly good at Newark.

*West Midland Counties.*—Employment generally continues dull, and worse than a year ago. At Birmingham it is bad with most branches, but plasterers report it as moderate, plumbers as fairly good. At Wolverhampton employment is fair generally but is bad with carpenters and joiners. In the Potteries district all branches are reported as very slack. Employment generally is fair at Burton-on-Trent and Leamington.

*Eastern Counties.*—Throughout Norfolk employment is very slack, especially in Norwich, where a great number of men are stated to be idle and short time is being worked. With masons employment is good. In the Cambridge and Newmarket district employment is declining. At Ipswich and Colchester it is fair generally, at Southend it is reported as very dull.

*Southern and South-Western Counties.*—Employment generally continues dull, and rather worse than a year ago. At Portsmouth it is fair generally, but dull with carpenters. At Southampton bricklayers, carpenters, and painters are working short time. Employment is moderate at Bournemouth. At Plymouth employment is moderate with masons, bricklayers, carpenters, and plumbers, bad with plasterers and painters. At Bristol masons and plasterers report employment as fairly good, plumbers as moderate, other branches as bad. Employment generally is fair at Exeter, Swindon, and Bridgwater.

*Wales and Monmouth.*—Employment generally is fair at Swansea, bad at Cardiff, Barry, and Newport. In North Wales it is fair.

*Scotland.*—Employment on the whole is moderate, with carpenters and joiners it has declined, but is still reported as fair. With masons and bricklayers employment is dull, with painters bad, with plasterers good, with plumbers quiet. Employment is moderate with masons at Dundee, and plumbers at Aberdeen. At Stirling it is reported as fair generally, at Paisley as quiet.







EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER.—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; TEXTILE TRADES.

(g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN DECEMBER.\*

AGRICULTURAL labourers were, generally speaking, in full employment during December. The weather during the greater part of the month was fine and mild, and good progress was made with threshing, ploughing, hedging, storing roots and wood cutting. Some casual labourers, however, lost a few days' work through unfavourable weather. The supply of this class of men has been sufficient in the great majority of districts reported on.

**Northern Counties.**—Reports from *Cumberland* state that a few casual labourers have been in irregular employment during December, partly owing to unfavourable weather and partly to the small demand for extra men. Agricultural employment has been, generally speaking, regular in *Lancashire*. The supply of farm labourers of all classes is said to be about equal to the demand. In *Yorkshire* farm labourers have been, for the most part, well employed in threshing, ploughing, slashing hedges, pulling and storing roots, and other work. The weather was open during the greater part of the month, but some casual labourers had a few idle days in certain districts, owing to rain or frost. The supply of labour is stated to be equal to the demand in most districts reported on, and casual labour is said to be more plentiful than a year ago.

**Midland Counties.**—Regularity of employment is reported in *Derbyshire* and *Cheshire*. The weather was, on the whole, favourable for outdoor work in December, and very few casual men lost time through bad weather. Farm labourers in *Nottinghamshire* and *Leicestershire* have been, generally speaking, in full employment. There has been some demand for extra men for threshing, but the supply has been sufficient. In *Staffordshire* field work has been very little hindered by unfavourable weather, but a few casual labourers have been in irregular employment owing to rain. The supply of extra men in the county has been equal to the demand. Regularity of employment is reported in *Shropshire*. Farm work is said to be in a forward state, though there is more threshing to be done than for the past year or two.

Agricultural employment has been generally regular in *Worcestershire* and *Warwickshire*, the weather being mild and open during the greater part of the month. There has not been much demand for extra labour, and there is little or no scarcity of casual men. Farm labourers in *Oxfordshire* have been, with few exceptions, in full employment, the weather being favourable for storing roots and general farm work. Reports from *Northamptonshire* state that agricultural labourers have been well employed, chiefly at threshing, and pulling and storing roots. The supply of extra men in this county is said to be sufficient. Regularity of employment is reported in *Buckinghamshire*, *Hertfordshire*, and *Bedfordshire*. There was some little demand for extra labour for threshing and other farm work, but there has been no scarcity of men for this work.

**Eastern Counties.**—In *Huntingdonshire* and *Cambridgeshire* farm labourers of all classes have been in full employment. In one or two districts, however, a few casual labourers have not had constant work. Regularity of employment is reported in *Lincolnshire*. In certain districts there has been some scarcity of extra labour for threshing and storing roots. Agricultural labourers in *Norfolk* and *Suffolk* have been, with few exceptions, in regular employment, the weather in December being for the most part fine and mild. The supply of extra labour for threshing and other work has been equal to the demand in these counties. In *Essex* employment has been regular on the whole, but some casual men in certain districts have not had full employment. The more skilled classes such as carters and stockmen continue to be short of the demand.

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—Farm labourers in Kent have been, for the most part, in full employment during December. The demand for extra

labour was small, and in some districts was exceeded by the supply. A report from the Faversham Union states that there are "more wood cutters about this year than last." Regularity of employment is reported in *Surrey* and *Sussex*. A few days of unfavourable weather, however, occasioned loss of employment to some casual labourers. There was some demand for extra men to assist with wood cutting in certain districts, and in the Horsham Union (*Sussex*) it is stated that the supply of labour for this work has been insufficient. In *Hampshire* employment has been generally good with agricultural labourers. The supply of casual men has been sufficient and more plentiful than of late. Regularity of employment is reported in *Berkshire*. The weather was open during the greater part of the month and very little time was lost. Farm labourers in *Wiltshire* and *Dorsetshire* have been well employed, the weather being favourable for outdoor work. There has not been much demand for extra labour, and the supply has been quite sufficient.

Employment has been good with agricultural labourers in *Somersetshire*. The greater part of the month was favourable for work in the fields, and little time was lost by casual labourers. In *Herefordshire* and *Gloucestershire* employment has been regular, except in the case of a few casual men who were idle for a short time owing to rain. The supply of extra labour for storing roots, threshing, hedging and ditching has been generally sufficient. Farm labourers in *Devonshire* and *Cornwall* have been, generally speaking, in full employment during the month. Most of the reports from these counties refer to a scarcity of labour.

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

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women in December showed a marked improvement in the spinning branch of the cotton trade; the improvement in the weaving branch was not maintained. In the woollen and worsted trades employment remained good. Information has been received with regard to 611 cotton, woollen, and worsted mills, employing about 108,170 women and girls, and is summarised in the following Table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full Time throughout the Month.*		Working Short Time during some part of the Month.	Closed during some part of the Month for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
<b>Cotton Trade—Spinning—</b>				
December, 1902	94	4	—	2
November, 1902	85	9	1	5
December, 1901	91	6	1	2
<b>Cotton Trade—Weaving—</b>				
December, 1902	78	20	—	2
November, 1902	82	13	2	3
December, 1901	73	20	4	3
<b>Woollen and Worsted Trades—</b>				
December, 1902	90	7	2	1
November, 1902	93	5	2	—
December, 1901	57	42	1	—
<b>Total of above Trades—</b>				
December, 1902	84	14	—	—
November, 1902	84	11	2	3
December, 1901	74	21	3	2

**Cotton Trade.—Spinning.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton spinning mills reported on is 24,790; of these, 94 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 85 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in November, and with 91 per cent. in December, 1901.

**Cotton Trade.—Weaving.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton weaving factories reported on is 66,620; of these, 78 per cent. were

\* Based on 217 returns from correspondents in various parts of England.

\* Excluding Christmas Holidays.

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER.—SEAMEN; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 82 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in November, and with 73 per cent. in December, 1901.

**Woollen and Worsted Trades.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 16,760; of these, 90 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 93 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in November, and with 57 per cent. in December, 1901.

(i) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN DECEMBER.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.) The number of seamen shipped during December as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 31,114\*, or 1,024 more than in December, 1901. The supply of seamen at these ports is generally stated to be equal to or in excess of the demand.

During the year 1902, 419,420\* men were shipped, as compared with 416,798 during the year 1901. Increases occurred at Middlesbrough, Hull, Newport, Cardiff, Liverpool and Southampton, but these increases were partly balanced by decreases at the other ports covered by the returns.

Of the total number of seamen shipped during the year 1902, 68,072\* (or 16.2 per cent.) were foreigners, the percentage for 1901 being 15.7. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in the figures.

Table showing the number\* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in December, 1902 and 1901, respectively, together with the number\* shipped in the twelve months ended December in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in December, 1902.*			Total in Dec., 1901.*	Total number shipped in year ended December*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in Dec., 1902.		1902.	1901.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports ...	—	2,392	2,392	2,110	34,721	35,455
Sunderland ...	1	266	267	980	4,717	5,098
Middlesbrough ...	8	302	310	123	3,226	3,331
Hull ...	—	916	916	812	12,312	12,984
Grimsby ...	10	4	14	39	918	980
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol ...	1	618	619	509	6,728	7,080
Newport, Mon. ...	—	796	796	822	9,509	8,984
Cardiff † ...	58	3,831	3,889	3,871	54,835	51,844
Swansea ...	47	397	354	425	6,277	6,893
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool ...	80	10,611	10,691	10,201	140,385	137,615
London ...	122	5,439	5,561	5,830	76,134	77,375
Southampton ...	—	2,379	2,379	2,550	29,796	29,360
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grangemouth ...	—	321	321	226	6,248	6,274
Glasgow ...	119	2,187	2,306	2,086	30,008	30,324
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin ...	2	67	69	31	1,057	1,268
Belfast ...	—	230	230	175	2,549	3,036
<b>Total, Dec., 1902</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>30,666</b>	<b>31,114</b>	—	<b>419,420</b>	—
Ditto, Dec., 1901	581	29,509	—	30,090	—	416,798

(j) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN DECEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves during December showed a decline as compared with November, and was much worse than a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended December 27th was 14,693, as compared with an average of 15,080 in the preceding five weeks, and 16,322 in the corresponding period a year ago. The average number employed in December during the five years, 1897-1901 was 16,352.

(1) Weekly Averages.—The following Table shows

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

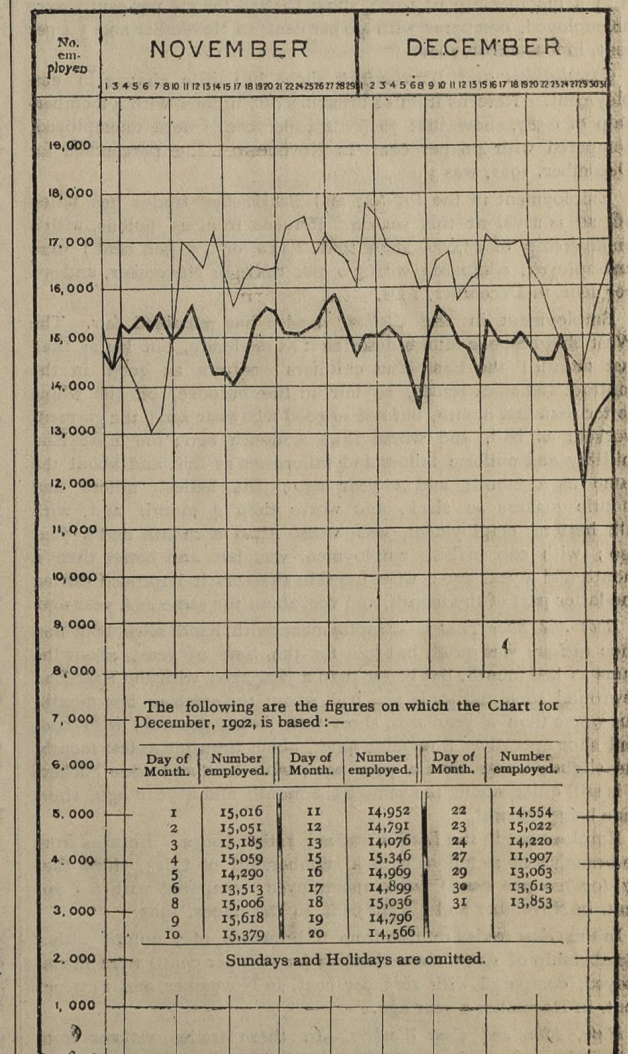
the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each week of the month:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks.			Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Dec. 6	6,578	1,876	8,454	6,232	14,686
" " " 13	6,444	2,320	8,764	6,207	14,971
" " " 20	6,214	2,610	8,824	6,111	14,935
" " " 27	5,822	2,637	8,459	5,467	13,926
Average for 4 weeks ended Dec. 27th, 1902	6,304	2,336	8,640	6,053	14,693
Average for Nov., 1902	6,673	2,098	8,766	6,314	15,080
Average for Dec., 1901	7,341	2,688	10,029	6,893	16,922

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in December ranged from 15,618 on the 9th to 11,907 on the 27th.

During December, 1901, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 17,816 on the 2nd to 14,071 on the 27th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of November and December, 1902. The corresponding curve for November and December, 1901, is also given for comparison.  
[The thick curve applies to 1902, and the thin curve to 1901.]



Employment in mid-stream, and with lightermen, stevedores, lumpers, and corn porters, has been moderate; with coal porters, winchmen, and deal porters it has been fair. With fruit porters in Thames-street employment has also been fair, the average daily number employed being 320, compared with 307 in November and 355 a year ago.



## EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS.

## DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

*Note.*—Employment in the principal districts of the United Kingdom in the Building Trades and for Coal Miners, Iron Miners, Tinplate Workers, Agricultural Labourers and for Dock Labour in London, is dealt with in Articles on pp. 15-19, and is not included in the District Reports which follow.

## LONDON.

*General.*—Returns from 453 branches of 127 unions, having an aggregate membership of 75,916, show that 4,535 (or 5.9 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of December, compared with 5.4 per cent. in November and 5.2 per cent. in December, 1901.

Employment in the *Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding* trades has improved slightly. Returns from 167 branches of 30 unions, with a membership of 22,775, show that 1,382 (or 6.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.8 per cent. in November and 4.1 per cent. in December, 1901. Employment with *Sailmakers* remains bad.

Employment in the *Furnishing* trades has continued to fall off and is now bad. Returns from 34 branches of 15 unions, with a membership of 5,664, show that 421 (or 7.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.8 per cent. in November, and 9.9 per cent. in December, 1901.

In the *Woodworking* trades employment remains unchanged. Returns from 9 branches of 5 unions, with a membership of 1,068, show that 59 (or 5.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.7 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1901, was 3.6.

With *Coopers* employment is not so good. Returns from 2 unions, with a membership of 1,070, show that 58 (or 5.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.0 per cent. in November and 3.4 per cent. in December, 1901.

*Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights* show but little change in employment. Returns from 12 branches of 7 unions, with a membership of 1,587, show that 70 (or 4.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.6 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1901, was 3.9.

Employment in the *Printing and Bookbinding* trades has fallen off, as is usual at this season. Returns from 25 unions, with a membership of 25,066, show that 1,134 (or 4.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.0 per cent. in November, and 5.6 per cent. in December, 1901.

Employment in the *Clothing* trades has remained fair. The West End bespoke tailors describe it as moderate, but better than last month; the East End clothiers' cutters as good in the contract and stock trades, as fair in the bespoke, on the whole better than last month, but not so good as a year ago; the garment workers as bad, and worse than a month ago; the East End military and uniform tailors and tailoresses as fair, and about the same as a month and a year ago; the ladies' tailors and mantle makers as slack, and worse than a month ago; with silk hatters employment was worse than a month and a year ago; with cap makers employment was fair, and better than a month and a year ago; with fur skin dressers it improved during the latter part of the month, and was about the same as a year ago.

*Boot and Shoe Trades.*—Employment with hand sewn boot and shoe makers was quiet, but fair for the time of year, about the same as last month, but better than a year ago; with the East End sewround shoe makers it was bad, about the same as last month, but worse than a year ago, short time being general; with boot and shoe operatives it remains quiet, about the same as last month, but slightly worse than a year ago; with boot and shoe clickers it is still quiet, about the same as a month and a year ago, short time being general.

Employment in the *Leather* trades is rather better. Returns from 10 branches of 10 unions with a membership of 1,613, show that 97 (or 6.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.3 per cent. in November and 4.2 per cent. in December, 1901.

In the *Glass* trades returns from 8 branches of 7 unions with a membership of 1,172, show that 133 (or 11.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 10.5 per cent. in November and 14.9 per cent. in December a year ago.

*Hair, Fibre and Cane Workers.*—In these trades returns from 5 branches of 5 unions, with a membership of 942, show that 146 (or 15.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.1 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1901, was 4.4.

*Goldsmiths and Jewellers* describe employment as good, and better than a month and a year ago; *Silver* workers as quiet for time of year; *Electro-plate* workers as quiet; *Diamond* workers as steady, equal to previous month, but better than last year.

Employment in the *Tobacco* trades was not so good. Returns from 3 unions with a membership of 1,981, show that 136 (or 6.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.3 per cent. in November and 6.7 per cent. in December, 1901.

## ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

## Tyne and Wear.

*Iron and Steel Trades.*—Employment in the finished iron and steel works continues bad. Employment with steel smelters has declined. With blast-furnace men it is fair; with forge and hammermen quiet; with chain makers good; with anchor smiths not quite so good; with stern frame smiths it continues fair. At sheet mills it has been bad.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.*—On the Tyne.—Employment with fitters has slightly improved; the improvement with machine men and turners has been maintained; with riveters and caulkers employment is dull generally. Most of the yards and shops were closed for an extended holiday of 10 to 12 days. Branches with 13,050 members have 2,211 (or 16.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 1,469 (or 11.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. On the Wear.—Employment at most of the engine and boiler shops continues slack; with ship smiths it is quiet, but regular; with frame benders and platers it has not improved. Branches with 5,442 members have 1,089 (or 20.0 per cent.) idle, as against 789 (or 14.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The number of unemployed, both on the Tyne and on the Wear, is much increased by temporary suspensions. Whitesmiths and heating engineers report employment as having slightly declined; farriers as moderate; drillers and hole cutters, shipwrights, smiths and strikers as bad; with sailmakers it is slack; with brassfinishers, bad; with iron and steel moulders in the Newcastle and Gateshead district it is fair; at Wallsend it is reported as moderate; in the Shields district as dull; at Blaydon as good; on the Wear it continues bad. With steel moulders on the Wear it has improved; with pattern makers it is quiet; with engine and fire men it is reported as slack.

*Lead Mining.*—Lead ore miners continue well employed.

*Quarrying.*—Limestone quarries in Westgate, Stanhope, and Upper Weardale have worked 5½ and 6 days per week. At the Gateshead quarries employment has been fair, but interrupted by bad weather. With paviers and stone breakers it is fair.

*Shipping and Dock Labour.*—Steam packet men on the Wear report employment as having declined; on the Tyne as fair. With Tyne watermen it has slightly improved. With quayside, dock, and casual labourers it has declined. With trimmers, teamers, coal porters and shippers, and pit prop carriers it is good; with deal porters moderate. With lumpers, riggers, sailors, and firemen it has improved.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Bookbinders and letterpress printers report employment as quiet; paper makers in some mills as slack, in others as good.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.*—Employment with cabinet makers and coopers is reported as dull; with lath renders and upholsterers as bad; with mill-sawyers as unsettled.

*Chemical and Glass Trades.*—Employment with bottle makers on the Wear and at Seaham Harbour continues slack. Pressed glass makers have worked two and three shifts per week; flint glass makers have averaged four shifts per week. Chemical factories in some departments have only worked half time. With copper ore smelters employment has slightly improved. With cement factory and coke yard workers it has been fair.

*Fishing.*—Notwithstanding the unsettled weather the trawl boats landed good supplies of white fish. The quantity and prices compare favourably with those of a year ago.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

## Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

*Iron and Steel Trades.*—Employment at the rail mills is reported as good; in other departments as moderate; at pipe foundries as good; at blast furnaces and metal expansion works it is fair; at bridge works good at Darlington, Middlesbrough and Stockton; at chair and general foundries moderate.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Employment with engineers is moderate at Middlesbrough and South Bank; bad at Darlington, Hartlepool and Stockton; with ironfounders it is reported as moderate at Darlington and Middlesbrough; bad at Hartlepool and Stockton; with pattern makers as fair generally; with smiths and strikers, and engine and crane men as bad; with boiler-makers good at Darlington, moderate at Middlesbrough, slack at Hartlepool and Stockton. Branches of these trades with 4,328 members have 479 (or 11.1 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 450 (or 10.3 per

## EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.).

(For employment in Building, Coal and Iron Mining and Tinplate Trades, Agricultural Labour and London Dock Labour, see Articles on pp. 15-19.)

cent. of their membership) at the end of November. In addition a considerable number were affected by long holidays, amounting to nine or twelve days in most of the large works.

*Shipbuilding.*—Employment is reported as moderate at Middlesbrough, slack at Hartlepool and Stockton; good on repairing work at Hartlepool; with shipwrights as fair at Middlesbrough, slack at Hartlepool and Stockton; with smiths and strikers, and engine and crane men as bad.

*Shipping and Dock Labour.*—Employment with sailors and firemen is reported as quiet at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough; with dockers as slack at Hartlepool, moderate at Middlesbrough; with riverside labourers as moderate.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment with letterpress printers is reported as good at Darlington, fair at Stockton and Middlesbrough, bad at Hartlepool; with mill sawyers, cement, concrete, brick and pulp workers as moderate; with wagon builders as good; with cabinet makers and tailors as slack.—*A. Main.*

## LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

## Oldham and District.

*Cotton Trade.—Spinning.*—In Oldham and neighbourhood, Rochdale and Milnrow, employment is reported as good; in the Stockport district as improved; in Stalybridge, Dukinfield, Droydsden and Mossley the improvement has been well maintained. In the carding and ring spinning departments full time is being worked, and employment is reported as good. *Weaving.*—Employment continues good on velvets, moderate on calicoes, slack on fustians and calico sheetings. Reelers report employment as fair; winders, twistors, drawers, slashers, sectional warpers, beamers and twiners are only partially employed. With ball warpers employment has declined.

*Woollen and Silk Trades.*—The woollen workers in Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport are fully employed. Silk dressers at Rochdale report employment as bad.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Employment in the engineering and textile machine making trades is reported as bad; with ironfounders, tinplate workers, mule and ring spindle makers, boiler-makers, brass founders and iron grinders as moderate; with tool-makers, pattern makers and plate moulders as slack.

*Miscellaneous.*—Tailors, letterpress printers, bookbinders, cloggers, shoe makers, brush makers, and skip makers report employment as moderate; roller coverers, bakers and confectioners, electrical workers and tramway men as good.—*T. Ashton.*

## Bolton and District.

*Cotton Trade.—Spinning.*—Employment in Bolton and neighbourhood shows a further slight improvement, considerable activity being shown at some large firms. Employment with spinners in Chorley and Wigan has improved. In Heywood, Bury and Ramsbottom it is reported as fair. Employment with cardroom operatives in Bolton, Moses Gate and Farnworth is fair. In Bury, Heywood and Chorley it is reported as slightly improved. *Weaving.*—Employment on white goods in Bolton is moderate; in Bury fair; in Chorley it has improved.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Employment with engineers and steam engine makers is reported as moderate; with roller makers and spindle makers as slack; with ironworkers in Wigan, Bury and Chorley as irregular; with machine fitters it has slightly improved.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment with carters, lorrymen and printers continues fair; with leather workers it is reported as improved; with cloggers and shoe makers as moderate.—*R. Tootill.*

## Blackburn, Burnley, and District.

*Cotton Trade.—Weaving.*—Employment is bad in the Blackburn and Preston districts; in Burnley fair; in Darwen and Colne moderate; in Nelson a number of looms are working short time, through want of yarns. Employment in the hard waste weaving trade is good. Warp dressers in the Nelson and Colne districts report it as slightly improved. With twistors, drawers, winders and beamers, and tape sizers it is moderate. *Spinning.*—Spinners report employment as good at Blackburn, Darwen and Accrington; as only moderate at Burnley. Ring spinners and card room workers throughout the district continue fully employed. Branches of spinners, twistors and drawers and warp dressers with 3,342 members have 61 (or 1.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 187 (or 5.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Engineers in the Colne and Todmorden districts report employment as bad; ironfounders at Blackburn as bad, at Todmorden as moderate. In the machine shops employment is good.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment with cabinet makers continues quiet with tailors and labourers it is slack; with letterpress printers fair; with woollen block printers moderate.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

## Manchester and District.

*General.*—Branches of societies with 25,046 members have 1,101 (or 4.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 1,164 (or 4.6 per cent. of their membership), at the end of November.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Engineers at Manchester, Warrington, Macclesfield and Romily report employment as moderate; at Stockport and Northwich as bad. Employment with brass founders and finishers, brassworkers and wire drawers at Warrington is good; with braziers, sheet metal workers and boiler makers moderate; with wire drawers at Manchester, and iron founders slack.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.*—Coachmakers at railway works report employment as moderate; at private firms as slack; cabinet makers as good in some branches, as slack in others; wheelwrights, upholsterers, french polishers and coopers as bad.

*Clothing Trades.*—Employment in the tailoring trade is reported as slack. Shirt and jacket cutters and makers and umbrella makers report it as moderate; boot and shoe makers, felt hatters and trimmers as quiet.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment with letterpress printers has improved; with stereotypers it is good; with bookbinders and pattern card makers it is reported as moderate; with lithographic artists and lithographic printers as bad.

*Textile Trades.*—In Manchester cotton spinners, power-loom overlookers, and calico printers report employment as moderate. In Macclesfield employment with cotton workers is good; with silk workers slack; with bleachers and dyers it is moderate.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment with carters and skip and hamper makers is good; with leather workers moderate.—*G. D. Kelley.*

## Liverpool and District.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.*—Boiler makers and iron-ship builders report employment as moderate; shipwrights, joiners, brass and iron founders, coppersmiths, iron and steel dressers, fitters, turners, and pattern makers as dull.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.*—Coachmakers report employment as bad; coopers as fair. With french polishers, upholsterers, woodcutting machinists and sawyers it continues dull.

*Transport Trades.*—Dock labourers report employment as fair at the North docks, as improved at the South docks; Mersey flatmen as fair; sailors, firemen, and quay and railway carters as dull.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Letterpress and lithographic printers report employment as dull; stereotypers as good; bookbinders and rulers as fair.

*Clothing Trades.*—Employment in the tailoring and boot and shoe trades is reported as quiet.

*Glass and Chemical Trades.*—Glass bottle makers report employment as moderate; glass makers and flatteners as fair; decorative glass workers as good; chemical workers as quiet.

*Quarrying.*—Quarrymen report employment as fair.—*C. Rouse.*

A report from *Winsford* states that employment with the salt workers is dull; with chemical workers at Middlewich fair; with moulders at Winsford good; with fustian cutters dull; with shipwrights, boiler-makers, and brass workers and fitters regular.

## YORKSHIRE.

## Hull and District.

*Shipbuilding, Engineering, and Metal Trades.*—At Hull the engineers, smiths and strikers, pattern makers, brass founders and finishers, drillers and hole cutters, shipwrights and platers' helpers and general labourers report employment as moderate; other branches as bad. At Doncaster the brass workers report employment as good; boiler makers as moderate; engineers as bad. At Goole employment is generally reported as moderate. At Grimsby the sailmakers and general labourers report employment as moderate; engineers, shipwrights and other branches as bad.

*Transport Trades.*—Coal porters at Hull and Grimsby report employment as moderate; seamen and firemen at Goole as fair, at Grimsby as moderate, one section at Hull as bad, another section as moderate; dock labourers at Hull as bad, at Goole as moderate, at Grimsby as good.

*Seed Crushing, Paint, and Colour Trades.*—The seed crushing mill-workers at Hull report employment as fair; the paint and colour workers as moderate.



## EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.).

(For employment in Building, Coal and Iron Mining and Tinplate Trades, Agricultural Labour and London Dock Labour, see Articles on pp. 15—19.)

**Fishing Industry.**—At Hull the trawl fishermen, steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen, fish curing-house workers, and general labourers in the fishing trade report employment as moderate. At Grimsby the curing-house workers, fishermen, and general labourers report it as good; steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen as fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers, bookbinders and machine rulers, report employment as good; lithographic printers as moderate.

**Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.**—Employment with mill-sawyers and wood machinists and coopers at Hull is reported as fair; with cabinet makers and coachbuilders and in the furnishing trades as moderate; with coachbuilders at Doncaster as bad.

**Miscellaneous.**—The bakers and enginemen and cranemen, report employment as good; tailors as moderate; leather workers, boot and shoe makers, and brush makers as bad.

W. G. Millington.

**Leeds and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 9,049 members have 537 (or 5.9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 452 (or 5.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment in the engineering trade has declined; with ironfounders it is slack; with boiler-makers moderate; with steel workers fair; with pattern makers it has improved; with machine workers and stove grate workers it is quiet; with brassworkers and wool comb, hackle and gill makers slack. At Wakefield employment in the engineering and iron trades continues quiet; at Stanningley and Rodley with engineers it is quiet; with ironfounders and boiler-makers slack.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the ready-made tailoring factories is fair; with bespoke tailors bad; with boot and shoe operatives in Leeds moderate, at Bramley and Pudsey good.

**Textile Trades.**—In the Leeds cloth mills employment is fairly good. Warp dressers and twisters in the cotton and worsted trades are fully employed. With willeys and fettlers employment is fair; with blanket raisers dull; with linen workers quiet. Employment in the worsted and cloth mills at Wakefield is fair; at Yeadon and Guiseley good.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment with tanners is moderate; with curriers dull; with leather shavers fair; with saddlers and harness makers slack.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment with letterpress printers is quiet; with lithographers moderate; with bookbinders good; paper mill workers are on short time.

**Glass Trades.**—Employment with glass bottle makers and flint glass makers in Leeds continues slack; at Wakefield with glass bottle makers it is dull.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment with brush makers is fair; with cabinet makers and coach makers slack; with polishers and upholsterers moderate.—O. Connellan.

**Bradford and Huddersfield District.**

**Worsted Trade.**—Employment in Bradford and district shows no further decline. The improvement in Halifax and Huddersfield has been maintained. In Keighley employment continues good. With woolsorters it has declined, and is bad; with woolcombers it is unsatisfactory.

**Woollen Trade.**—Employment in the Huddersfield district is very good, and in the Colne Valley overtime and night work continue. In the heavy woollen district of Dewsbury employment is fair.

**Other Textile Trades.**—Employment in the silk trade at Manningham shows no change; at Brighouse and Halifax it is fairly good. In the cotton trade at Huddersfield and Brighouse it is fairly good, full time being worked. Dyers at Bradford and Huddersfield report employment as moderate.

**Metal Trades.**—Engineers in Bradford and Keighley report employment as moderate; in Huddersfield as good; in Dewsbury as fair. In Halifax there are few unemployed. Ironfounders at Dewsbury and Halifax report employment as bad; in Bradford as moderate; in Huddersfield as not so good; in Keighley as good. Wire drawers at Brighouse report employment as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with letterpress and lithographic printers has improved; with bookbinders, carpet weavers and rug weavers it is fair; in the glass trade poor; with tailors it has slightly declined.—A. Gee.

**Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 11,891 members have 572 (or 4.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 492 (or 4.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

**Iron and Steel Industries.**—Branches with 6,442 members have 284 (or 4.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 220 (or 3.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. Engineers, locomotive drivers and stokers, stove grate workers, and some branches of engine and crane men report employment as moderate; railway spring makers and smiths and strikers as quiet; boiler-makers, wire drawers, Siemens steel smelters, Bessemer steel workers, core makers, iron and steel dressers, and machine workers as slack; iron and steel founders as bad. At Barnsley engineers report employment as moderate, ironfounders as fair; at Parkgate steel workers as fair, ironworkers as bad. At Masbro' employment with iron workers is moderate; at Eccles with steel workers it is quiet, with spring and axle makers slack; at Rotherham and Masbro' with bath makers it is slack, with stove grate workers quiet.

**Cutlery and Tool Trades.**—Employment in the spring knife trade is reported as fair; in the table and butcher knife, edge tool and razor trades, and with forgers of small files, as quiet; with makers of saws and engineers' tools, handle and scale cutters, and in the file trade it is slack.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Employment with silver platers and gilders, braziers and sheet metal workers is fair; with brass workers and silver and electro-plate finishers, quiet; with plate, spoon, and fork filers, silver and Britannia metal stampers and hollow ware buffers, slack; with silversmiths, bad. At Rotherham brass workers are busy.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as good; lithographers, bookbinders and machine rulers as moderate.

**Linen Trade.**—Employment is reported as moderate.

**Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment with railway carriage and wagon builders is quiet; with tramcar builders and cabinet makers, fair; with coachmakers, mill sawyers and machinists, moderate. Cabinet makers at Barnsley report employment as good, at Rotherham as quiet; bobbin makers at Barnsley as moderate, box makers as bad.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment with bespoke tailors is moderate; with ready-made tailoring operatives, good; with boot and shoe operatives, moderate.

**Glass Trades.**—At Barnsley employment with bottle makers is reported as bad; with flint glass workers as moderate; at Mexbro' and Swinton with bottle makers it is bad. At Rotherham with makers of medicine bottles fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—Tramway men, paviors, and street masons, and several branches of railway workers report employment as fair; gas workers as moderate; general labourers as slack. At Barnsley with down quilt makers and paper makers it is good; with quarrymen moderate. At Rotherham with potters it is fair; at Normanton with chemical workers good; with quarrymen fair; with brick-makers slack.—S. Utley.

## ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

**Derbyshire District.**

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Engineers report employment as good in Chesterfield, moderate elsewhere; boiler makers and lace machine builders in Long Eaton as good; cycle makers as bad; ironfounders, brass moulders and finishers, iron and steel dressers as moderate; electric wire and cable makers as fair generally. Branches with 2,110 members have 26 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 34 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

**Quarrying.**—Employment with limestone quarrymen and chert quarrymen has slightly declined.

**Textile Trades.**—Cotton weavers, card and blowing room operatives, lace makers, and hosiery workers report employment as good; calico printers as fair; surgical bandage makers and elastic web weavers as slack. Gimp and trimming makers are fairly well employed.

**Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment with railway carriage and wagon builders in Derby and Long Eaton is reported as good; with coopers at Burton-on-Trent as bad.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment with ready-made tailoring operatives and bespoke tailors is reported as fair. With boot and shoe operatives in Derby and Chesterfield it is moderate.

## EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.).

(For employment in Building, Coal and Iron Mining and Tinplate Trades, Agricultural Labour and London Dock Labour, see Articles on pp. 15—19.)

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as fair; lithographic printers, bookbinders, and machine rulers as moderate.

**Miscellaneous.**—Pipe moulders, gas workers, furnace men, stationary engine drivers, and general labourers report employment as fair; bakers and confectioners and brushmakers as moderate.

C. White Deacon.

**Nottingham and District.**

**Lace Trade.**—Employment has declined. It is reported as fair in the levers and plain net sections, good with warpers, quiet with dyers and bleachers, moderate in other branches.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Employment has considerably improved. It is reported as fair with power framework knitters; as good with hand framework knitters and hand rib top makers.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is reported as good with lace and hosiery machine builders; as fair with cycle makers, tin plate workers, electric workers, brassworkers, brass bobbin and carriage makers and blastfurnacemen; as moderate with engine makers, tool machinists, strikers and wheelwrights and blacksmiths; as bad with ironfounders and needle makers; as quiet with pattern makers, fitters and smiths and boiler-makers; as good with iron and steel dressers. Employment is fair at Beeston and Grantham, quiet at Mansfield, Newark and Retford. Branches with 3,364 members have 116 (or 3.4 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of November.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment is reported as good with brush makers; as fair with coopers, packing case makers, and basket makers; as quiet with upholsterers, french polishers, cabinet makers and coachmakers; as slack with mill sawyers; as moderate at Grantham, Newark, Mansfield and Worksop.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is reported as good with bookbinders; as fair with letterpress printers, printers' assistants and machine rulers; as moderate with lithographic printers and lithographic artists.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment is reported as quiet with bespoke tailors; as fair with ready-made tailoring operatives, and mantle and blouse makers; as moderate with boot and shoe operatives.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is reported as good with railway workers, gas workers, stationary engine drivers and colliery enginemen and firemen; as fair with general labourers, bakers and female cigar makers; as moderate with saddle and harness makers.

W. L. Hardstaff.

**Leicester and Northampton District.**

**Boot and Shoe Trades.**—At Leicester and Northampton employment has slightly improved. It is fair at Desborough, quiet at Rushden, slack at Hinckley and Kettering.

**Other Clothing Trades.**—Employment with ready-made tailoring operatives has improved; with bespoke tailors it has declined; with corset makers it is good at Market Harborough, moderate at Leicester and Kettering. Employment with milliners and dress-makers is fair; with cap makers moderate; with felt hatters quiet; with silk hatters slack.

**Hosiery and Wool-spinning Trades.**—In the principal branches of the hosiery trade employment continues good at Leicester. It is slack generally at Hinckley and Loughborough. It is fair with dyers, trimmers and scourers. Wool spinners continue fully employed.

**Elastic Web Trade.**—In the shoe gusset department employment is fair. It is quiet with the weavers of cords, braids, and narrow webbings.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment with general engineers continues moderate. It is good with electric motor and car truck builders, shoe machinery makers, winders and type casters; fair with ironfounders, tool makers, moulders, boiler makers, and pattern makers; slack with smiths and strikers, fitters and turners, and cycle makers and repairers.

**Stone Quarrying.**—Employment with stone quarrymen is regular.

**Earthenware Trades.**—Employment is good with fire brick makers; fair with chimney, drain and conduit pipe makers; quiet with faced brick makers and general sanitary ware makers.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment with letterpress printers is good at Leicester, not so good elsewhere; moderate with lithographic printers; regular with bookbinders and machine rulers.

**Leather Trades.**—With curriers and tanners employment is fair at Leicester, quiet at Wellingboro', bad at Northampton.

**Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment is good with road and electric car builders, painters, and polishers; moderate with carriage and coach makers. It is slack with cabinet makers and upholsterers, and in the woodworking trades generally.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is good with most railway workers, and with cigar makers, saddlers, gas workers, and electric fitters, cardboard box makers, road navvies and excavators; fair with bakers; quiet with brush makers.—T. Smith.

**Potteries District.**

**Pottery Trades.**—Employment in the clay department has not improved. At many factories the holidays have been extended to a fortnight. Sanitary pressers are well employed; printers and transferrers report a further slight improvement. Employment with artists and women gilders is quiet. Oven men are working short time.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment has been slack.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment in the Potteries with engineers has not improved. At Crewe all branches are well employed. At Uttoxeter and Rugeley agricultural engineers are busy. At Froghall and Oakmoor in the copper tube department employment is good; in the wire department slack, short time being worked.

**Quarrying.**—At Alton and Hollington employment with stone quarrymen is good.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment with trimming weavers in the silk trade at Leek has improved; with dyers, braiders, pickers, winders and doublers it is moderate. At Congleton with trimming weavers it is slack; with silk dressers it has improved; with fustian cutters employment is slack.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors in the Potteries report employment as slack; at Crewe full time is general. With boot and shoe makers at Stafford and Stone it is slack, a large proportion of the operatives being on short time.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment with letterpress printers in the Potteries is not so good; at Stafford it is good, overtime being worked; with lithographic artists it is fair; with lithographic printers moderate.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with bakers is reported as improved; with brush makers it is slack; with railway workers and gas workers good.—I. S. Harvey.

**Wolverhampton and District.**

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—In South Staffordshire steel smelters report employment as having further declined. In the mills and forges it is not so good. In Shropshire employment is quiet.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Employment is quiet with electrical engineers; moderate with general engineers; bad with moulders; good with makers of boilers, bridges, girders, tanks, gasometers and motors. With cycle makers it has improved. At Walsall in the malleable iron trade it continues bad. At Coalbrook Dale and Madeley it is fair; in the foundry department the improvement is maintained.

**Hardware Trades.**—Employment is good with makers of malleable nails and protectors, cycle castings, Brazil hoes and anvils, and with stampers and piercers, cast hollow-ware tanners and turners, galvanisers and japanners; fair with makers of tubes, nuts and bolts, iron fences, hurdles, best gun locks, spring traps, spikes, rivets, wrought nails, cut nails, tacks, agricultural implements, builders' ironmongery, hinges, steel toys, spectacle frames, black castings, and gas and electrical fittings, with fork drawers, spade finishers, brassworkers, filesmiths, and with chain makers and strikers at Cradley Heath; quiet with safe and anchor smiths; slack with makers of edge tools, plantation hoes, block and dolly chains, in the iron plate trade at Wolverhampton, Bilston and the Lye, and in the vice trade. The improvement with makers of railway axles, springs, and coach iron work, and in the iron and steel forging departments at Wednesbury has been maintained.

**Glass Trades.**—At Wordsley, Brettle Lane and Stourbridge employment in the flint glass trade is quiet.

**Leather Trades.**—At Walsall employment with makers of new brown saddles for export is good. With gig saddlers and female harness stitchers it is bad; in other branches quiet.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the carpet trade at Kidderminster and Bridgnorth, and in the Tamworth tape mills, is good.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment with ready-made and bespoke tailors and boot and shoe operatives is quiet.



## EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.).

(For employment in Building, Coal and Iron Mining and Tinplate Trades, Agricultural Labour and London Dock Labour, see Articles on pp. 15-19.)

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment with printers is slack; with other branches fair.—C. Anthony.

**Birmingham and District.**

*General.*—Branches of societies with 19,512 members have 573 (or 2.9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 523 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

*Engineering and allied Trades.*—Ten branches of engineers report employment as moderate; pattern makers and toolmakers as moderate; ironfounders as improved; smiths and strikers as good. At West Bromwich, Redditch and Coventry engineers and toolmakers report employment as moderate. In the cycle industry at Coventry it is reported as good, at Redditch as fair. In the motor trade employment is reported as fair.

*Brass and Copper Trades.*—Employment in the brass and copper trades, and with fender and fire brass makers is reported as fair.

*Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electroplaters.*—Jewellers report employment as fair on common work; quiet on best gold work; silversmiths and electroplaters as quiet; Britannia metal workers as good; plate glass bevellers and silverers as fair.

*Other Metal Trades.*—Employment is reported as good with makers of stoves, lamps, heating apparatus and wrought iron and steel tubes; as moderate with tinplate workers and makers of bedsteads, hollow-ware, nuts and bolts, wrought iron and steel hinges, shovels, spades, light and heavy steel toys and general hardware; as quiet with file cutters, iron-plate workers, and makers of cut and wire nails and machine and hand-made rivets. At West Bromwich employment is reported as fair with makers of nuts and bolts, springs and hardware; as quiet in the iron trade. At Redditch in the fish hook trade it is reported as good, overtime being worked in the needle trade as fair.

*Glass Trades.*—Flint glass makers and flint glass cutters report employment as moderate. At West Bromwich it is reported as fair.

*Clothing Trades.*—Boot and shoe makers report employment as bad; bespoke tailors and Jewish workers as quiet.

*Woodworking Trades.*—Millsawyers and woodworking machinists and coachmakers report employment as quiet; coopers and packing-case makers, carvers and cabinet makers as bad. In the railway and wagon shops employment is fair.

*Miscellaneous.*—Gas workers, gas fitters, brown saddlers and military gunmakers report employment as good; ammunition makers as fair; letterpress printers and sporting gun makers as moderate; bridle cutters, harness makers and general labourers as quiet. At West Bromwich employment with printers is reported as good; at Redditch in the fishing tackle and fancy case trades as quiet. At Coventry in the watch trade it is good; with weavers fair; with general labourers moderate.—A. R. Jephcott.

## ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

**Norfolk and Neighbouring Districts.**

*Clothing Trades.*—Employment with bespoke tailors continues fair; with ready-made tailoring operatives it is dull; with boot and shoe operatives it is fair in some departments, slack in others. Employment with dress and shirt makers is not very good; with corset makers it is fair.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.*—Employment with electrical engineers is fair at Norwich; general engineers report it as good. With shipwrights at Yarmouth and Lowestoft it is fair.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment with mat and matting weavers is reported as good at Diss. The silk and crape factories at Norwich and Yarmouth are not busy.

*Printing Trades.*—Employment with lithographic and letterpress printers is fair; with linotype operators, bookbinders and machine rulers good.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment with horticultural workers and steam joinery and saw mill operatives is slack; with steam, flour and oil mill workers and maltsters good; with electric light workers in Norwich and Lowestoft good, in Yarmouth and Lynn fair; with confectioners fair; with riverside workers dull.—G. Cleverly

**Suffolk, Essex, and District.**

*Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.*—Employment is reported as fair with engineers at Ipswich, as moderate at Colchester and Chelmsford, as slack at Bury; as good with pattern makers at Ipswich; as fair with boiler-makers and shipwrights.

*Clothing Trades.*—Boot and shoe operatives report employment as slack at Ipswich. With ready-made tailoring operatives it is

good at Ipswich, dull at Colchester. With corset-makers, milliners, and dressmakers it is fair.

*Textile Trades.*—Mat weavers report employment as good generally, as fair at Glemsford and Long Melford. Horse-hair weavers continue busy. Employment in the silk trade at Braintree is quiet; at Halstead moderate; at Sudbury good with factory workers, quiet with hand-loom workers.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment with letterpress printers is good at Ipswich and Chelmsford, fair at Colchester and Bungay, quiet at Beccles. Bookbinders and lithographers are busy.

*Miscellaneous.*—Shipping and river side labour has been slack at Ipswich, good at Parkeston. Employment with labourers is good at Sudbury, slack elsewhere; fair with saw-mill workers; slack with brickmakers; good with horticultural builders at Chelmsford, moderate at Ipswich.—R. W. Mather.

## ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

**Bristol and District.**

*General.*—Branches of societies with 9,868 members have 581 (or 5.9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 553 (or 5.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Pattern makers, ironfounders, and shipwrights report employment as bad; brass workers as dull; tool makers, smiths and strikers, and tin plate workers as fair; wire-workers as good; boiler-makers as good at Swindon, bad at Bristol; engineers generally as moderate. Railway coachmakers are busy.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—The bookbinders report employment as fair; lithographic printers and engravers as good; letterpress printers as fair at Bristol, good elsewhere.

*Clothing Trades.*—The ready-made tailoring operatives report employment as fair; bespoke tailors as dull; hatters at moderate; glove makers as good. Employment with boot and shoe operatives throughout the district is fair generally.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.*—Employment with upholsterers and woodcutting machinists is reported as dull; with french polishers, lath renders, and cabinet makers as moderate; with horticultural wood workers, box and packing case makers and coopers as bad.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment at the West Somerset cloth mills is reported as moderate; at the Stroud mills as good. With silk workers at Tiverton it has improved, most machines running full time.

*Transport Trades.*—Employment with carters and railway men is reported as moderate; with dock labourers it has been dull at Bristol and Avonmouth, bad at Gloucester.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment with curriers, brick and tile makers, basket makers, saddle and harness makers, and bakers is reported as dull; with cocoa and chocolate workers, and glass bottle makers as fair; with brush makers and general labourers as bad. J. Curle.

**Plymouth and South-Western District.**

*Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.*—Employment with tin and copper miners in the Calstock district is quiet, in the Camborne district fair. With quarrymen generally it has slightly declined. With china clay workers it is moderate.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.*—Engineers, boiler-makers, and iron and steel shipbuilders report employment as moderate; pattern makers and iron caulkers as fair; ironfounders as having declined; shipwrights as good in Government yards, as bad with private firms, as fair at Falmouth and Dartmouth. Brass and tinplate workers are moderately employed. Branches with 3,341 members have 47 (or 1.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 39 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

*Clothing Trades.*—Tailors report employment as moderate in Plymouth, Devonport, and Exeter. With boot and shoe makers it continues quiet. With shirt and collar makers it has declined. In lace factories employment is quiet, but home workers continue well employed.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment with letterpress printers is fair in Plymouth and Devonport, quiet at Exeter and Torquay. With lithographers it is bad; with bookbinders and paper rulers quiet.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.*—Mill-sawyers and woodworking machinists report employment as fair; with french polishers, upholsterers and cabinet makers it is quiet.

*Transport Trades.*—Employment with general dock and quayside

## EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.).

(For employment in Building, Coal and Iron Mining and Tinplate Trades, Agricultural Labour and London Dock Labour, see Articles on pp. 15-19.)

labourers has been quiet; with coal and grain carriers a little better; with fish packers and carters bad.

*Fishing Industry.*—Fishing has been bad owing to stormy weather. Trawlers have done very little; drifters made some heavy catches of herrings. Many boats have met with damage, and lost trawls, nets and gear.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment with navvies and excavators, brick-yard workers, and general labourers is fair; in artificial manure factories it is quiet; at potteries moderate; in market and fruit gardens bad.—W. Hedge.

## WALES.

**North Wales.**

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—The engineers at Oswestry report employment as fair; ironfounders at Wrexham as slack. It is good with steelworkers, blast furnacemen, spelter workers, engine men and boiler men.

*Lead Mining.*—Employment continues quiet.

*Quarrying.*—Employment continues good.

*Clothing and Textile Trades.*—Employment continues good in the woollen and tweed industries. Bespoke tailors at Bangor, Carnarvon and Oswestry report it as quiet.

*Printing Trades.*—Letterpress printers at Wrexham and Carnarvon report employment as good.

*Brick and Terra-cotta Trades.*—Employment is steady.—G. Rowley

**South Wales and District.**

*Ship-repairing and Engineering.*—Employment at the ports is reported as having been unusually slack. In the outlying districts it is good. Branches of engineers and ironfounders with 3,456 members, have 221 (or 6.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 214 (or 6.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

*Shipping and Dock Labour.*—The shipment of coal and patent fuel has been fair generally. At Newport the shipment of coal has declined. Employment with dock labourers has been slack. The shipment of crews has been moderate.

*Iron and Steel Trades.*—Employment generally is good.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment with metallurgical workers is moderate; with chemical workers dull; with patent fuel workers it is fair generally, good at Swansea; with wagon builders and lifters, letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders good. T. Davies.

## SCOTLAND.

**Edinburgh and District.**

*General.*—Branches of societies (not including outdoor building trades) with 13,360 members have 399 (or 3.0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 472 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

*Shale Mining.*—At the 27 mines covered by the returns, the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended December 20th was 5.51 per week, compared with 5.60 in November and 5.68 in December, 1901. The number of workpeople employed in December, 1902, was 2,668, compared with 2,653 in November and 3,002 a year ago.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—Branches with 2,153 members have 139 (or 6.5 per cent.) idle, compared with 159 (or 7.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The tin-smiths report employment as good; brassfounders as fair; ironmoulders, engineers, blacksmiths, pattern makers, horse shoers, and hammermen as bad. Branches in Falkirk with 4,082 members have 58 (or 1.4 per cent.) idle, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of November. The iron moulders and pattern makers report employment as fair; range and stove fitters as bad.

*Shipbuilding.*—Branches with 580 members have 30 (or 5.2 per cent.) idle, compared with 77 (or 13.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The shipwrights report employment as good; boiler-makers as bad.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment in the woollen industry continues good in Selkirk and Galashiels; in Hawick spinners and weavers are busy. The hosiery workers are fully employed. The carpet weavers in Midlothian report employment as improved, nearly all working full time.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.*—Branches with 1,225 members have 97 (or 7.9 per cent.) idle, compared with 83 (or 7.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The lath splitters report employment as good; saw millers and cabinet makers as fair; coopers, french polishers, upholsterers and coach makers as bad.

*Shipping and Dock Labour.*—The seamen and firemen and dock labourers report employment as quiet; coal porters as fair.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Branches with 2,465 members have 24 (or 1.0 per cent.) idle, compared with 27 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The bookbinders report employment as good; compositors, press and machine men, lithographic printers and lithographic artists and stereotypers as fair; typefounders as bad.

*Miscellaneous.*—The tailors and shoe makers report employment as bad; saddlers and sett makers as quiet; glass makers, glass cutters and curriers as fair; bakers as good.—J. Mallinson.

**Glasgow and West of Scotland.**

*Shipbuilding Trades.*—Employment has declined. Branches with 13,265 members return 1,010 (or 7.6 per cent.) as idle, compared with 970 (or 7.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. Shipyard helpers report employment as very bad.

*Engineering and Metal Trades.*—The engineers, iron and steel workers, blacksmiths and iron drillers report employment as fair; pattern makers and brass finishers as improved; iron moulders and iron, steel and brass dressers as moderate; brass moulders and engine and crane men as good. Branches with 23,094 members return 1,130 (or 4.9 per cent.) idle, compared with 1,126 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

*Clothing Trades.*—Ready-made tailoring operatives report employment as fair; bespoke tailors as dull; knee boot and shoe makers as quiet; boot and shoe operatives as slightly improved.

*Textile Trades.*—Employment in Glasgow is not good. At New Milns, Kilbirnie and Greenock it is good.

*Printing and allied Trades.*—Employment with letterpress printers and bookbinders has improved; with lithographic printers and artists it continues dull.

*Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.*—Employment with cabinet makers is quiet; with saw millers fair; with coopers dull.

*Glass Trades.*—Employment with flint glass bottle makers and flint glass makers is good; with medical bottle makers, flint glass cutters and pressed glass makers dull.

*Transport Trades.*—Employment with dock labourers, sailors, firemen, tramway men, railway men, and carters is good; with hackney carriage drivers it continues dull.

*Miscellaneous.*—Tobacco pipe makers and finishers, sett makers, paviors, scale beam makers, basket makers, cork cutters, labourers, calendermen, brush makers, engravers, bakers, french polishers and potters report employment as fair; stoneware throwers, beamers, saddlers, warpers, rope spinners, curriers, spindle and flyer makers, gilders and mattress makers as quiet.—A. J. Hunter.

**Dundee and District.**

*Textile Trades.*—Employment in the jute industry continues fair; in the flax trade it remains slack; with carpet weavers it is moderate; with calender workers dull; with floor cloth and linoleum workers it has improved.

*Engineering and Shipbuilding.*—Engineers report employment as bad; iron moulders, boiler-makers and shipbuilders, and brass moulders as quiet; pattern makers, blacksmiths and shipwrights as fair; drillers as moderate. Branches of societies with 2,513 members report 166 (or 6.6 per cent.), as unemployed, compared with 195 (or 7.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

*Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.*—Cabinet makers report employment as quiet; upholsterers as dull; sawmillers and wood-working machine men as fair.

*Dock Labour.*—Employment has been good.

*Fishing Industry.*—At Dundee 102 trawlers landed 5,551 boxes of fish, and 138 scores of cod. Coast line fishing, although interfered with by stormy weather, has been fair.

*Miscellaneous.*—Employment in the printing and allied trades and with bakers is reported as fair; with boot and shoe makers and bleachfield workers as dull; with tailors as moderate.—J. Mann.

**Aberdeen and District.**

*General.*—Branches of societies with 3,403 members have 101 (or 3.0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 98 (or 2.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

*Quarrying.*—The masons report employment as good; granite polishers and sett makers as fair.

*Transport Trades.*—The railway workers and tramway employees



EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)

(For employment in Building, Coal and Iron Mining and Tinplate Trades, Agricultural Labour and London Dock Labour, see Articles on pp. 15-19.)

report employment as good; dock labourers as dull; hackney carriage drivers and carters as fair.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—The boilermakers and iron and steel shipbuilders report employment as moderate; shipwrights, tinplate workers, blacksmiths, pattern makers, and horse shoers as fair; engineers and ironmoulders as bad; brassfinishers as good. Branches of societies with 1,252 members have 37 (or 3.0 per cent.) idle, compared with 28 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

**Clothing and Textile Trades.**—The tailors and tailoresses, and boot and shoe operatives report employment as quiet; boot and shoe makers as fair; mill and factory workers as good.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is reported as good.

**Fishing.**—At the port of Aberdeen, in December, trawl and line boats landed 91,913 cwts. valued at £59,381, a decrease both in quantity and value as compared with the previous month.

**Miscellaneous.**—The upholsterers report employment as quiet; saddlers, sawmillers, and general labourers as fair; comb makers, cabinet makers and gas workers as good; bakers as bad; engine and fire men as dull.—*W. Johnston.*

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

**Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Trades.**—Employment generally continues slack. Steam engine makers, smiths, whit-smiths, tinsmiths and electric workers report employment as fair; hammermen and farriers as good; boilermakers as moderate; other branches as bad. Branches of societies with 1,407 members, have 118 (or 8.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 119 (or 8.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Coopers are busy. Cart and wagon builders and carpet planners report employment as fair; brushmakers, saddlers and cabinet makers as dull; coach makers as bad.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment generally continues to improve, all branches except stereotypers being well employed. Branches of societies with 1,401 members have 87 (or 6.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 98 (or 7.0 per cent. of their membership), at the end of November.

**Clothing and Textile Trades.**—Employment is fair with all branches.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with bakers, purveyors' assistants, bottle makers and stationary engine drivers is fair; mineral water operatives and labourers report it as bad; tramway and railway men as moderate.—*E. L. Richardson.*

Belfast District.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.**—Branches of societies with 8,985 members have 288 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 234 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The boilermakers and iron shipbuilders report employment as slack; sailmakers, general labourers, and platers' helpers as dull; blacksmiths, blacksmiths' strikers and helpers, and ironfounders as moderate; engineers as quiet; carpenters and joiners, machine workers, drillers, steam engine makers, ship riggers, enginemen, cranemen, and firemen, and sheet metal workers as fair; brassfounders, pattern makers, shipwrights, and the furnishing trades as good.

**Linen Trades.**—Branches of societies with 3,698 members have 83 (or 2.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 63 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The beetlers and flax roughers report employment as quiet; flax dressers as moderate; linen lappers, power loom yarn dressers and bundlers as fair; hackle and gill makers, power loom tenters, and women workers as improved.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Branches of societies with 1,021 members have 65 (or 6.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 55 (or 5.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The coachbuilders report employment as bad; coopers as dull; upholsterers as quiet; cabinet makers, brush makers, french polishers, and packing case makers as fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Societies with 891 members have 61 (or 6.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 70 (or 7.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The lithographic printers report employment as bad; bookbinders and machine rulers and letterpress printers as fair; lithographic artists as good.

**Clothing Trades.**—The tailors report employment as quiet; boot and shoe makers as improved.

**Miscellaneous.**—Societies with 1,808 members have 46 (or 2.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 50 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The square sett makers report employment as bad; vehicle workers as slack; bakers, butchers, and paviors as fair; locomotive engine drivers, railway workers, and municipal employees as good.—*R. Sheldon.*

Cork and District.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Boiler makers, iron shipbuilders and engineers report employment as fair in Haulbowline and Cork, as moderate in Passage West and Limerick, as dull in Waterford; shipwrights and ship joiners as dull.

**Textile and Clothing Trades.**—Employment with flax, tweed and feather operatives is fair; with bespoke tailors, ready-made tailoring operatives and boot and shoe operatives dull.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Coach makers, cabinet makers and packing-case makers report employment as moderate; mill sawyers and woodworking machinists as dull; coopers as moderate in Cork, Limerick and Waterford; as dull elsewhere.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is reported as good with railway and tramway workmen, brewery and distillery workers, and corporation and harbour board employees; as fair with bakers and gas workers; as dull with printers.—*P. O'Shea.*

UNITED STATES CENSUS, 1900.

From the Twelfth Census of the United States it appears that the population of the United States (excluding the districts added since March 3rd, 1899), in June 1900, was 76,303,387, two and a quarter times as large as in 1850. Since 1890, it had increased by 13,681,137, or 21.8 per cent.

The total population of the Continental United States was 75,994,575, and the following Table shows the proportions of urban and rural populations. The definition of city population here adopted is the population living in incorporated places having at least 2,500 inhabitants, and, in addition, the population of New England towns of like size and not containing an incorporated place:—

	Population.			Percentage of Population.	
	Total.	Of Cities.	Of Country Districts.	In Cities.	In Country Districts.
Continental United States	75,994,575	30,583,411	45,411,164	40.2	59.8

Wage earners employed in manufacturing establishments of the United States numbered 5,321,087, as against 957,059 in 1850, and 4,251,613 in 1890; but it should be noted that in 1900, the method used for obtaining the average number of wage earners was different from that previously adopted, and may have resulted in a variation of the number. The average yearly earnings of the 5,321,087 wage earners employed in manufacturing establishments, including men, women and children, was £91. Of the total 4,120,716, or 77.4 per cent., were men above 16 years, whose average yearly earnings were £102, 1,031,747, or 19.4 per cent. were women above 16 years, whose average yearly earnings were £57, and 168,624, or 3.2 per cent., were children under 16 years, whose average yearly earnings were £32.

The following Table gives some information with regard to 4 industries, each of which in 1900 gave employment to more than 200,000 wage earners, and together employed 19.9 per cent. of the total average number of wage earners employed in manufactures in the United States:—

Industry.	Average number of wage earners		Average yearly earnings, 1900.
	In 1900.	Percentage increase, 1890-1900.	
Cotton manufacture	302,861	38.4	£ 60
Lumber and timber products	283,260	9.2*	77
Wool manufacture, not including fur hats and wool pulling	245,141	13.5	71
Iron and steel	226,161	32.1	113
Other manufacturing industries	4,263,664	27.9	94
Total	5,321,087	25.2	91

\* Decrease.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN DECEMBER.

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

The total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during December was 366, or 4 less than in November, and 95 less than in December, 1901.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary Table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,678,103 persons (according to the latest available figures), 338 persons were reported killed and 8,244 injured by accidents in December, 1902, as compared with 430 reported killed and 7,580 injured in December, 1901. These figures give one death in December, 1902, for every 16,799 persons employed in those industries. During the year 1902, 3,919 persons were reported killed and 98,639 injured, as against 4,183 reported killed and 94,455 injured in 1901.

In the remaining occupations included in the Tables, 28 persons were reported killed and 1,260 injured in December, 1902, as compared with 31 reported killed and 1,057 injured in December, 1901.

SUMMARY TABLE.

	Killed.		Injured.		Number Employed according to latest Returns.
	Dec., 1902.	Dec., 1901.	Dec., 1902.	Dec., 1901.	
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Accidents connected with movement of vehicles	40	66	351	387	575,834
Other Accidents	—	1	848	837	
Total Railway Service	40	67	1,199	1,224	575,834
<b>Mines</b>	84	92	324	335	839,178
<b>Quarries (over 20 feet deep)</b>	8	9	143	81	94,188
<b>Shipping</b>	120	183	166	126	239,690*
<b>Factories</b>	86	79	6,412	5,814	3,929,213
Total of above	338	430	8,244	7,580	5,678,103
<b>Workshops</b>	—	1	17	20	Cannot be stated.
<b>Under Factory Act, 1901, Ss. 103-5</b>	24	26	1,116	888	
<b>Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894</b>	4	2	114	139	
<b>Railway Contractors' Servants</b>	—	2	13	10	
<b>Grand Total</b>	366	461	9,504	8,637	

DETAILED TABLES.

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.	
	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.	By other Accidents on the Companies' Premises.	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.	By other Accidents on the Companies' Premises.	Killed.	Injured.
<b>Railway Service—</b>						
Brakemen and Goods Guards	7	65	—	36	7	101
Engine Drivers	1	28	—	50	1	78
Firemen	2	45	—	79	2	115
Guards (Passenger)	—	10	—	8	—	18
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	10	10	—	105	10	115
Porters	3	44	—	214	3	258
Shunters	1	58	—	8	1	66
Miscellaneous	16	91	—	357	16	448
Contractors' Servants	—	3	—	10	—	13
Total for December, 1902	40	354	—	858	40	1,212
Total for December, 1901	67	388	2	840	69	1,294
<b>Mines—</b>						
Explosions of Firedamp	3	14	—	—	3	14
Falls of ground	37	123	—	37	37	123
Shaft accidents	8	12	—	—	8	12
Miscellaneous	24	138	12	37	36	175
Total for December, 1902	72	287	12	37	84	324
Total for December, 1901	74	288	18	47	92	335
<b>Quarries over 20 feet deep.</b>						
Explosives or Blasting	1	16	—	—	1	16
Falls of ground	4	32	—	—	4	32
During Ascent or Descent	—	1	—	—	—	1
Miscellaneous	2	76	1	18	3	94
Total for December, 1902	7	125	1	18	8	143
Total for December, 1901	7	65	2	16	9	81

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.	
	By Wreck or Casualty.	By other Accidents.	By Wreck or Casualty.	By other Accidents.	Killed.	Injured.
<b>Shipping*—</b>						
On Trading Vessels—						
Sailing	13	—	22	8	35	8
Steam	17	—	58	145	75	145
On Fishing Vessels—						
Sailing	—	—	1	—	1	—
Steam	3	2	6	11	9	13
Total for December, 1902	33	2	87	164	120	166
Total for 3 months, Oct. to December, 1902	85	11	216	468	301	479
Total for 3 months, Oct. to December, 1901	317	9	189	487	506	446

	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
<b>Factories—</b>						
(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons—						
Adults	81	1,506	—	200	81	1,706
Young Persons	5	449	—	101	5	550
Children	—	22	—	8	—	30
Total	86	1,977	—	309	86	2,286
(b) Other Accidents—						
Adults	—	3,510	—	60	—	3,570
Young Persons	—	493	—	49	—	542
Children	—	8	—	6	—	14
Total	—	4,011	—	115	—	4,126
Total Factories—						
December, 1902	86	5,988	—	424	86	6,412
December, 1901	78	5,419	1	395	79	5,814

	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
<b>Workshops—</b>						
Adults	—	11	—	—	—	11
Young Persons	—	5	—	1	—	6
Children	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Workshops—						
December, 1902	—	16	—	1	—	17
December, 1901	—	19	1	1	1	20

	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
<b>Factories &amp; Workshops (classified by trades).</b>						
<b>Textiles—</b>						
Cotton	3	283	—	159	3	442
Wool and Worsted	3	888	—	59	3	147
Other Textiles	1	54	—	55	1	109
<b>Non-Textiles—</b>						
Extraction of Metals	9	185	—	9	9	185
Founding and Conversion of Metals	7	934	—	9	7	943
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	—	588	—	—	—	588
Ship and Boat Building	15	859	—	—	15	859
Wood	1	274	—	1	1	275
Chemicals, &c.	11	183	—	7	11	190
Other Non-Textile Industries	36	2,556	—	135	36	2,691
Total for December, 1902	86	6,004	—	425	86	6,429
Total for December, 1901	78	5,438	2	396	80	5,834

	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
<b>Under Factory Act, 1901, Ss. 103-5—</b>						
Docks, Wharves and Quays	14	476	—	—	14	476
Warehouses	3	396	—	—	3	396
Buildings to which Act applies	7	213	—	2	7	215
Laundries	—	8	—	21	—	29
Total for December, 1902	24	1,093	—	23	24	1,116
Total for December, 1901	36	878	—	16	36	888

	Construction or Repair.		Use or Working.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
<b>Under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894—</b>						
Bridge	—	3	—	—	—	3
Canal	—	1	—	2	—	3
Railway	2	33	—	—	2	33
Tramroad	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tramway	1	2	—	22	1	24
Tunnel	—	23	—	—	—	23
Other Works	1	27	—	1	1	28
Traction Engines	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total for December, 1902	4	89	—	25	4	114



CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN DECEMBER, 1902.

(Based on information obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned.)

Summary.—The net effect of all the changes in rates of wages reported during December was an increase averaging 4 1/4 d. weekly per head in the wages of the 20,448 workpeople affected.

The principal advances reported affected 4,000 slate quarrymen at Festiniog, and 5,500 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham.

Methods of Arrangement.—Two changes, affecting 665 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards, and 12 changes, affecting 15,559 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales.

Summary of Changes in 1902.—See special article on p 3.

NOTE.—It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c., are not recorded here.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

PAUPERISM IN DECEMBER.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in December was 361,062, corresponding to a rate of 215 per 10,000 of the population of those districts in 1902.

Compared with November, 1902, there was an increase of 12,768 in the number relieved, and of 7 in the rate per 10,000 of the population.

Compared with December, 1901, the number of persons relieved has increased by 15,603, and the rate per 10,000 of the population by 6.

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of December, 1902, Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with.

Table with columns: ENGLAND & WALES, Metropolitan, Other Districts, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, Total for above Scottish Districts, Total for above Irish Districts, Total for above 35 Districts in December, 1902.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN DECEMBER.

DURING December the six Bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,987 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,236 registered in December, 1901, an increase of 751.

The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at end of December was 1,015, as against 583 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in December.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during, No. of Situations offered by Employers during, No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureau.

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during December, 1902.

Table with columns: Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities, Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities, Grand Total for 6 Bureaux.

(III.) Usual Occupations of Workpeople on Registers at end of month.

Table with columns: Occupation, No. on Registers at end of, Dec., 1902, Dec., 1901, Grand Total for 6 Bureaux.

\* 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 House.

\* Engaged by Salvation Army.

\* Exclusive of overtime. Where the summer and winter hours are known to differ in any trade the weekly rate given in the Table is the result of averaging the wages for the summer and winter periods.



TRADE DISPUTES IN DECEMBER.\*

**Number and Magnitude.**—Fifteen disputes began in December, compared with 24 in November and 14 in the corresponding month of last year. By the 15 disputes 2,215 workpeople were directly and 1,713 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before December and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, give a total of 15,830 workpeople involved in trade disputes during the month, compared with 19,797 in November, 1902, and 13,982 in December, 1901.

**New Disputes in December, 1902.**—In the following Table the new disputes in December are summarised by trades affected:—

New Disputes in December.

Group of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building ... ..	1	10	...	10
Coal Mining ... ..	8	1,163	1,747	2,910
Engineering and Shipbuilding... ..	3	883	566	1,449
Other Trades ... ..	3	159	...	159
<b>Total, December, 1902 ... ..</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>1,713</b>	<b>3,928</b>
Ditto, November, 1902 ... ..	24	4,987	1,449	6,436
Ditto, December, 1901 ... ..	14	1,861	1,386	3,247

**Causes.**—Of the 15 new disputes, 5 arose on demands for advances in wages, 3 on objections to reductions,

3 on other wages questions, 3 as to hours of labour, and 1 on a question of working arrangements.

**Results.**—Seven new disputes affecting 2,644 workpeople and 5 old disputes affecting 367 workpeople, were reported as having terminated in December. Of these 12 new and old disputes, 3, involving 155 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople, 6, involving 1,598 persons, were decided in favour of the employers, and 2, involving 1,205 persons, were compromised. In the case of the remaining dispute, involving 53 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

**Aggregate Duration.**—The aggregate duration in December of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 63,000 days. In addition 246,000 working days were lost in December owing to disputes that began before that month and are still unsettled. Thus, the total number of working days lost in December owing to all disputes, new and old, was 309,000, which compares with 308,000 days in the previous month and 164,000 days in the corresponding month of last year.

**Summary for the Year 1902.**—See special article on p. 3.

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began in 1902.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.†	Result.†
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
Colliers and Other Colliery Workpeople	Pontypridd ...	427	348	1 Dec.	32	Alleged restriction of production by the workmen, and the want of a price list in a certain seam	Amicable arrangement arrived at by compromise.
Shipwrights, Drillers, Fitters, Platers' Helpers, &c., Riveters, Platers, Boys, &c.	Middlesbrough	283	336	3 Dec.	...	On account of firm's decision to place the works on three-quarter time	No settlement reported.
Platers, Riveters, Cutters, Holders-up, Helpers and Boys	West Hartlepool	200	230	3 Dec.	5	Against proposed reduction in wages of 5 per cent. on repairing work	Reduction to take effect from 14th January, 1903.

\* 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 working days.  
† The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked-out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN DECEMBER, 1902.

The only change in hours of labour reported during December was one affecting 50 Blastfurnacemen at Briton Ferry, whose working hours were reduced on 1st December to 56 per week, the reduction per head being 28 hours per week.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

**Cotton Statistics.**—The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of December and also during the year 1902, with comparative figures for 1901 and 1900:—

	Month of December.			Year ended December.		
	1902.	1901.	1900.	1902.	1901.	1900.
Imported...	Bales. 685,190	Bales. 675,693	Bales. 584,270	Bales. 3,811,155	Bales. 3,742,844	Bales. 3,672,938
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns...	333,914	296,201	300,376	3,237,670	3,092,517	3,061,887
Exported...	44,741	57,799	69,546	463,482	357,799	400,254

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns during the years 1902, 1901 and 1900 respectively, are given in the following table:—

Description of Cotton forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.	1902.			1901.			1900.		
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American ... ..	2,634,035	2,641,584	2,517,284	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brazilian ... ..	177,923	62,262	118,407	...	...	...	...	...	...
East Indian ... ..	18,718	33,095	16,902	...	...	...	...	...	...
Egyptian ... ..	325,007	271,741	341,070	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous ... ..	81,987	85,835	68,224	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>3,237,670</b>	<b>3,092,517</b>	<b>3,061,887</b>	...	...	...	...	...	...

**Traffic Receipts.**—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended January 3rd amounted to £6,712,910, an increase of £340,790 (or 5.3 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The receipts from passenger traffic were £2,990,540, an increase of £100,856, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,722,370, an increase of £239,934.

**Fishery Statistics.**—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during December was £680,859, a decrease of £19,827 as compared with December, 1901. In England and Wales there was a decrease of £8,933, in Scotland a decrease of £19,968, and in Ireland an increase of £9,074.

**Bankruptcies.**—The bankruptcies gazetted during December numbered 322, being 14 less than in December, 1901, 7 less than in December, 1900, and 24 less than in December, 1899. The total number for the year was 4,196 in 1902, 4,232 in 1901, 4,386 in 1900, and 4,121 in 1899.

FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

Summary for December.

The Trade returns for December, 1902, show an increase in the value as compared with the corresponding month of 1901 of the Imports into the United Kingdom, but a decrease in the value of the Exports of British produce, and of the Exports of Foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the Imports in December, 1902, was £48,170,628, an increase of £1,400,531, or 3 per cent., as compared with those in December, 1901, whilst the total Exports amounted to £29,693,682, showing a total decrease of £532,342. The Exports of British produce alone show a decrease of £94,537, or 4 per cent., as compared with December, 1901, whilst there is a decrease of £437,805, or 7.4 per cent., in the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

**Imports.**—The following Table shows the value of the Imports for December, 1902, as compared with the corresponding months of 1901 and 1900, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month ended 31st Dec.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1902 as compared with 1901.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1902 as compared with 1900.
	1900.	1901.	1902.		
I. Animals, living (for food)	£ 732,618	£ 630,089	£ 637,018	+ 6,929	- 95,600
II. Articles of food and drink	18,357,413	18,586,962	17,946,926	- 640,036	- 405,487
Tobacco ... ..	434,033	466,393	471,468	+ 5,075	+ 37,435
III. Metals ... ..	2,980,731	2,439,027	2,541,297	+ 102,270	- 439,434
IV. Chemicals, dyestuffs and tanning substances ...	408,700	468,252	438,835	- 29,417	+ 30,135
V. Oils ... ..	856,491	913,071	856,196	- 56,875	295
VI. Raw materials for textile manufactures ...	9,454,147	10,083,900	11,187,863	+ 1,103,963	+ 1,733,716
VII. Raw materials for sundry industries and manufactures ...	4,156,302	4,288,172	4,485,381	+ 197,209	+ 349,079
VIII. Manufactured articles ...	7,440,335	7,058,800	7,925,353	+ 866,553	+ 485,018
IX. (A.) Miscellaneous articles	1,598,029	1,753,909	1,581,708	- 172,201	- 16,321
(B.) Parcel post ... ..	54,863	81,522	98,593	+ 17,061	+ 45,720
<b>Total value ... ..</b>	<b>46,446,662</b>	<b>46,770,097</b>	<b>48,170,628</b>	<b>+ 1,400,531</b>	<b>+ 1,723,966</b>

**Exports.**—The following Table shows the value of the exports of British produce for the month of December, 1902, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1901 and 1900, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month ended 31st December.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1902 as compared with 1901.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1902 as compared with 1900.
	1900.	1901.	1902.		
I. Animals, living ... ..	£ 60,132	£ 66,014	£ 81,420	+ 15,406	+ 21,888
II. Articles of food and drink	1,189,741	1,254,700	1,452,575	+ 197,875	+ 262,834
III. Raw materials ... ..	3,293,001	2,562,309	2,698,276	+ 135,967	- 594,725
IV. Articles manufactured and partly manufactured, viz.:—					
(A.) Yarns and textile fabrics ... ..	8,630,294	9,053,113	8,888,549	- 164,564	+ 258,255
(B.) Metals and articles manufactured therefrom (except machinery and ships) ... ..	3,087,981	2,953,781	3,632,948	+ 679,167	+ 544,967
(C.) Machinery & millwork	1,591,854	1,352,459	1,572,081	+ 219,622	- 21,773
(D.) Ships, new (not registered as British) ... ..	857,322	1,950,847	252,461	- 1,698,386	- 604,861
(E.) Apparel and articles of personal use ... ..	924,878	1,010,035	1,176,256	+ 166,221	+ 251,378
(F.) Chemicals & chemical and medicinal preparations ... ..	721,425	665,306	696,587	+ 31,281	- 24,838
(G.) All other articles, either manufactured or partly manufactured ... ..	2,958,186	3,104,203	3,418,014	+ 313,811	+ 450,828
(H.) Parcel post ... ..	295,158	341,010	350,073	+ 9,063	+ 54,915
<b>Total value ... ..</b>	<b>23,611,972</b>	<b>24,313,777</b>	<b>24,219,240</b>	<b>- 94,537</b>	<b>- 607,268</b>

**Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes.**—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended December, 1902, amounted to 3,220,357 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,684,640 tons, as against 3,184,329 tons entered and 3,358,332 tons cleared in the month of December, 1901. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during December, 1902, amounted to 2,543,402 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,533,643 tons, as against 2,429,853 tons entered, and 2,409,662 tons cleared in December, 1901.

The Year's Trade—1902.

The total aggregate value of the trade of the United Kingdom for the year 1902, as compared with 1901 and 1900, was as follows:—

	1900.	1901.	1902.
Imports ... ..	£ 523,075,000	£ 521,990,000	£ 528,860,000
Exports:			
British and Irish Produce ... ..	291,192,000	280,022,000	283,540,000
Foreign and Colonial Produce ... ..	63,182,000	67,842,000	65,811,000
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>877,449,000</b>	<b>869,854,000</b>	<b>878,211,000</b>

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

**Total Emigration.**—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during December was 19,660, as compared with 12,504 in December, 1901. During the year 1902\* the number of passengers was 387,116, being 84,541 (or 27.9 per cent.) more than in 1901.

**British and Irish.**—Of the 19,660 passengers in December, 8,937 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 1,744 as compared with a year ago. For the twelve months of 1902\* the total number was 205,910, as compared with 171,715 in the year 1901, an increase of 34,195 (or 19.9 per cent.), chiefly accounted for by the larger numbers bound for South Africa and British North America.

The following Table gives the figures for the different periods:—

Destination (Country in which passengers contracted to land).	Dec., 1902.	Dec., 1901.	Total for year ended	
			Dec., 1902.	Dec., 1901.
United States ... ..	3,398	2,533	108,501	104,195
British North America ... ..	838	422	26,407	15,757
Australasia ... ..	978	1,131	14,408	15,350
South Africa ... ..	2,620	2,072	43,224	23,143
Other Places ... ..	1,053	1,035	13,370	13,270
<b>Total, British and Irish ... ..</b>	<b>8,937</b>	<b>7,193</b>	<b>205,910</b>	<b>171,715</b>

**Foreign.**—The remainder of the 19,660 passengers in December, viz., 10,723, were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 5,412 more than in December, 1901. For the years 1902 and 1901 the numbers are 181,206 and 130,860 respectively, the difference being chiefly due to increases in the numbers proceeding to the United States and British North America.

**Alien Immigration.**—During December 11,124 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these 5,599 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, an increase of 3,106 as compared with December, 1901. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 4,695 (exclusive of seamen), or 1,523 more than a year ago. For the year 1902\* the number of aliens en route to America or elsewhere was 118,466, and the number not so stated 66,363 (exclusive of sailors), compared with 79,140 and 55,464 respectively in 1901. The figures for December, 1902 and 1901, and also for each of the years 1902 and 1901, are as follows:—

	Dec., 1902.	Dec., 1901.	Total for year ended	
			Dec., 1902.	Dec., 1901.
Aliens not stated in the Alien lists to be en route to other countries	830	882	15,039	15,146
Aliens stated in the Alien lists to be en route to other countries	4,695	3,172	66,363	55,464
<b>Gross Total ... ..</b>	<b>11,124</b>	<b>6,547</b>	<b>159,868</b>	<b>149,750</b>

Information for Intending Emigrants.

The free quarterly circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office were issued on January 1st, and contain information to intending emigrants as to the demand for labour, rates of wages, and cost of living. Particulars are also given as to the cost of reaching the various colonies, the arrangements at each for receiving emigrants, and as to various other matters of interest to emigrants. Copies of the circulars can be obtained free, on application to the Chief Clerk, Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

\* The figures for the year 1902 are subject to correction in the annual returns.



### WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN DECEMBER.

DURING December 532 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 517 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 180 persons, of whom 96 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 439 to 378, and the number of servants applying from 395 to 261; the number permanently engaged fell from 93 to 69. The demand for dress-makers, milliners, etc., fell from 47 to 41, and the number requiring such situations from 67 to 65; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 39, compared with 37 in November.

The Returns for the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the seven Bureaux during December:—

#### WORK DONE IN DECEMBER.

	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Work-people seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
			Permanently.	Temporarily.
<b>Summary by Bureaux.</b>				
Central Bureau— 9, Southampton-street, W.C. ...	52	77	13	7
Society for Promoting Training and Employment— 22, Berners-street, W. ...	29	29	4	23
Y.W.C.A.— 26, George-street (1) ...	354	277	51	19
Hanover-square, W. (2) ...	47	89	12	28
Other Bureaux ...	35	60	21	2
<b>Total of 7 Bureaux ...</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Summary by Occupations.</b>				
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc. ...	15	37	3	—
Shop Assistants ...	5	5	—	2
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc. ...	41	65	12	27
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists ...	25	48	3	16
Apprentices and Learners ...	7	9	2	3
Domestic Servants ...	378	261	69	27
Miscellaneous ...	46	107	12	4
<b>Total Number in Dec., 1902 ...</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Total Number in Nov., 1902 ...</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Total Number in Dec. 1901 ...</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>60</b>

### AUTUMN HIRINGS IN CUMBERLAND, WESTMORLAND AND LANCASHIRE.

INFORMATION as to the rates of wages agreed upon at the half-yearly hiring fairs held at Martinmas (November) in Cumberland, Westmorland and North Lancashire has been received from a correspondent who made special inquiries on behalf of the Department. Wages showed no material change as compared with the preceding half-year. Best men and boys are stated to have been in good demand, while there were more second-class men on offer than usual, and more girls attended the Ulverston fair than in former years. At the Appleby hiring, which is attended by masters and men from the West Riding of Yorkshire, it is reported that wages were reduced by 10s. to £1. in a few cases.

The following are the rates of wages generally agreed upon:—Best men, £18 to £20; second-class men, £14 to £17; youths and boys, £6 to £14; best women £13; to £15; second women and girls, £5 to £12.

### CENSUS OF NEW SOUTH WALES, 1901.

BULLETIN 18 of the Census of New South Wales of 1901 states that the number of persons employed in manufactories and works in 1901 was 66,135 (54,461 males and 11,674 females), as against 47,958 (42,728 males and 5,230 females) in 1891. The average yearly wages per head of those employed in 1901 was about £75, compared with about £100 in 1891.

### INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN DECEMBER.

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

#### UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Societies registered in December was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 2; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 20; under the Friendly Societies Act, 91 (including 64 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 2; in all, 115.

Among the new societies registered in December were the following:—

**Trade Unions.**—*England.*—2, viz., Journeymen Butchers' Federation of Great Britain, White Hart Hotel, Peel-square, Barnsley; Stanley and District Builders' Labourers' Union, Stanley Hotel, Front-street, Stanley, Durham. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—*Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution*, 3, viz., Bridgend Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 19, Mackworth-street, Bridgend; Boston Working Men's Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 92, High-street, Boston; Doddington and District Collecting Depot, Ltd, Doddington, Sittingbourne. *Scotland.*—*Miscellaneous Societies*, 2 Workmen's Clubs and 1 other. *Ireland.*—*Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution*, 9, viz., Kilraughts Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., Kilraughts, co. Antrim; Bray Co-op. Hort. and Home Industries Soc., Ltd., Bray, co. Wicklow; Irish Ireland Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 7, South Richmond-street, Dublin; Co. Meath Home Industries Soc., Ltd., the Depot, Navan; Upper Iveagh Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., Loughbrickland, co. Down; Co. Kerry Co-op. Fruit Growers' Soc., Ltd., Tralee; South Kildare Agric. Soc., Ltd., Town Hall, Athy; Whitecross Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Whitecross, co. Armagh; Naas Co-op. Industries Soc., Ltd., Naas, co. Kildare. *Co-operative Societies mainly for Production*, 5, viz., Dervock Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Dervock, co. Antrim; Munterconnaught Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Knockaraheen, co. Cavan; Castlerahan Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Castlerahan, co. Cavan; Mohill Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Mohill, co. Leitrim; Drumgorland Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Gargory, co. Down.

#### UNIONS AND SOCIETIES DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled in December, was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 6; under the Friendly Societies Act, 44 (including 26 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 12; in all 63. Among these were the following:—

**Trade Unions.**—*England.*—1, viz., Cast Iron Hollow-ware Tanners' Friendly and Trade Soc., Bradford Arms Inn, Commercial-road, Wolverhampton. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England.*—6, viz., Blackburn Industrious Bees Co-op. Soc., Ltd. (amalgamated with Grimshaw Park Co-op. Soc.); Bedford Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 31 and 33, Gwyn-street, Bedford; Newcastle-on-Tyne Co-op. Cabinet-makers' Soc., Ltd., Hammond-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Highfields Freehold Land Soc., Ltd., 72, Frederick-road Leicester; Hipperholme Working Men's Coal Club Soc., Ltd., The Green, Hipperholme, Halifax; Newcastle-under-Lyme Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Merrial-street, Newcastle-under-Lyme. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

#### H.M. Inspectors of Factories.

*New Appointment.*—Mr. George Leopold Crampton has been appointed an Inspector of Factories and Workshops under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901. His official address will be 39, Victoria-street, London, S.W.

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