

CHAPTER III.—EMPLOYMENT.

§ 1. Industrial Disputes.

1. **General.**—The collection of information regarding industrial disputes (strikes and lock-outs) in Australia was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913, and particulars relating thereto, for the first complete year, were published in Labour Report No. 5, Section XI. An examination of official reports, newspapers, and other publications showed, however, that there was insufficient material for the compilation of complete information for years prior to 1913.

2. **Collection of Information.**—Information as to the occurrence of an industrial dispute is derived from a number of sources, of which the following are the most important :— (a) Newspapers, trade and labour journals, and other publications ; (b) reports by labour agents and correspondents ; (c) official notifications from heads of various Commonwealth and State Departments, and (d) quarterly reports by secretaries of trade unions.

On receipt of information regarding the existence of an industrial dispute involving stoppage of work, forms* are despatched to the several parties concerned, viz., secretaries of trade unions, employers' organizations, and individual employers. The first portions of these forms must be returned immediately, and they provide for information as to (a) locality in which the dispute exists ; (b) its cause or object ; (c) date of commencement ; and (d) number of persons involved directly and indirectly. The second portions of the forms, which must be returned as soon as the dispute is terminated, provide for (a) date of termination ; (b) conditions or terms on which work was resumed ; (c) method by which settlement was effected ; (d) estimated loss in wages ; and (e) number of workpeople affected, etc., if the terms of the settlement involved a change in rates of wage or hours of labour.

3. **Methods of Tabulation.**—Where the information furnished by one party to the dispute substantially agrees with that furnished by the other, the facts are considered to be accurate, and the particulars are accepted for tabulation. In all cases where discrepancies or inconsistent accounts are received, special inquiries are instituted, generally through the labour agents and correspondents. The whole of the available information is then tabulated, and while the summarized results do not necessarily agree with the testimony of a single individual, they harmonize with the evidence of the majority or of those whose returns appear to be most reliable. Disputes involving less than ten work people, or which lasted for less than one day, except where the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded ten days, are, however, excluded. The information received is tabulated under four headings :— (a) Number of establishments involved ; (b) number of workpeople involved (i.) directly and (ii.) indirectly ; (c) number of working days lost ; and (d) estimated loss in wages.

* As these forms have been prescribed under the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*, it is compulsory for prescribed persons to furnish the information required.

4. **Definitions of Terms.**—Industrial disputes involving stoppage of work may be classified under three headings, viz., (a) strikes, (b) lock-outs; or (c) sympathetic strikes, and the following definitions* have been adopted:—

- (a) A strike is defined as a concerted withdrawal from work by some or all of the employees of an establishment or of several establishments, with a view to enforcing a demand on the part of the employees, or of resisting some demand made by their employers.
- (b) A lock-out is a refusal by an employer or several employers to permit some or all of their employees to continue at work, such refusal being made to enforce a demand by the employers, or to resist some demand by their employees.
- (c) A sympathetic strike is one in which the employees of an establishment or of several establishments make no demand for their own benefit, but leave work in order to assist employees of some other establishment or establishments on strike or locked out, for the purpose of enforcing or resisting a demand

In view of the difficulty which may occur in distinguishing clearly whether a stoppage of work constitutes a strike or a lock-out, for the purposes of these investigations all stoppages coming within the definitions adopted are grouped under the generic term "industrial dispute."

"Establishment" means the place of work or business carried on by a person, firm, company, or Government Department. Shops, factories, places of business, or construction or repairing works of different employers in the same locality, or of the same employer in different localities, are considered as separate establishments.

"Workpeople directly involved in dispute"† includes only those workpeople who actually joined in the demand and who, on refusal of such demand, ceased work. In the case of a lock-out, the term is used to include the number of workpeople whom the employer refused to allow to work unless they complied with his demand.

"Workpeople indirectly involved in dispute" refers only to those employees who were involuntarily thrown out of work as the result of an industrial dispute caused by certain other employees going on strike, or through an employer or employers locking out certain other employees whose absence rendered it impossible for work to proceed in the establishment or establishments affected by the dispute. When one section of employees is engaged in an industrial dispute, such dispute frequently causes loss of time to other employees in occupations dependent upon those followed by the workpeople actually on strike or locked out.

* It must be observed, however, that certain stoppages of work do not come within these definitions: such as those where the relationship of employer and employee does not exist, e.g., rabbit trappers who refused to supply rabbits to freezing companies because the companies declined to pay an advanced price, and labourers refusing to commence work at the rate of wage offered. It has been held judicially that a refusal to commence or to continue work does not constitute a strike, unless such refusal is a breach of an existing contract of employment. Again, stoppages of work for the purpose of holding meetings are not designated industrial disputes, seeing that the stoppages are not necessarily for the purpose of enforcing or resisting demands. The majority of these meetings are held during working hours to ensure a full attendance, and are generally called to discuss some question with a view to action thereon.

† The same persons may be involved in two or more disputes in a single year, in which case there would be some duplication. This remark also applies to those workpeople involuntarily thrown out of work.

“Working days lost” refers to time lost in consequence of the dispute, and the figure therefor is obtained by multiplying the number of workpeople directly and indirectly involved by the number of days during which the dispute was in existence.

In computing the duration of a dispute in working days, Sundays (except where continuous processes are carried on) and holidays are excluded. It is generally considered that had a dispute not occurred, the employment would have been constant, and allowance is not made for short time work due to slackness of trade, etc. This, of course, is not precisely correct, but in the absence of a complete investigation as to the amount of unemployment due to seasonal trades, or intermittency in trade activity, no definite allowance can be made.

“Estimated Loss in Wages” is computed, and represents the amount in wages which would have been earned by the workpeople involved had a stoppage not taken place. The element of unemployment also enters into this phase of the statistics. Further, in some industrial work (*e.g.*, shearing and sugar-cane cutting) the quantity of work available is definite, and the amount to be earned in wages in executing the work is not reduced because it has not been commenced and finished within a reasonable period.

In all quarterly tabulations, which, however, are published only in the “Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics,” particulars of disputes which commenced within the quarterly period (so far as they relate to the number of working days and wages lost) are separated from those respecting disputes which had commenced in a previous quarter but which had not been settled within that period.

In annual* tabulations, particulars are included of all disputes which commenced or were current during the year under review. As regards “number of disputes,” and “number of establishments involved,” therefore, duplication will take place in respect of those disputes which started in, and were uncompleted at the end of, a preceding year; the number involved is, however, indicated in a footnote.

5. Other Particulars.—The information obtained from the before-mentioned tabulations forms the basis for further analysis, and data are thus afforded with respect to the following:—(a) The duration of disputes; (b) the causes of disputes; (c) the results of disputes; and (d) the methods by which settlements of disputes were effected.

6 Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1926.—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1926, in industrial groups. A list of the 14 groups included in the classification will be found in the preface. Similar information for the years 1913 to 1925 was published in Labour Reports Nos. 5 to 16.

* For years prior to 1922, however, the figures include complete particulars of industrial disputes which commenced during any calendar year; and where any such dispute extended into a subsequent year, the relative figures were also incorporated in those for the year in which the dispute commenced.

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1926a.

Class.	Industrial Group.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Estab. Involved.	No. of Workpeople Involved.			No. of Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
New South Wales—								
I.	Wood, sawmill, timber, etc. . .	2	2	54	9	63	728	767
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. . .	11	320	8,022	125	8,147	226,976	213,755
III.	Food, drink, etc., manufacturing and distribution . . .	5	5	294	230	574	1,026	635
IV.	Clothing, hats, boots, etc. . .	1	1	31	..	31	724	87
V.	Books, printing, bookbinding . .	1	2	22	0	31	1,178	1,007
VI.	Other manufacturing . . .	4	4	154	..	154	714	611
VII.	Building . . .	4	4	262	50	312	931	770
VIII.	Mines, quarries, etc. . .	202	345	56,743	27,074	83,817	840,463	988,436
IX.	Railway and tramway services . .	2	2	219	61	280	490	438
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	19	21	943	379	1,322	24,084	18,515
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. . .	2	13	33	10	43	93	74
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . .	12	12	1,504	362	1,866	5,574	4,205
	Total . . .	256a	631	68,281	28,359	96,640	1,111,230	1,220,410
Victoria—								
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. . .	4	4	264	..	264	2,977	2,581
III.	Food, drink, etc. . .	5	7	252	2	254	4,133	3,355
IV.	Clothing, hats, boots, etc. . .	1	1	17	16	33	66	33
VI.	Other manufacturing . . .	3	3	157	..	157	756	580
VII.	Building . . .	6	8	340	10	350	2,634	1,982
VIII.	Mines, quarries, etc. . .	8	10	5,084	2,136	7,220	89,107	97,019
X.	Other land transport . . .	1	1	24	..	24	48	36
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	3	3	109	31	190	405	253
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. . .	1	1	21	..	21	63	14
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . .	1	1	42	..	42	546	540
	Total . . .	33	33	6,320	2,245	8,565	100,735	106,423
Queensland—								
I.	Wood, sawmill, timber, etc. . .	1	1	6	2	8	48	38
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. . .	3	3	298	234	532	8,308	5,919
III.	Food, drink, etc. . .	4	12	439	130	569	8,780	8,816
IV.	Clothing, hats, boots, etc. . .	2	2	210	..	210	351	250
VI.	Other manufacturing . . .	2	2	102	..	102	876	250
VII.	Building . . .	2	2	72	14	86	1,572	1,981
VIII.	Mines, quarries, etc. . .	8	8	488	8	496	6,934	8,305
IX.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	3	3	74	..	74	2,508	1,366
XII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. . .	1	1	13	..	13	143	115
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . .	3	3	252	3	255	469	331
	Total . . .	20a	37	2,054	391	2,445	80,118	27,412
South Australia—								
I.	Wood, sawmill, timber, etc. . .	4	35	827	..	827	5,048	4,919
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. . .	2	3	117	60	177	3,813	3,707
III.	Food, drink, etc. . .	2	2	76	99	145	1,039	570
VII.	Building . . .	2	2	51	..	51	128	119
VIII.	Mines, quarries, etc. . .	1	2	231	382	613	3,311	2,141
IX.	Railway and tramway services . .	1	1	255	229	484	4,356	2,030
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	2	2	48	..	48	476	362
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . .	2	13	403	..	403	3,765	2,685
	Total . . .	17	60	2,008	740	2,748	22,836	17,133

(a) The following disputes commenced in, and were uncompleted at the end of, the year 1925, and in respect of "No. of Disputes" and "No. of Establishments" are duplicated in the figures for 1926, viz. —

State.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Establishments.	No. of Workers Involved.		
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
New South Wales	6	6	1,207	78	1,285
Queensland	1	1	10	..	10
Western Australia	1	1	137	..	137
Total	8	8	1,354	78	1,432

Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1926*a*—continued.

Class.	Industrial Group.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Estab. Involved.	No. of Workpeople Involved.			No. of Working Days Lost.	Esti- mated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	In- directly.	Total.		
Western Australia—								
IV.	Clothing, hats, boots, etc. . .	1	1	44	..	44	572	150
VI.	Other manufacturing . . .	1	1	54	..	54	108	81
VII.	Building . . .	3	22	89	36	125	4,850	2,869
VIII.	Mines, quarries, etc. . .	1	1	134	42	176	176	211
IX.	Railway and tramway services . .	1	1	4	..	4	192	147
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	2	2	198	..	198	3,183	2,540
	Total . . .	9 ^a	28	523	78	601	9,081	5,938
Tasmania—								
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. . .	1	1	32	..	32	2,400	1,750
VIII.	Mines, quarries, etc. . .	6	8	563	212	775	1,779	1,909
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	3	3	65	19	84	901	644
	Total . . .	10	12	660	231	891	5,080	4,303
Northern Territory—								
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	1	1	93	..	93	100	75
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . .	1	1	..	112	112	893	795
	Total . . .	2	2	93	112	205	996	870
Federal Capital Territory—								
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . .	4	4	829	110	939	30,185	24,204
	Total . . .	4	4	829	110	939	30,185	24,204
All States—								
I.	Wood, sawmill, timber, etc. . .	7	38	887	11	898	6,724	5,424
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc. . .	21	231	3,733	479	4,212	244,563	227,712
III.	Food, drink, etc., manufacturing and distribution . . .	16	26	1,061	481	1,542	14,987	13,426
IV.	Clothing, hats, boots, etc. . .	5	5	302	76	378	1,143	520
V.	Books, printing, binding, etc. . .	1	2	22	9	31	1,178	1,067
VI.	Other manufacturing . . .	10	10	467	..	467	2,154	1,563
VII.	Building . . .	17	38	814	110	924	10,015	7,721
VIII.	Mines, quarries, etc. . .	227	374	63,253	29,854	93,107	950,776	1,008,111
IX.	Railway and tramway services . .	4	4	478	290	768	5,638	3,515
X.	Other land transport . . .	1	1	24	..	24	48	96
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. . .	24	35	1,630	476	2,109	31,607	23,755
XII.	Pastoral, agricultural, etc. . .	2	13	33	10	43	93	74
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. . .	2	2	34	..	34	206	139
XIV.	Miscellaneous . . .	23	34	3,030	587	3,617	41,438	32,760
	Total Australia (a) . . .	360	813	80,768	32,266	113,034	1,310,261	1,415,813

(a) See note to table on page 94.

7. Particulars of Principal Disputes in 1926.—(i.) *General.*—The preceding tables show the number and effect of all disputes for the year 1926, classified according to Industrial Groups. Details regarding the more important disputes which occurred during the year are given hereunder. The year 1926 was remarkable, not only for the comparatively small "number" of disputes taking place, but also for the absence of the very protracted disputes which have characterized previous years, although as regards "working days lost" the total is the greatest since the year 1920.

(ii.) *New South Wales.*—The figures given in the tables show that of the total number of disputes (360) which occurred in 1926 no less than 227 occurred in connexion with the mining industry, and of these 202 occurred in New South Wales. The total loss in wages through all disputes in Australia was £1,415,813. The loss through disputes in the coal-mining industry in New South Wales was £988,436, or 70 per cent. of the total loss in wages for Australia.

The following are some of the principal disputes which occurred in this State :—A dispute affected engine-drivers and firemen employed in all coal mines throughout the States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania. The cause of the trouble was the objection of the organization mentioned to an award of the Special Coal Tribunal (Mr. C. Hibble), which had the effect of reducing the wage margins hitherto enjoyed by its members over other designations employed in the mines. The matter was quickly settled in Queensland, and there was no actual stoppage, while in Tasmania the men were only out for three days. In New South Wales and Victoria, however, the dispute lasted 34 days, and resulted in a loss in New South Wales of 442,000 working days and £530,400 in wages, and in Victoria of 60,996 working days and £73,195 in wages. The greater part of this loss was suffered indirectly, i.e., by those thrown out of work by the action of the engine-drivers, who only numbered about 1,000. The loss in Tasmania was very small—only 618 working days. Work was resumed on the old conditions, and a subsequent award by the Tribunal did not in any way modify the terms of the original award. The next dispute of importance was that of the Engineering trades which, although working under a Federal Award, claimed a 44-hour week, in common with other workers of the State, who had been granted this concession by State legislative enactment. The dispute lasted 24 days, and involved a loss of 168,000 working days and £157,500 in wages. The matter was settled by compromise, the men agreeing to accept 44 hours' pay for 44 hours' work, to be worked on either five or six days, as required by the employer. Of the principal mining disputes the only others worthy of mention were—Coal Cliff Collieries (demand for minimum wage), lasted 117 days and involved a loss of 50,310 working days and £50,000 in wages. Aberdare Central Colliery (dismissal of deputies), lasted 23 days and represented a loss of 12,560 working days and £15,180 in wages. Abermain No. 1 Colliery (working of special headings), lasted sixteen days and involved a loss of 11,400 working days and £13,700 in wages. Pelaw Main Colliery (institution of the "darg"), lasted fifteen days, and loss of 10,800 working days and £13,000 in wages. Abermain No. 2 (dispute as to time worked), lasted fifteen days, loss of 8,520 working days and £10,200 in wages. A dispute also occurred in connexion with the seamen in coastal ports over a claim for wharf labourers' rates of pay while employed on cargo work; the trouble lasted 43 days and meant those involved in a loss of 13,300 working days and £10,000 in wages, while work was resumed on antecedent conditions.

(iii.) *Victoria*.—A reference to the Engine-drivers and Firemen's dispute in connexion with the Coal Mining Industry already appears under New South Wales (q.v.). A dispute occurred in April at the Brown Coal Mine, Yallourn, the immediate cause of which was the reduction of 6d. per diem in the case of certain men, due to a misinterpretation of the award, although

several other matters were brought into the dispute at the same time. The men decided to resume duty as the result of a ballot. The loss in working days amounted to 5,500 and in wages to £4,000. A second dispute occurred in November at this same mine, as a result of a demand for reduced hours on afternoon shift. The trouble was settled by compromise, the original hours being retained, but an increase in wages allowed to afternoon shiftmen. The loss in this case amounted to 16,779 in working days and £14,500 in wages.

(iv.) *Queensland*.—Only one dispute of moment occurred in this State, that in which the employees of Borthwick's Meat Works were concerned. The dispute was in connexion with the non-employment of certain men. Work was resumed on reference of the matter to the Arbitration Court. The men lost 5,670 working days and £5,000 in wages.

(v.) *South Australia*.—A dispute occurred in connexion with the Stove-makers in Adelaide over a wage increase, and lasted 34 days. A loss of 3,638 working days and £3,600 resulted from the dispute. The trouble was settled by compromise, a concession being made in regard to piece rates.

(vi.) *Western Australia*.—The only dispute of note was one in which carpenters employed by the Public Works Department were concerned. The Union was dissatisfied with the methods adopted by a foreman, but work was resumed on antecedent conditions, after a loss of 3,496 working days.

(vii.) *Tasmania*.—The engineers employed at the Electrolytic Zinc Company's Works at Zeehan struck work to enforce payment of "dirt" money, which was finally conceded by the management. The dispute lasted 75 days, and represented a loss of 2,400 days and £1,750 in wages.

(viii.) *Federal Capital Territory*.—An extensive dispute occurred in connexion with the Reticulation Works at Canberra, the sewerage workers claiming an eight-hour day, inclusive of "crib" time of half an hour. The trouble extended over 44 days, and 28,600 working days and £23,000 were lost by the men. A concession was made, the Union to apply to the Industrial Tribunal for a review of the Award.

8. **Industrial Disputes, 1922 to 1926.**—(i.) *Australia.*—The following table shows in industrial groups the number of industrial disputes, the number of workpeople involved, the losses in working days and wages for each of the years 1922 to 1926, and the aggregate for the whole period :—

Industrial Disputes—Australia, 1922 to 1926.

Year.	Manu- facturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)	Transport, Land and Sea. (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscel- laneous. (Groups XII. to XIV.)	ALL GROUPS.
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NUMBER OF DISPUTES.

1922 ..	69	4	307	45	20	445
1923 ..	44	8	171	28	23	274
1924 ..	31	15	410	23	25	504
1925 ^a ..	39	15	391	30	24	499
1926 ..	60	17	227	29	27	360
1922 to 1926 ..	243	59	1,506	155	119	2,082

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

1922 ..	15,215	287	96,151	2,882	1,797	116,332
1923 ..	9,884	577	58,043	2,257	5,560	76,321
1924 ..	6,899	2,753	133,876	5,631	3,287	152,446
1925 ..	8,420	1,882	135,409	25,084	5,951	176,746
1926 ..	12,408	924	93,107	2,901	3,694	113,034
1922 to 1926 ..	52,826	6,423	516,586	38,755	20,289	634,879

NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST.

1922 ..	366,134	3,720	383,414	85,693	19,724	858,685
1923 ..	153,053	6,886	907,767	32,609	45,662	1,145,977
1924 ..	116,427	28,204	662,257	85,479	26,279	918,646
1925 ..	129,808	37,615	577,132	291,415	92,600	1,128,570
1926 ..	271,049	10,015	950,770	36,693	41,734	1,310,261
1922 to 1926 ..	1,036,471	86,440	3,481,340	531,889	225,999	5,362,139

ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.

1922 ..	£ 242,159	£ 3,280	£ 427,363	£ 64,597	£ 14,108	£ 751,507
1923 ..	120,127	6,284	1,086,904	29,680	32,611	1,275,506
1924 ..	80,746	21,359	735,572	61,823	18,199	917,699
1925 ..	124,894	35,674	688,755	209,521	48,700	1,107,544
1926 ..	249,712	7,721	1,098,111	27,306	32,963	1,415,813
1922 to 1926 ..	817,638	74,318	4,036,705	392,827	146,581	5,468,069

^a See note to table on page 94

(ii) *States*.—The number of industrial disputes in each State during the years 1922 to 1926, together with the number of workpeople involved, the number of working days lost, and the total estimated loss in wages are given hereunder.

Industrial Disputes—States, 1922 to 1926.

State or Territory.	Year.	No. of Disputes.	Establishments Involved in Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.			No. of Working Days Lost.	Total Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
New South Wales	1922	342	657	88,257	14,042	102,299	586,520	579,461
	1923	200	601	54,809	5,890	60,199	892,306	1,088,519
	1924	416	584	116,087	17,648	133,735	706,796	785,142
	1925	430	458	123,292	16,937	140,229	649,840	786,601
	1926	256	631	68,281	28,359	96,640	1,111,230	1,229,410
Victoria	1922	29	412	5,819	311	6,130	64,701	47,695
	1923	29	138	6,279	771	7,050	98,880	108,512
	1924	30	36	9,621	416	10,037	69,567	50,735
	1925	19	158	5,428	3,172	8,600	131,737	180,817
	1926	33	39	6,320	2,245	8,565	109,735	106,423
Queensland	1922	38	49	2,611	620	3,231	36,730	32,589
	1923	25	36	2,721	340	3,064	55,131	53,081
	1924	25	30	2,890	246	3,135	47,214	42,018
	1925	22	64	20,432	840	21,272	210,826	164,480
	1926	29	37	2,054	391	2,445	30,118	27,412
South Australia	1922	19	229	2,264	929	3,223	114,334	43,222
	1923	19	23	806	975	1,781	25,971	20,440
	1924	14	52	1,546	147	1,693	19,459	14,851
	1925	11	24	1,118	281	1,399	19,463	12,241
	1926	17	60	2,008	740	2,748	22,836	17,131
Western Australia	1922	8	91	643	183	806	43,472	38,208
	1923	6	88	1,255	2,752	4,007	72,274	53,408
	1924	13	233	2,131	1,366	3,497	66,784	42,329
	1925	10	180	3,321	814	4,135	98,941	56,958
	1926	29	28	523	78	601	9,081	5,998
Tasmania	1922	5	5	382	4	386	9,284	7,497
	1923	3	3	197	..	197	1,093	1,296
	1924	5	5	268	54	322	11,600	12,268
	1925	8	16	169	70	239	2,969	2,300
	1926	10	12	660	231	891	5,080	4,363
Fed. Cap. Territory	1922	2	2	217	..	217	2,604	2,035
	1923	1	1	23	..	23	322	250
	1925	3	5	823	33	856	5,735	4,700
	1926	4	4	829	110	939	30,185	24,204
Northern Territory	1922	2	2	40	..	40	1,040	770
	1923	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1924	1	1	27	..	27	270	354
	1925	1	1	16	..	16	89	39
1926	2	2	93	112	205	996	870	
Australia	1922	445	1,447	100,263	16,069	116,332	858,685	751,507
	1923	274	885	66,093	10,228	76,321	1,145,977	1,275,506
	1924	504	941	132,569	19,877	152,446	918,046	917,699
	1925	499	906	154,599	22,147	176,746	1,128,570	1,107,544
	1926	260	518	80,768	32,266	113,034	1,310,261	1,416,813

^a See footnote page 94.

Satisfactory comparisons of the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can be made only after omitting those which are recorded for mining, quarrying, etc. (Group VIII.). For the year 1913 the proportion

of disputes in those industries represented practically 50 per cent. of the total number recorded. In subsequent years the proportion remained high, ranging from 45 per cent. in 1917 and 1918 to as much as 81 per cent. in 1921 and 1924.

9. **Duration of Disputes.**—(i.) *General.*—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the period which expires between the cessation and resumption of work, is for statistical purposes computed in working days, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, except in those cases where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). For the purpose of tabulating comparative results as to the number of disputes, workpeople involved (directly and indirectly), and the consequent loss of working time and wages, the particulars relating to each dispute are classified according to varying periods over which the dispute remained unsettled. The following limitations of time have been adopted :—(a) One day or less ; (b) two days and more than one day ; (c) three days and more than two days ; (d) over three days and under six days (the latter considered as constituting one week) ; (e) one week and under two weeks ; (f) two weeks and under four weeks ; (g) four weeks and under eight weeks ; and (h) eight weeks and over.

Where a settlement has been reached, and all the workpeople involved return to work at the same time, the duration of the dispute is readily determined. In other disputes (mainly those extending over long periods) varying conditions arise which tend to complicate the situation, such as (a) a proportion of the workpeople involved obtaining other employment ; (b) a certain number of other workpeople being temporarily employed ; and (c) the establishment involved in the dispute being closed down indefinitely and work abandoned. In such cases the dispute is considered to have terminated and its duration determined, either when a sufficient number of other workpeople has been engaged to enable the establishment to be carried on (substantially as before the dispute), or when evidence is obtained that the establishment has been closed down indefinitely and work abandoned. Anomalous positions have been noticed in some instances. In one case a dispute remained technically in existence so far as the workpeople were concerned even after the establishment had been closed down and work therein abandoned. In another, a dispute was considered by the workpeople to be still in existence, notwithstanding that their places had been filled and the establishment had resumed operations.

(ii) *States, etc., 1926.*—The following table gives particulars for each State regarding duration of industrial disputes in 1926. Comparative particulars for the years 1913 to 1926 were published in Labour Reports Nos. 5 to 16.

Duration of Industrial Disputes—States, 1926.

Limits of Duration	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	F.C.T.	Aust
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.									
1 day and less	118	5	5	..	1	3	..	..	132
2 days and more than 1 day ..	44	5	4	4	1	2	..	..	61
3 days and more than 2 days ..	20	5	1	2	..	2	..	..	30
Over 3 days and less than 1 week	17	3	2	2	..	1	..	..	25
1 week and less than 2 weeks ..	26	6	7	5	1	..	1	..	47
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks ..	14	8	5	2	3	..	1	..	54
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks ..	12	1	3	1	1	1	..	..	20
8 weeks and over	5	..	2	1	2	1	..	..	11
Total	256	31	29	17	9	10	2	4	360

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.									
1 day and less	39,372	2,302	451	..	176	217	..	..	43,015
2 days and more than 1 day ..	13,309	208	224	209	54	124	..	120	14,308
3 days and more than 2 days ..	3,898	275	107	96	..	446	..	..	4,822
Over 3 days and less than 1 week	4,490	1,826	280	731	..	53	..	..	7,389
1 week and less than 2 weeks ..	6,589	130	189	1,400	25	..	112	151	8,626
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks ..	3,791	1,430	855	140	242	..	93	18	6,619
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks ..	22,906	1,794	288	107	78	19	..	650	25,829
8 weeks and over	2,276	..	91	5	23	32	..	..	2,432
Total	96,640	8,565	2,445	2,748	601	891	205	939	113,034

NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST.									
1 day and less	39,372	2,302	451	..	176	217	..	..	43,015
2 days and more than 1 day ..	26,038	416	448	538	108	248	..	240	28,636
3 days and more than 2 days ..	11,694	325	321	253	..	1,338	..	..	14,431
Over 3 days and less than 1 week	18,161	8,777	1,120	3,655	..	212	..	..	31,925
1 week and less than 2 weeks ..	45,334	1,816	1,408	11,990	150	..	890	1,057	62,451
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks ..	60,679	25,303	14,088	2,292	3,755	..	100	288	106,505
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks ..	683,742	60,996	7,484	3,628	3,496	695	..	28,600	793,621
8 weeks and over	220,610	..	4,738	470	1,396	2,400	..	..	229,674
Total	1,111,236	100,735	30,718	22,890	9,081	5,080	996	30,185	1,310,261

ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1 day and less	47,055	3,061	338	..	211	258	..	..	50,923
2 days and more than 1 day ..	31,269	321	361	609	81	239	..	164	33,094
3 days and more than 2 days ..	13,168	345	248	220	..	1,442	..	..	15,423
Over 3 days and less than 1 week	20,566	6,471	1,845	2,451	..	216	..	..	31,049
1 week and less than 2 weeks ..	51,893	1,478	788	7,922	108	..	795	900	63,894
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks ..	68,415	21,562	11,391	1,926	2,690	..	75	140	106,189
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks ..	774,738	73,195	7,183	3,557	1,591	408	..	23,000	883,672
8 weeks and over	222,306	..	5,758	432	1,317	1,750	..	..	231,569
Total	1,229,410	106,423	27,412	17,133	5,998	4,363	870	24,204	1,416,813

See note to table on page 94

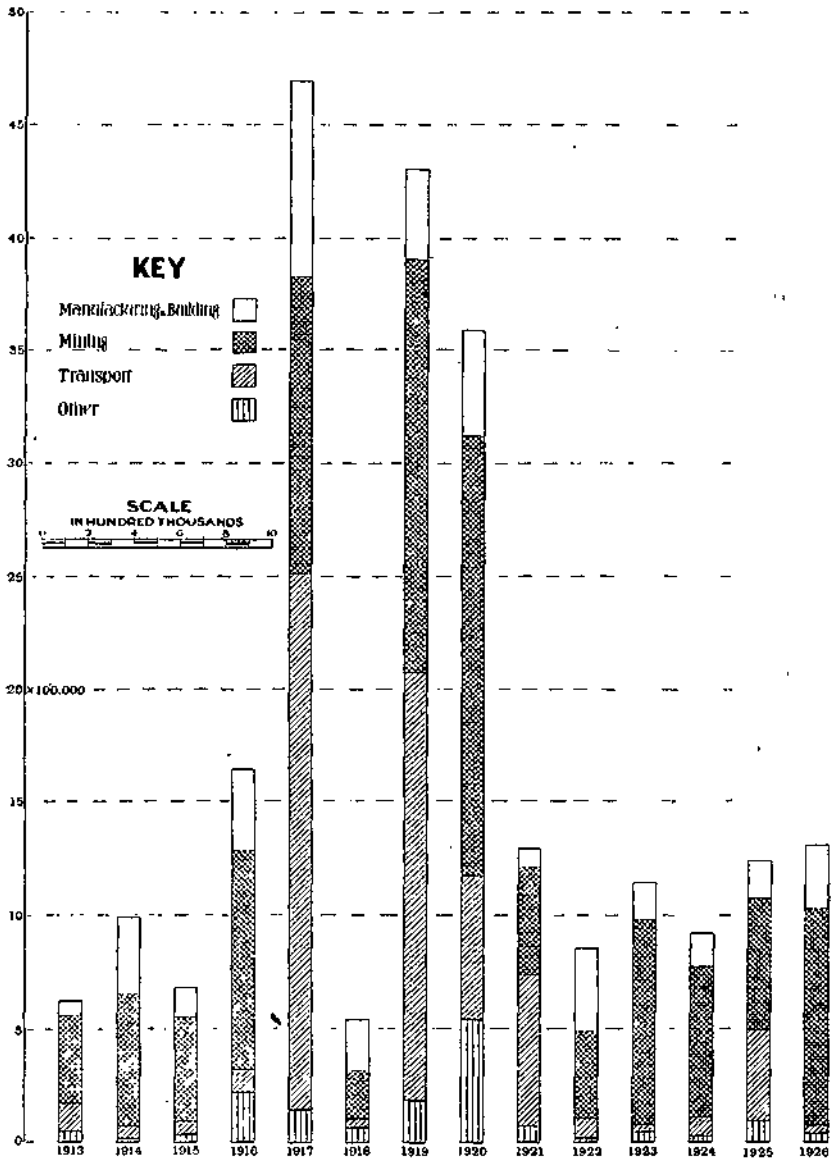
(iii) *Australia 1922 to 1926.*—Particulars for Australia for the years 1922 to 1926 are given in the table appended :—

Duration of Industrial Disputes—Australia, 1922 to 1926a.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople Involved.			Number of Working Days Lost.	Total Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	In-directly.	Total.		
1 day and less	1922	155	38,400	6,982	45,442	45,235	£ 50,615
	1923	92	27,573	2,335	29,908	20,678	35,358
	1924	216	61,542	9,230	70,772	70,678	85,328
	1925	218	65,918	8,505	74,423	73,790	85,810
	1926	132	33,979	9,039	43,018	43,018	50,927
2 days and more than 1 day .. .	1922	57	15,106	1,100	16,206	32,041	35,876
	1923	32	6,700	891	7,691	15,275	16,210
	1924	71	23,023	2,301	25,324	49,618	56,746
	1925	60	20,156	4,160	24,316	47,223	55,605
	1926	61	12,011	2,207	14,308	28,636	33,094
3 days and more than 2 days .. .	1922	41	6,207	1,470	7,737	22,977	24,362
	1923	25	2,934	8	2,942	8,768	9,360
	1924	42	11,563	80	12,425	36,795	43,230
	1925	29	8,615	578	9,193	27,298	30,877
	1926	30	3,598	1,224	4,822	14,431	15,423
Over 3 days and less than 1 week (5 days)	1922	45	8,841	2,754	11,595	52,936	54,923
	1923	34	6,751	273	7,024	30,750	32,738
	1924	45	7,567	2,903	9,570	40,255	46,245
	1925	41	10,648	1,322	11,970	52,614	62,353
	1926	25	6,045	1,344	7,389	31,025	31,049
1 week and less than 2 weeks .. .	1922	59	18,573	532	19,105	144,581	143,558
	1923	39	6,817	3,798	10,615	56,736	78,205
	1924	55	13,922	1,443	14,765	110,882	109,118
	1925	59	28,541	2,040	30,581	227,314	232,731
	1926	47	7,343	1,283	8,626	62,451	63,804
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks .. .	1922	43	5,417	1,200	6,617	106,011	101,764
	1923	20	2,759	1,222	3,981	68,844	68,327
	1924	31	9,958	1,617	11,875	139,462	170,419
	1925	35	8,032	1,051	9,083	150,598	163,365
	1926	34	4,741	1,878	6,619	106,505	106,139
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks .. .	1922	26	2,260	386	2,666	84,838	86,179
	1923	18	5,194	917	6,111	190,616	197,523
	1924	29	3,395	803	4,198	158,941	163,775
	1925	28	8,130	2,745	10,875	322,204	303,077
	1926	20	11,336	14,484	25,820	793,621	883,672
8 weeks and over	1922	19	5,229	1,845	6,874	370,066	254,230
	1923	14	7,900	130	8,050	715,310	837,732
	1924	18	2,199	1,318	3,517	265,014	242,838
	1925	23	4,559	1,746	6,305	227,439	170,777
	1926	11	1,715	717	2,432	229,674	231,569
Total	1922	445	100,263	16,009	116,332	858,685	751,507
	1923	274	66,727	9,594	76,321	1,145,977	1,275,506
	1924	504	132,569	19,877	152,446	918,640	917,699
	1925	549	154,500	22,147	176,746	1,128,570	1,107,544
	1926	360	80,768	32,260	113,034	1,310,261	1,415,813

a See note to table on page 94

Industrial Disputes - Working Days Lost in Various Industrial Groups



EXPLANATION.—The scale refers to working days lost in hundred thousands. Thus, taking the year 1917, and comparing the shaded and blank sections with the scale, it will be observed that about 870,000 working days were lost in Manufacturing and Building, over 1,300,000 in Mining, over 2,300,000 in Transport, and about 150,000 in other industries.

10. **Causes of Industrial Disputes.**—(i.) *General.*—The reasons alleged by employers and employees for a stoppage of work do not in every instance agree in detail. In such instances additional information is sought to verify or support the contention of either side. On occasions, the alleged reason is of a twofold character, and, where this is the case, the claim which is fully or partially satisfied and results in a resumption of work is taken to be the principal cause of the dispute. For the purpose of classification these causes (or objects) of industrial disputes are grouped under seven main headings, viz.:—(1) Wages; (2) hours of labour; (3) employment of particular classes or persons; (4) working conditions; (5) trade unionism; (6) sympathy; and (7) other causes. The first five are subdivided as follows to meet the varying phases of demands made under each of the main headings:—

Classification of Causes of Industrial Disputes.

1. Wages.	(d) Against employment of certain officials.
(a) For increase.	(e) Other questions concerning employment.
(b) Against decrease.	
(c) System of payment.	
(d) Readjustment of Rates.	4. Working Conditions and Discipline.
(e) Other wage questions.	(a) For change.
2. Hours of Labour.	(b) Against change.
(a) For reduction.	(c) Other.
(b) Other questions concerning hours.	5. Trade Unionism.
3. Employment of Particular Classes or Persons.	(a) For closed shop—Employment of non-unionists.
(a) Employment of women instead of men.	(b) Other union questions.
(b) Employment of apprentices.	6. Sympathy.
(c) For reinstatement of discharged employees.	7. Other Causes.*

A great deal of erroneous deduction has been made from the figures published in connexion with Industrial Disputes, more especially in regard to "No. of Disputes occurring," due in large measure to the inability of the Bureau to publish within the narrow limits of an official publication full details of the "causes" of the bulk of these disputes. A close analysis of the returns, however, discloses that the vast majority is due to causes which amount to nothing more than pure difference of opinion between workers and management on the questions at issue, and is only capable of settlement

* The heading, "Other causes" has been adopted to meet various sets of circumstances which mainly arise in connexion with stoppages which are not concerted movements, and include among others the following:—(a) During the course of a meeting of miners, the wheelers return their horses to the stables and leave the colliery; (b) disputes (not necessarily connected with industrial matters which the employer can control) arise between wheelers and clippers, or any two sets of workers, and sufficient workmen are not available to work the mine to its full capacity; (c) workmen abstain from work to attend the Police Court to hear prosecutions against certain other employees; (d) to witness some amusement; or (e) for other reasons which are subsequently ruled by the officials of the union to be either impracticable or against former decisions.

by the parties themselves, although in the case of a protracted dispute common sense or economic necessity often dictates the appointment of an outside mediator to settle the trouble. The number of disputes settled by "direct negotiation" is thus largely explained.

The Commonwealth and State Arbitration Tribunals have covered by their awards all matters of wages and working conditions which it is possible to incorporate in such documents. The analysis referred to reveals the remarkable fact that only about 15 per cent. of the total disputes that occur touch questions which are either covered by awards or are susceptible to treatment by an Arbitration Tribunal.

It will be seen, therefore, that the very large proportion of 85 per cent. of these disputes falls outside the purview of Arbitration Tribunals. Most of these occur in the coal-mining industry, which in 1926 accounted for over 63 per cent. of the total disputes. The figures for 1926 were, however, very low when compared with previous years, owing to the general strikes in this industry already referred to at page 96.

The following typical causes of non-arbitrable strikes under the several classifications referred to above will enable a proper perspective to be taken of these disputes, viz. :—

1. *Wages.*

- (a) Wheeler left work owing to faulty horse and claimed for full shift.
- (b) Payment of "wet pay" to wheelers.
- (c) Two wheelers on pit bottom demanded men's wages instead of boys', which applied.
- (d) Refusal of pay to four or five wheelers withdrawn from certain sections.
- (e) Payment for wheeling with long reins.
- (f) Contract wheelers demanded to be made up on a daily instead of a fortnightly basis.

2. *Hours of Labour.*

- (a) Objection to night shift.
- (b) Objection to overtime.
- (c) Smoking during working hours.
- (d) Variation of shift times.

3. *Employment of Particular Persons.*

- (a) A new lad was placed in a superior position, and the boys on the job demanded the appointment of one of their number.
- (b) Refusal to draw cavil for three places, because one place considered unsafe.
- (c) Driver wanted a set rider put back on clipping.
- (d) Dismissal of two men for misbehaviour.
- (e) Refusal of manager to start man just released from jail.

4. *Working Conditions.*

- (a) Shaft sinkers objected to supervision of master sinker.
- (b) Passenger crew refused to take coal to their destination.
- (c) Additional assistance to wheeler.
- (d) Refusal to use explosive provided.
- (e) Defective compressed air jets.
- (f) Shortage of drinking water.

5. *Trade Unionism.*

- (a) Shot firers desired severance from Miners' Union.
- (b) Refusal of moulders to work with non-unionists.
- (c) Miners exceeding the "darg" earnings and refusing to pay surplus amounts to Union funds.

6. *Miscellaneous.*

- (a) Medical attendance.
- (b) Dispute between miners and wheelers *re* insufficient skips.
- (c) Demand that man be employed on light work.
- (d) Injured seaman insisted on being landed for treatment.

The above remarks refer of course to "No. of Disputes Occurring," but when the matter is considered from the point of view of "Working Days Lost," which after all is the most serious aspect of industrial disputes, the relation of arbitrable and non-arbitrable questions in the aggregate loss can become entirely the reverse of that presented by their consideration only from the standpoint of numbers, and this relationship would vary each year according to the magnitude of the disputes under each category. For the year 1926, for instance, the preponderance of numbers is in the non-arbitrable section, but that of "working days lost" is heavily on the arbitrable side. A reference to the causes of the principal disputes occurring during the year published on page 95 will give a general idea of the relative position each year.

It will be realized from the above remarks that in making any deductions from the figures published in this section the facts mentioned here should be taken into consideration.

(ii.) *Causes in each State, 1926.*—In the following tables particulars for the year 1926 are classified under the various headings.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.

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Causes of Industrial Disputes—States, etc., 1926.a

Causes of Disputes.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	P.C.T.	Aust.
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.									
1. Wages—									
(a) For increase ..	10	1	3	4	2	1	1	1	23
(b) Against decrease ..	3	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	6
(c) Other wage questions ..	51	4	6	1	2	2	..	..	67
2. Hours of Labour—									
(a) For reduction ..	9	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	13
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
3. Trade Unionism—									
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	5
(b) Other union questions ..	12	4	2	3	1	..	..	..	22
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	72	14	11	4	2	4	..	1	108
5. Working conditions ..	39	2	2	..	1	2	..	..	46
6. Sympathetic ..	5	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	8
7. Other causes ..	53	2	3	1	1	..	1	..	61
Total ..	256	33	20	17	9	10	2	4	300

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.									
1. Wages—									
(a) For increase ..	13,858	1,794	510	358	78	206	93	151	17,046
(b) Against decrease ..	1,172	53	..	70	..	..	..	..	1,275
(c) Other wage questions ..	16,726	1,268	527	38	180	144	..	..	18,883
2. Hours of Labour—									
(a) For reduction ..	7,957	1,003	..	..	..	..	..	770	9,730
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	210	..	80	..	..	..	..	..	290
3. Trade Unionism—									
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	20	50	10	26	..	19	..	..	125
(b) Other union questions ..	3,348	196	10	211	25	..	..	..	3,790
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	19,902	2,841	926	979	120	379	..	18	25,165
5. Working conditions ..	12,185	361	139	..	61	143	..	..	12,889
6. Sympathetic ..	2,632	151	..	716	..	..	..	..	3,499
7. Other causes ..	18,632	868	243	350	137	..	112	..	20,342
Total ..	66,640	8,565	2,445	2,748	601	801	205	939	113,034

NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST.									
1. Wages—									
(a) For increase ..	501,479	60,996	7,032	6,089	1,312	618	100	1,057	580,183
(b) Against decrease ..	2,322	66	..	175	..	..	..	..	2,573
(c) Other wage questions ..	68,475	7,641	3,444	76	368	2,624	..	..	82,898
2. Hours of Labour—									
(a) For reduction ..	234,476	16,836	..	..	..	..	..	28,840	280,152
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	210	..	80	..	..	..	..	..	290
3. Trade Unionism—									
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	60	350	470	78	..	665	..	..	1,623
(b) Other union questions ..	12,671	1,864	40	882	150	..	..	..	15,607
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	78,852	6,352	16,906	7,580	4,068	871	..	288	114,917
5. Working conditions ..	121,373	422	489	..	..	854	302	..	123,390
6. Sympathetic ..	31,066	2,869	..	3,846	..	..	..	..	38,381
7. Other causes ..	59,366	3,339	807	3,610	2,329	..	896	..	70,247
Total ..	1,111,230	100,735	30,118	22,836	9,081	6,080	896	30,185	1,310,261

ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.									
1. Wages—									
(a) For increase ..	583,282	73,195	6,531	5,847	1,251	742	75	900	671,823
(b) Against decrease ..	2,799	34	..	160	..	..	..	..	2,982
(c) Other wage questions ..	73,845	5,893	3,031	70	358	2,019	..	..	85,216
2. Hours of Labour—									
(a) For reduction ..	210,403	14,552	..	..	..	..	..	23,164	248,119
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	157	..	32	..	..	..	..	..	189
3. Trade Unionism—									
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	49	290	350	70	..	408	..	..	1,167
(b) Other union questions ..	15,170	1,005	37	928	168	..	..	..	17,243
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	61,142	6,085	16,508	4,710	1,741	870	..	140	120,696
5. Working conditions ..	144,657	452	495	..	500	324	..	..	146,428
6. Sympathetic ..	37,052	2,415	..	2,733	..	..	..	..	42,200
7. Other causes ..	70,854	2,503	928	2,625	2,040	..	795	..	79,745
Total ..	1,229,410	100,423	27,412	17,133	5,998	4,763	870	21,204	1,415,819

a See note to table on page 91.

(iii.) *Causes in Australia, 1913 to 1926.*—The following table gives similar information for Australia for the years specified.

Causes of Industrial Disputes.—Australia, 1913, and 1920 to 1926.

Causes of Disputes.	1913	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
NUMBER OF DISPUTES								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	42	94	19	15	35	44	33	23
(b) Against decrease ..	4		2	18	4	7	5	5
(c) Other wage questions ..	31	106	161	83	37	95	99	67
2. Hours of Labour								
(a) For reduction ..	3	16	12	12	10	2	4	13
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	7	9	16	2	2	4	6	2
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	8	20	5	6	4	6	8	5
(b) Other union questions ..	5	27	22	15	11	31	27	22
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	44	135	169	155	68	137	118	108
5. Working conditions ..	51	106	162	89	57	111	100	46
6. Sympathetic ..	5	2	13	8	9	8	16	8
7. Other causes ..	8	39	43	42	37	59	77	61
Total ..	208	554	624	445	274	504	4490	360

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	8,633	41,748	2,659	843	9,810	3,312	28,448	17,046
(b) Against decrease ..	503		250	4,432	174	1,113	1,123	1,275
(c) Other wage questions ..	7,160	21,130	52,704	24,459	8,696	30,585	31,387	18,883
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	400	20,758	2,313	5,935	6,488	1,328	402	9,730
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	1,810	2,137	2,113	124	485	1,172	2,668	290
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	5,370	2,752	1,363	1,072	473	1,005	1,502	125
(b) Other union questions ..	1,418	7,534	6,007	4,264	2,310	12,078	10,957	3,790
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	11,370	26,163	45,408	36,194	11,269	39,839	36,075	25,165
5. Working conditions ..	10,785	21,204	35,790	27,334	15,605	36,630	35,034	12,889
6. Sympathetic ..	947	1,397	3,251	1,119	875	436	5,328	3,490
7. Other Causes ..	1,758	10,734	12,053	10,556	20,130	19,948	28,377	20,342
Total ..	60,233	155,566	165,101	116,332	76,321	152,440	176,740	119,034

NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST.

1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	100,069	793,935	13,731	8,694	64,493	120,317	209,350	580,183
(b) Against decrease ..	9,438		25,700	154,791	1,012	13,553	24,362	2,573
(c) Other wage questions ..	78,183	101,219	102,858	140,129	81,749	111,013	154,100	82,898
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	2,774	534,458	13,315	164,794	101,897	130,440	12,310	280,152
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	15,111	37,486	13,260	1,701	86,092	42,441	16,173	290
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	91,002	24,900	17,890	5,435	784	2,555	14,784	1,023
(b) Other union questions ..	32,388	21,909	117,199	18,976	17,743	40,046	106,195	15,607
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	191,723	129,215	431,130	198,256	63,094	253,779	214,788	114,017
5. Working conditions ..	73,562	128,967	69,732	123,665	134,830	124,941	150,325	123,890
6. Sympathetic ..	24,066	72,940	6,150	9,438	6,357	928	41,046	38,331
7. Other causes ..	5,212	28,946	55,652	23,750	638,019	78,935	185,616	70,247
Total ..	623,528	1,872,065	956,617	838,685	1,145,977	918,646	1,128,670	1,310,201

The main causes of industrial disputes are "wage" questions, "working conditions" and "employment of particular classes or persons." In each year of the period 1913-1925, the number of dislocations over wages exceeded those from any other cause, the percentage in 1913 being 37, and fluctuating thenceforward between 26 in 1922 and 45 in 1916. The number from this cause in 1926 was particularly low, representing only 26 per cent. Under the heading, "Employment of Particular Classes or Persons," are stoppages of work for the purpose of protesting against the dismissal of employees, who, in the opinion of their fellow-workers, have been unfairly treated or victimized. This class of dispute occurs very frequently in the coal-mining industry. "Sympathetic" disputes were numerous during the years 1916, 1917, 1921, and 1925.

11. **Results of Industrial Disputes.**—(i.) *General.*—The terms or conditions under which a resumption of work is agreed upon are taken as the basis of the result of the dispute. They come within one or other of the following four classes, viz. :—

- (a) In favour of workpeople.
- (b) In favour of employer.
- (c) Compromise.
- (d) Indefinite.

Disputes are considered to result :—(a) In favour of workpeople, when the employees succeed in enforcing compliance with all their demands, or are substantially successful in attaining their principal object, or in resisting a demand made by their employers; (b) In favour of employer, when the demands of the employees are not conceded, or when the employer or employers are substantially successful in enforcing a demand; (c) Compromise, when the employees are successful in enforcing compliance with a part of their demands or in resisting substantially full compliance with the demands of their employer or employers; (d) Indefinite, when, for example, employees stop work owing to some misconception regarding the terms of an award, determination, or agreement, and work is resumed as usual on the matters in dispute being explained; or in cases where a dispute arises in connexion with certain work which is, however, abandoned, even though the employees return to the same establishment to be employed on other work. The results of "Sympathetic" disputes, in which a body of workers cease work with the object of assisting another body of workers in obtaining compliance with some demand, are generally "Indefinite" except when the stoppage is entered upon partially to enforce a demand in which these workers might ultimately benefit.

(ii.) *Results in each State, 1926.*—The following table gives results for the year 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.

Industrial Disputes—States, Results, 1926.^a

State or Territory.	No. of Disputes.				No. of Workpeople Involved in Disputes.				Total No. of Working Days lost by Disputes.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
New South Wales	35	193	20	5	7,768	76,360	11,456	698	46,077	782,441	203,214	15,778
Victoria	11	16	5	1	1,310	5,203	1,921	115	5,544	74,077	20,712	345
Queensland	12	14	..	..	368	1,250	..	260	10,022	15,708	..	800
South Australia	6	7	2	2	973	1,175	145	457	5,900	8,663	3,714	4,463
Western Australia	2	5	..	..	200	353	48	..	1,380	6,037	704	..
Tasmania	3	7	..	..	329	662	..	..	2,709	2,371	..	..
N. Territory	..	1	..	1	..	112	..	93	..	896	..	100
F. C. Territory	3	..	1	..	289	..	650	..	1,585	..	28,600	..
Total, Aust. ^{ab}	72	243	30	11	11,631	85,115	14,220	1,623	73,313	891,093	257,004	21,486

(a) The following are the particulars of disputes which were incomplete at the 31st December, 1926, which should be added to the above figures to effect a balance with those published in the preceding tables:—

State.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Establs.	Workpeople.	Working Days Lost.	Wages.
New South Wales	1	1	360	63,720	50,976
Victoria	2	2	16	57	52
Queensland	1	1	69	3,588	4,306
Total	4	4	445	67,365	55,334

^b See note to table on page 94.

(iii) *Australia, 1926.*—The following table shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost in disputes in Australia during the year 1926.

Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, Australia, 1926.^a

Cause.	No. of Disputes.				No. of Workpeople Involved in Disputes.				Total No. of Working Days lost by Disputes.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
Wages—												
(a) For increase	8	11	1	3	601	16,122	107	226	5,894	501,401	3,638	1,193
(b) Against decrease	2	3	..	..	103	1,172	..	..	241	2,332	..	..
(c) Other wage questions	18	39	7	3	2,186	15,170	953	463	17,501	54,095	2,317	7,045
Hours of Labour												
(a) For reduction	2	4	4	..	323	244	8,703	..	458	700	214,905	..
(b) Other disputes re hours	1	..	..	1	214	..	..	80	210	..	..	80
Trade Unionism—												
(a) Against employment of non-unionists	1	4	..	..	26	99	..	..	78	1,545	..	..
(b) Other union questions	4	17	..	1	648	3,127	..	115	668	14,504	..	345
Employment of particular Classes or Persons.												
Working conditions	23	72	11	1	4,494	18,320	1,841	209	23,494	63,411	16,681	7,703
Sympathetic	10	32	4	..	1,741	10,674	1,028	..	20,662	108,234	5,324	..
Other Causes	1	7	..	..	378	2,821	..	..	3,300	34,091	..	..
Total ^{ab}	72	243	30	11	11,631	85,115	14,220	1,623	73,313	891,093	257,004	21,486

^a See note to table on page 94.

^b See note a to table above.

(iv) *Australia, 1922 to 1926.*(b)—The following table shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the number of working days lost in disputes in Australia during the five years 1922–1926, classified according to results :—

Industrial Disputes—Results, Australia, 1922 to 1926.^b

Year.	No. of Disputes.				No. of Workpeople Involved in Disputes.				Total No. of Working Days lost by Disputes.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
1922 ..	81	268	32	2	18,050	77,785	16,366	81	175,379	383,342	132,615	788
1923 ..	77	156	24	3	12,951	54,926	5,787	1,784	65,625	917,162	132,135	2,392
1924 ..	146	261	48	45	32,762	89,709	13,848	15,432	153,533	416,174	201,630	29,445
1925 ..	130	335	20	6	50,983	116,658	4,844	2,329	448,136	549,746	52,321	12,923
1926 ^a ..	72	243	30	11	11,631	85,115	14,220	1,623	73,313	891,098	257,004	21,486

^a See note on page 94.^b See note to first table on page 110.

In the years 1913 to 1916, the disputes resulting in favour of workpeople exceeded those resulting in favour of employers, but in later years the position was reversed. The percentage in favour of employers in 1926 was 70. A considerable number of disputes in each year resulted in a compromise, while in certain cases the heading "Indefinite" had to be adopted.

12. **Methods of Settlement.**—(i) *General.*—Methods of settlement have been classified under the following six headings :—

- (i) By negotiation.
- (ii) Under State Industrial Act.
- (iii) Under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.
- (iv) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.
- (v) By closing down establishment permanently.
- (vi) By other methods.

The first three classes are divided as follows :—

- (i) By negotiation—
 - (a) Direct negotiation between employers and employees or their representatives.
 - (b) Intervention or assistance of third party, not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Acts.
- (ii) Under State Industrial Acts—
 - (a) By intervention, assistance, or compulsory conference.
 - (b) By reference to Board or Court.
- (iii) Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—
 - (a) By intervention, assistance, or compulsory conference.
 - (b) By reference to Court.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action. The sixth, "Other Methods," is more or less indefinite, and is connected with "Other Causes" and mainly relates to resummptions of work at collieries at the next shift, the cause of the stoppages not being in all cases made known officially to the management.

(ii) *States, 1926.*—The following table shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, number of working days lost, and estimated loss in wages in 1926, according to method of settlement:—

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—States, 1926.

Method of Settlement.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qland.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	F.C.T.	Aust.
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.									
Negotiation—									
Direct between employers and employees, or their representatives ..	116	16	12	10	3	6	..	3	166
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	9	3	..	..	2	..	1	1	16
Under State Industrial Act—									
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference by reference to Board or Court ..	2	..	4	..	2	..	..	..	8
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—									
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	4	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	10
By Filing places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out ..	5	3	1	3	..	1	..	..	13
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	4	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	8
By other methods ..	115	8	3	3	2	3	1	..	135
Total ..	255	31	28	17	9	10	2	4	(b) 356

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

Negotiation—									
Direct between employers and employees, or their representatives ..	38,888	2,400	1,004	902	109	730	..	788	44,095
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	14,756	1,872	..	..	200	..	93	151	17,072
Under State Industrial Act—									
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference by reference to Board or Court ..	199	..	607	..	180	..	..	..	936
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—									
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	280	..	404	..	..	..	..	..	684
By Filing Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out ..	1,881	1,191	98	1,130	..	32	..	..	4,332
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	127	30	78	10	..	..	..	..	245
By other methods ..	40,151	2,096	125	700	162	73	112	..	44,325
Total ..	96,280	8,540	2,370	2,748	601	891	205	930	112,589

^a See note page 94.

^b See note (a) page 110.

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—States, 1926—continued.

Methods of Settlement.	N.S.W.	Vic	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	F.C.T.	Aust.
NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST.									
Negotiation—									
Direct between employers and employees, or their representatives	353,143	13,464	8,592	9,264	1,018	1,949	..	29,128	417,158
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	485,637	61,203	..	..	1,390	..	100	1,057	549,427
Under State Industrial Act—									
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	303	..	7,374	..	3,604	..	..	..	11,281
By reference to Board or Court	2,494	..	6,250	..	..	..	..	..	8,744
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act									
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	104,660	17,487	1,568	8,726	..	2,400	..	..	134,841
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	2,277	30	538	20	..	..	..	..	2,865
By Closing down Establishment permanently	98,918	3,404	2,208	4,826	2,479	731	896	..	118,580
By other methods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,047,510	100,378	26,530	22,836	9,081	5,080	996	30,185	1,242,806

ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Negotiation—									
Direct between employers and employees, or their representatives	373,158	10,836	8,254	7,043	707	2,135	..	23,304	425,527
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	582,732	73,360	..	..	1,381	..	75	900	658,498
Under State Industrial Act—									
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	220	..	4,927	..	1,672	..	..	..	6,819
By reference to Board or Court	2,034	..	5,737	..	..	..	..	..	7,771
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act									
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	99,997	15,145	1,019	6,600	..	1,750	..	..	124,511
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out	2,091	36	401	20	..	..	..	..	2,548
By Closing down Establishment permanently	118,152	6,994	2,768	3,470	2,148	478	795	..	134,805
By other methods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,178,434	106,371	23,106	17,133	5,998	4,363	870	24,204	1,360,479

(iii) *Australia, 1913 to 1926.*^a—Information for Australia for the years specified is given hereunder:—

Method of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia, 1913 to 1926.^a

Methods of Settlement.	1913	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926. ^b
NUMBER OF DISPUTES.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	110	380	412	245	140	264	209	166
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	17	25	65	52	25	20	24	16
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	10	33	18	7	4	11	12	8
By reference to Board or Court ..	22	8	4	7	2	7	2	10
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	4	8	11	5	2	12	13	18
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out ..	18	22	10	11	5	5	4	6
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	1	4	2	6	1	2	1	..
By other methods ..	13	74	102	96	86	170	226	133
Total	208	564	624	433	285	500	491	436

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	23,357	101,404	93,912	62,000	30,213	70,895	75,061	44,995
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	3,173	6,278	20,775	15,554	10,277	4,448	12,767	17,072
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	6,505	9,312	11,229	1,222	615	2,519	1,781	936
By reference to Board or Court ..	12,774	1,711	1,083	1,128	544	2,952	208	684
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	659	766	12,037	446	58	4,262	3,251	4,342
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out ..	653	2,141	334	790	315	130	160	245
By Closing down Establishment Permanently ..	170	182	58	171	18	170	28	..
By other methods ..	2,088	33,772	25,678	30,971	33,408	66,370	81,158	44,325
Total	50,283	155,566	165,101	112,282	75,448	151,746	176,314	112,539

^a See note page 94.

^b See note page 110.

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia, 1913 to 1926—continued.

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST.								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	94,400	827,085	245,765	353,336	229,503	373,155	479,116	417,158
By intervention, or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	26,335	217,916	156,070	187,164	582,929	103,005	320,046	549,427
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	187,871	69,436	136,735	15,016	25,531	41,900	17,650	11,281
By reference to Board of Court ..	221,769	19,236	22,752	13,767	8,484	142,939	4,338	8,744
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	2,105	34,205	327,048	8,081	473	74,376	47,272	134,841
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strikes or Locked out ..	14,139	160,562	3,542	11,759	2,517	3,040	1,163	2,565
By Closing down Establishment Permanently ..	20,400	12,919	538	603	18	1,250	1,932	
By other methods ..	56,509	529,806	61,161	101,348	267,359	150,526	180,665	113,580
Total ..	623,523	1,872,065	956,617	692,074	1,117,314	890,191	1,063,176	1,242,896

ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	43,834	534,760	240,442	283,515	252,059	398,628	505,565	425,527
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	12,394	154,093	146,929	200,835	676,288	114,836	230,771	658,498
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	86,277	46,831	79,233	14,663	24,158	34,151	15,305	6,819
By reference to Board of Court ..	104,293	11,265	19,452	10,541	7,538	110,559	3,499	7,771
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	1,373	10,265	193,887	5,701	350	56,766	68,880	124,511
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strikes or Locked Out ..	6,473	94,235	2,203	8,670	1,787	2,111	1,225	2,548
By Closing down Establishment Permanently ..	7,850	7,125	355	635	13	970	2,318	
By other methods ..	25,246	356,182	69,527	92,308	279,104	167,149	206,775	134,805
Total ..	287,739	1,223,716	757,028	616,868	1,241,245	885,161	1,034,428	1,360,479

In all years direct negotiation between employers and employees settled the majority of the disputes. During the year 1913, 57 per cent. of the total number of dislocations was settled in this manner, and the percentages in subsequent years varied between 53 in 1923, and 71 in 1915, the proportion in 1926 amounting to 51 per cent. In connexion with the comparatively large numbers of disputes classified as settled "By other methods," a large number of stoppages of work occur each year, principally at the collieries, without any cause being brought officially under the notice of the employers or their representatives. Such stoppages usually last for one day, and work is resumed on the following morning without negotiation.

13. **Interstate Disputes.**—Disputes which extend beyond the limits of a single State, while necessarily extensive, are comparatively few in number. These disputes rarely start on an interstate basis, but develop into such through the interdependence of trade union organizations, and the submission to the principle that the objectives of one section of unionists must not be prejudiced by another section.

Both of the 1917 disputes were due to causes which could not well be brought before the Arbitration Court, the disputes being more susceptible to mutual agreement between the men and their employers. The trouble in the Railway Workshops involved a large number of sympathy strikes, full particulars of which appear in Labour Report, No 8, pp. 121-127.

The second table relates to the same disputes, but gives some additional particulars to those contained in the first table.

No. 1—Interstate Industrial Disputes, 1917 to 1926.

Disputes.	States Involved.	No. of Work-people Involved.	No. of Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
1917.				
Glass Bottle Makers— Protest against non-payment for defective bottles, 24/4/17 to 10/7/17	New South Wales Victoria .. South Australia ..	1,000 642 200	67,000 31,700 14,000	£ 38,250 17,600 1,000
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	1,842	112,700	54,850
Railway Workshop Employees— (Introduction of a card system for job costing in Workshops), Railway Employees in New South Wales, seamen and wharf labourers in all States, coal miners in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland, and other trades were affected, 2/8/17 to 30/11/17	New South Wales Victoria .. Queensland .. South Australia .. Western Australia .. Tasmania ..	77,357 14,200 2,350 1,900 1,200 500	3,071,000 637,300 128,600 14,100 84,100 32,150	1,780,000 325,500 62,000 7,400 42,800 15,800
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	97,507	3,982,250	2,233,000
1918.				
NIL.				
1919.				
Seamen— (Increased Wages), Queensland Seamen came out in February, the remainder in May, 1919.	New South Wales Victoria .. Queensland .. South Australia .. Western Australia .. Tasmania ..	7,700 2,190 2,770 1,705 995 655	696,500 197,920 359,480 128,975 78,520 57,180	858,100 196,370 185,430 62,155 35,840 27,785
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	16,005	1,512,525	775,680
Marine Engineers— (Claim for 35 per cent. increase in wages), 13/12/19 to 28/2/20	New South Wales Victoria .. Queensland ..	5,150 2,095 1,322	302,450 159,090 77,520	167,045 87,755 42,475
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	9,167	539,060	297,265
1920.				
Building Trade Employees— (Against Saturday work), 10/4/20 to 14/5/20	New South Wales Victoria .. South Australia ..	2,500 2,000 300	25,000 48,000 7,710	17,000 38,000 5,000
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	4,800	80,710	55,000
Marine Stewards—Pantrymen— (Claim for 8 hour day and increase in overtime rates), 15/12/20 to 25/1/21	New South Wales Victoria .. Queensland .. South Australia ..	6,200 2,330 1,373 673	204,800 75,920 42,232 20,522	125,435 48,270 25,296 12,860
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	10,576	343,474	206,650
1921, 1922, and 1923.				
NIL.				
1924.				
Seamen— Demand to be "picked up" at Union Rooms instead of ship's side, 20/12/24 to 23/1/25	New South Wales Victoria .. Queensland .. South Australia .. Western Australia .. Tasmania ..	448 376 117 122 80 88	6,939 7,541 2,940 2,459 1,607 757	6,267 5,279 1,638 1,721 1,125 530
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	1,176	23,643	16,550
1925.				
Seamen— Demand for inclusion in each man's articles of conditions of Award rendered void by deregistration of Union, 12/6/25 to 7/8/25	New South Wales Victoria .. Queensland .. South Australia .. Western Australia .. Tasmania ..	1,303 1,102 342 369 235 111	25,326 21,373 6,633 6,969 4,557 2,142	17,728 14,961 4,643 4,878 8,190 1,500
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	3,452	67,000	46,900
1926.				
Coalmining— Demand by Engine-drivers and Firemen for restoration of "margin for skill" reduced by award of Coal Tribunal (Mr. Hibbie), 10/6/26 to 19/8/26	New South Wales Victoria .. Tasmania ..	13,000 1,794 206	442,000 60,996 618	530,400 73,195 742
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	15,000	503,614	604,837

No. 2.—Interstate Industrial Disputes, 1917 to 1926.

Dispute.	States Involved.	Cause.	Result.	Method of Settlement.
Glass Bottle Makers, 24/4/17 to 10/7/17	New South Wales Victoria South Australia	Protest against non-payment for defective bottles	An acceptance of payment of half their original demand was finally agreed to by employees	Conference between employers & employees with assistance of an arbitrator
Railway Workshop Employees, 2/8/17 to 30/11/17	New South Wales	Protest against introduction of the card system for job costing in workshops	Work resumed on antecedent conditions (Government terms). Card system to be given a trial for three months after which to be subject of special inquiry	By negotiations with assistance of Secretary for Labour and Industry
Railway Employees other than Workshop Employees	New South Wales	Sympathy with New South Wales Government Workshop Employees	Work resumed on antecedent conditions	Partly by voluntary return to work, and partly by filling of men's places
Industries other than Government Railways whose employees were affected	New South Wales	Sympathy with New South Wales Government Workshop Employees	Work resumed on antecedent conditions	By voluntary return to work
Seamen, Waterside Workers, Tally Clerks	All States	Sympathy with New South Wales Government Workshop Employees	Work resumed on antecedent conditions	By voluntary return to work
Other Industries affected	Victoria	(a) Closing down of various works through shortage of supplies, and (b) refusal of the various unions to handle goods which had been handled by non-unionists on the waterfront	Work resumed on varying conditions in relation to industries	(a) On resumption of supplies (b) By the replacement of non-union labour by unionists on waterfront
Seamen, Queensland. Seamen came out in February and the remainder in May. Strike terminated on 26th August, 1919	New South Wales Victoria Queensland South Australia Western Australia Tasmania	Demand for increase of 35s. per lunar month; increase of 1s. per hour on overtime rates; 6-hour day in port. Insurance of £500 against death and compensation for illness	Wages increased by 35s. per month. Leave of absence and overtime increased, and other concessions	By round table conference summoned by Commonwealth Government
Marine Engineers, 13/12/19 to 28/2/20	New South Wales Victoria Queensland	Demand for increased rates and altered conditions of work and rates of overtime	Increased rates granted. Other matters to be dealt with by Tribunal	By negotiations and intervention of a distinctive third party
Building Trade Employees, 10/4/20 to 14/5/20	New South Wales Victoria South Australia	Against Saturday work. For reduction from 48 to 44 hours	Parties summoned in order to record agitation for reduced hours	Men decided by ballot to return to work on employers' terms
Marine Stewards and Pantrymen 15/12/20 to 25/1/21	New South Wales Victoria Queensland South Australia	Demand for 8 hours a day, and increased overtime	Work resumed on antecedent conditions	Stewards voluntarily offered to resume work
Seamen Interstate Shipping Services, 20/12/24 to 28/1/25	All states	Demand to be "picked up" at Union Rooms instead of at ship's side	Court fixed "picking up" place at Mercantile Marine Office in each State	By award of Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration
Seamen Interstate and overseas services 12/6/25 to 7/8/25	All States	Demand for inclusion in each man's articles of conditions of Award rendered void by deregistration of Union	Demand conceded together with other modifications of Award, conditionally on Union agreeing not to exercise job control	By conference of parties

No. 2.—Interstate Industrial Disputes, 1917 to 1926—continued.

Dispute.	States Involved.	Cause.	Result.	Method of Settlement.
Coalmining—Engine-drivers and Firemen, 10/5/26 to 10/8/26	New South Wales Victoria Tasmania	Demand for restoration of "margins" enjoyed over other designations engaged in the Coalmining Industry, which had been reduced by recent award of Coal Tribunal	Work resumed on old conditions pending resubmission of claims to Tribunal—which subsequently refused the claims	Referred to Coal Tribunal

§ 2. Fluctuations in Employment.

1. **General.**—In Chapter II. variations in rates of wage in Australia since 1891 are indicated by index-numbers, while in Chapter I. variations in retail prices and in wholesale prices are shown by a similar method.

Employment index-numbers form a useful complement to figures showing the course of wages, prices, and purchasing-power of money, since they indicate the relative loss of time through lack of employment, and furnish a useful measure of the fluctuations of industrial activity regarded as a whole. While export statistics, for example, represent only the margin of national production sent overseas, statistics of employment measure the relative activity or depression of the whole of the industries to which they refer.

The particulars in the following tables are based on information furnished by the secretaries of trade unions, and the number of members of unions regularly reporting has now reached over 400,000. Unemployment returns are not collected from unions whose members are in permanent employment, such as railway and tramway employees, and public servants, or from unions whose members are casually employed (wharf labourers, etc.) Very few unions pay unemployment benefit, but the majority of the larger organizations have permanent secretaries and organizers who are in close touch with the members and with the state of trade in their particular industries. In many cases unemployment registers are kept, and provision is made in the rules for members out of work to pay reduced subscriptions. It may, therefore, be affirmed that percentage results based on trade union information fairly show the general trend of unemployment.

Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment have been recorded by collecting returns quarterly since the 1st January, 1913, the yearly figures quoted representing the average of the four quarters.

2. **Unemployment.**—(i) *States, 1926.*—In addition to the qualifications referred to above, allowance must be made for the circumstance that the industries included in the returns from trade unions are not quite identical in the various States. The results may, however, be taken as representing fairly well labour conditions generally.

Unemployment—States, 1926.

State.	Unions Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Number.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
New South Wales	100	171,190	12,606	7.4
Victoria	85	130,644	8,422	6.4
Queensland	45	44,738	3,767	8.4
South Australia	55	39,588	2,039	5.2
Western Australia	59	23,302	1,666	7.1
Tasmania	30	5,935	826	13.9
Australia	374	415,397	29,326	7.1

(ii) *Australia*, 1891 to 1927 (1st Quarter).—The following table gives particulars for Australia for the years 1891 to 1927 (1st Quarter) in respect of:—

- (a) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available.
- (b) The number of members of such unions.
- (c) The number of members unemployed, and
- (d) The percentage of members unemployed on total number of members.

Unemployment.—Australia—1891 to 1927 (1st Quarter).

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Number of Members.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1891 end of year ..	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 " " ..	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 " " ..	39	8,710	574	6.6
1907 " " ..	51	13,179	757	5.7
1908 " " ..	68	18,685	1,117	6.0
1909 " " ..	84	21,122	1,223	5.8
1910 " " ..	109	32,995	1,857	5.6
1911 " " ..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1912 " " ..	464	224,023	12,441	5.6
1913 (average for year) ..	462	246,068	16,054	6.5
1914 " " ..	459	268,938	22,344	8.3
1915 " " ..	470	276,215	25,663	9.3
1916 " " ..	473	290,075	16,783	5.8
1917 " " ..	450	286,811	20,334	7.1
1918 " " ..	478	299,793	17,536	5.8
1919 " " ..	464	310,145	20,507	6.6
1920 " " ..	447	341,967	22,105	6.5
1921 " " ..	449	361,744	40,549	11.2
1922 " " ..	445	380,998	35,238	9.3
1923 " " ..	436	376,567	26,672	7.1
1924 " " ..	413	397,613	35,507	8.9
1925 " " ..	380	391,380	34,620	8.8
1926 " " ..	374	415,397	29,326	7.1
1926 1st Quarter ..	371	415,612	34,161	8.2
2nd " " ..	365	369,894	24,920	6.7
3rd " " ..	386	434,521	32,871	7.6
4th " " ..	383	441,560	25,351	5.7
1927 1st " " ..	373	445,739	26,280	5.9

3. **Employment Index-Numbers.**—For convenience of examination and comparison the percentage of members not returned as unemployed is given below, and the result for each year is also stated in the form of an index-number with the year 1911 as base (=1000).

Unemployment.—Australia, Percentages and Index-Numbers, 1891 to 1926.

Particulars.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1913.	1914.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Percentage not returned as Unemployed	90.7	93.4	95.3	93.5	91.7	92.9	94.2	93.4	88.8	90.7	92.9	91.1	91.2	92.0
Employment Index-No., 1911=1000	952	980	1,000	981	962	975	988	980	932	952	975	956	957	975

The employment rates for 1912 and previous years relate to the end of the year in each case, as yearly averages were not available—those for 1913 and subsequent years represent yearly averages.

Subject to this qualification the figures in the first line of the table indicate the percentage of full time worked on the average in each year, while the second line shows the relative state of employment in each year compared with that in the year 1911 taken as =1000.

4. **Unemployment by Industries.**—(i) *Australia, 1926.*—The following table shows the percentages unemployed in industrial groups. Industries in which employment is either unusually stable or exceptionally casual, such as railways, shipping, agricultural, pastoral, &c., and domestic hotels, &c., are insufficiently represented in the returns owing to the impossibility of securing the necessary information from the trade unions. Particulars are not, therefore, shown separately for these groups, such returns as are available being included in the last group, "Other and Miscellaneous."

Unemployment in Industrial Groups—Australia, 1926.

Industrial Group.	Number Reporting		Unemployed	
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	12	31,389	1,576	5.0
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	59	61,071	2,975	4.9
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	48	38,145	4,279	11.2
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	20	41,013	1,276	3.1
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	12	17,973	350	1.9
VI. Other Manufacturing . . .	64	34,489	4,311	12.5
VII. Building . . .	44	51,906	2,831	5.5
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. . .	18	23,222	1,769	7.6
X. Land Transport other than Rail- way and Tramway services . .	8	12,632	537	4.3
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous . .	83	103,557	9,422	9.1
All Groups . . .	374	415,397	29,326	7.1

(ii) *Australia, 1912 and Quarterly, 1925 and 1926.*—The following table gives for various industrial groups the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed during each quarter of 1925 and 1926. The percentage of unemployed at the end of 1912 is also inserted for purposes of comparison. The figures do not include persons out of work through strikes or lockouts.

Unemployment.—Australia, Percentages by Industries, 1912, 1925, and 1926.

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	1912. End of Year.	1925.				1926.			
		1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	3.7	7.8	5.3	4.3	8.0	6.9	5.1	4.7	3.4
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	7.4	14.9	15.6	7.0	7.5	6.5	4.7	4.7	3.9
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	7.8	9.6	10.6	7.9	10.9	13.8	9.4	11.9	9.5
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	6.3	7.8	6.8	7.1	3.3	3.8	3.3	4.7	1.6
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	2.8	1.8	2.8	2.6	1.8	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.4
VI. Other Manufacturing . . .	6.9	12.0	18.2	15.4	10.9	10.4	13.4	15.1	9.4
VII. Building . . .	5.5	6.2	8.4	9.4	5.0	5.2	5.7	6.1	4.8
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. . .	5.6	8.2	8.0	7.0	7.2	10.7	4.8	6.7	6.7
X. Other Land Transport . . .	1.1	5.8	6.3	5.4	5.2	4.7	4.2	4.4	3.7
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous . .	6.4	9.0	8.3	7.1	11.4	11.1	7.7	9.5	8.2
AUSTRALIA . . .	5.6	9.3	10.2	7.9	8.1	8.2	6.7	7.6	5.7

5. **Unemployment—States.**—The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in the years 1913 to 1925 were published in Labour Bulletins Nos. 1 to 18, and in the Quarterly Summary of Statistics, Nos. 70 to 105. The following table shows for each State the percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed during each quarter of 1925 and 1926. The percentage unemployed at the end of 1912 is also given for purposes of comparison. It must be borne in mind, however, that the classes of industry in the several States are not quite identical:—

Unemployment.—States, Percentages at the end of 1912; and Quarterly, 1925 and 1926.

STATE.	1912. End of Year.	1925.				1926			
		1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.
New South Wales	5.0	13.2	12.7	7.8	10.1	8.4	7.5	7.4	6.2
Victoria	6.7	7.7	9.8	9.9	7.1	7.3	7.1	7.3	4.2
Queensland	4.6	5.1	6.5	5.4	9.2	12.5	4.3	8.3	5.3
South Australia	5.1	3.6	4.8	5.1	3.6	5.0	4.4	6.6	4.4
Western Australia	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.0	5.5	6.9	6.7	9.2	5.8
Tasmania	3.4	5.5	11.3	9.3	5.6	13.6	14.2	15.0	12.6
AUSTRALIA	5.6	9.3	10.2	7.9	8.1	8.2	6.7	7.6	5.7

As is the case with the preceding table the figures do not include persons out of work through strikes or lockouts.

6. Causes of Unemployment.—The following tables give, for Australia, the membership of the unions reporting and the number and percentage of those unemployed under three main heads for the four quarters of, and for the years, 1922 to 1926:—

Unemployment.—Australia, Causes, Quarterly and Yearly, 1922 to 1926.

Particulars.	No. of Members of Unions report- ing.	Number of and Percentage Unemployed through—							
		Lack of Work.		Sickness and Accident.		Other Causes.		Total.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1922.									
1st quarter	361,394	30,605	8.5	2,547	0.7	845	0.2	33,997	9.4
2nd quarter	861,901	31,724	8.7	2,693	0.7	582	0.2	34,999	9.6
3rd quarter	371,582	33,295	8.9	2,548	0.7	726	0.2	36,569	9.8
4th quarter	390,304	30,441	7.8	2,415	0.6	687	0.2	33,543	8.6
Year	371,295	31,516	8.5	2,551	0.7	710	0.2	34,777	9.4
1923.									
1st quarter	377,209	24,095	6.4	2,465	0.7	552	0.1	27,112	7.2
2nd quarter	378,161	23,272	6.2	2,713	0.7	946	0.2	26,931	7.1
3rd quarter	380,256	24,647	6.5	2,047	0.8	528	0.1	28,122	7.4
4th quarter	362,129	20,194	5.6	2,531	0.7	947	0.3	23,673	6.6
Year	374,430	23,952	6.2	2,664	0.7	743	0.2	26,460	7.1
1924.									
1st quarter	370,840	23,322	6.3	2,628	0.7	1,298	0.3	27,248	7.3
2nd quarter	373,388	26,397	7.1	2,822	0.7	816	0.2	30,026	8.0
3rd quarter	370,517	24,850	6.7	2,973	0.8	822	0.2	28,645	7.7
4th quarter	371,481	27,631	7.5	2,775	0.7	719	0.2	31,145	8.4
Year	371,557	25,555	6.9	2,800	0.8	814	0.2	29,266	7.9
1925.									
1st quarter	373,566	26,927	7.2	2,762	0.7	653	0.2	30,342	8.1
2nd quarter	342,174	29,242	8.6	2,305	0.7	493	0.1	32,040	9.4
3rd quarter	367,607	25,281	6.9	2,637	0.7	503	0.2	28,511	7.8
4th quarter	413,248	26,418	6.4	2,770	0.7	1,100	0.2	30,288	7.3
Year	374,174	26,907	7.2	2,610	0.7	710	0.2	30,295	8.1
1926									
1st quarter	415,032	30,855	7.4	2,536	0.6	770	0.1	34,161	8.2
2nd quarter	369,894	21,745	5.9	2,198	0.7	677	0.2	24,620	6.7
3rd quarter	434,521	29,432	6.8	2,795	0.6	594	0.2	32,871	7.6
4th quarter	441,590	22,243	5.0	2,655	0.6	453	0.1	26,351	5.7
Year	415,252	26,081	6.3	2,621	0.6	624	0.2	29,326	7.1

Comparison of the membership figures in the above table with those in sub-section 2, shows that the unions do not at all times give particulars as to causes of unemployment.

§ 3. State Free Employment Bureaux.

1. **General.**—As pointed out in Labour Report No. 6 (page 130), the systems of registration of applications for work and applications from employers are not uniform in the States, and this factor must, therefore, be taken into consideration in making comparisons of the figures relating to the operations of the Labour Bureaux.

2. **Applications and Positions Filled.**—The following table shows the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in Australia during the years 1921 to 1926. The figures for Western Australia included in this table and in subsequent tables for the years 1922 and 1923 relate to the twelve months ended 30th June; in all other cases the returns are for calendar years:—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Summary, Australia, 1921 to 1926.

Year.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Period. ^a	Received during period.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Received during Period.	Total.	
1921	7,669	131,867	139,536	6797	649,824	50,621	53,328
1922	8,304	134,750	143,054	c744	c59,968	60,712	58,351
1923	8,848	116,752	125,600	b655	c56,627	57,282	57,438
1924	11,802	156,361	168,163	b658	d63,451	64,109	65,549
1925	13,216	169,469	182,885	e595	f59,008	69,603	75,177
1926	11,569	259,383	270,952	e1,543	f67,397	68,940	84,278

a Exclusive of W.A.

b Exclusive of Vic., S.A., W.A. and Tas.

c Exclusive of Vic., S.A. and Tas.

d Exclusive of S.A. and Tas.

e N.S.W. only.

f Exclusive of S.A., W.A. and Tas.

Compared with 1925 the number of applications for employment received during 1926 increased by 52.3 per cent., while the increase in the number of positions filled was 12.1 per cent. In regard to applications from employers, the number received during 1926 shows an increase of 14.2 per cent. Applications from employers in Victoria were included for the first time in 1924.

3. **Details for each State.**—The following table shows the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in each State during the year 1926:—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Summary, States, 1926.

State.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	
New South Wales ..	2,235	56,376	58,661	1,543	41,323	42,871	37,184
Victoria ..	1,232	34,780	36,062	..	4,830	4,830	4,611
Queensland ..	7,409	131,357	138,766	..	21,239	21,239	20,577
South Australia ..	209	23,137	23,346	..	..	..	11,990
Western Australia ..	a	11,702	11,702	..	..	..	7,827
Tasmania ..	384	2,031	2,415	..	..	..	2,089
Total ..	611,569	259,383	270,952	1,543	67,397	68,940	84,278

(a) Not available. (b) Exclusive of W.A. (c) Exclusive of Vic., Qld., S.A., W.A., and Tas.
(d) Exclusive of S.A., W.A., and Tas.

The percentages of applicants who obtained employment through the Bureaux in the various States were:—New South Wales, 63; Victoria, 13; Queensland, 15; South Australia, 51; Western Australia, 67; Tasmania, 87; and all States combined 31 per cent.

4. Details in Industrial Groups.—The next table gives details for the year 1926 in industrial groups:—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Summary, Industrial Groups, Australia, 1926.

Industrial Group.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.(a)	Received during Year.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.(b)	Received during Year (c)	Total.	
I. Wood, Furniture, Saw-mill, Timber Workers, etc. ..	88	1,521	1,609	..	39	39	210
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	669	9,325	10,494	15	1,202	1,217	1,661
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	811	7,913	8,724	..	770	770	750
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	482	4,818	5,300	4	1,773	1,777	1,720
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	55	522	577	..	58	58	72
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	34	1,453	1,487	27	308	335	224
VII. Building ..	504	14,277	14,781	65	3,550	3,615	4,549
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	309	2,608	2,917	1	173	174	226
IX. Rail and Tram Services	563	28,201	28,764	..	1,640	1,640	12,369
X. Other Land Transport	86	1,817	1,903	1	530	531	537
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. ..	10	267	277	2	67	69	48
XII. Pastoral; Agricultural, Rural, etc. ..	595	16,504	17,099	399	8,198	8,597	11,129
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	327	15,107	15,434	886	14,532	15,418	11,855
XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous ..	7,036	154,550	161,586	143	34,557	34,700	38,928
Total ..	11,569	259,383	270,952	1,543	67,397	68,940	84,278

(a) Exclusive of W.A. (b) Exclusive of Vic., Qld., S.A., W.A., and Tas. (c) Exclusive of S.A., W.A., and Tas.

As pointed out previously, the work of the Bureaux in the various States is not on uniform lines. For example, in States in which Government Departments obtain workers from the Labour Bureaux, the numbers of workers are larger in comparison than in the same groups in other States. It should be noted also that special provisions for female workers are not made in all States.

The majority of positions filled during 1926 were in industrial groups which comprise for the most part unskilled workers, the largest number filled being in Group XIV. (General Labour and Miscellaneous) with 46 per cent., followed by Groups IX. (Rail and Tram Services), 15 per cent., XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), 14 per cent., and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.), 13 per cent.

In Group XIV. the percentage of positions filled in New South Wales was 55, and in Queensland 29 per cent. In Group XII., New South Wales, Western Australia and Queensland account for 95 per cent., i.e., New South Wales, 49 per cent., Western Australia, 34 per cent., and Queensland, 12 per cent. Most of the positions in Group IX. were filled in South Australia (83 per cent.), where a considerable amount of railway work was in progress.

5. **Details by Sexes.**—The following table gives particulars, for male and female workers separately, of the number of applications for employment, and from employers, and the number of positions filled in Australia during the year 1926.

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Details by Sexes, Australia, 1926.

Particulars.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.(a)	Received during Year.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.(b)	Received during Year.(c)	Total.	
Males	10,951	244,069	255,020	586	53,095	53,681	72,310
Females	618	14,714	15,332	957	14,302	15,259	11,968
Total	11,569	259,383	270,952	1,543	67,397	68,940	84,278

(a) Exclusive of W.A.

(b) Exclusive of Vic., Qld., S.A., W.A. and Tas.

(c) Exclusive of S.A., W.A., and Tas.

Of the total number of registrations for employment during the year 1926, 94.6 per cent. (against 94.5 per cent. in 1925) were made by males, and 5.4 per cent. by females. The percentage of positions filled for males was 85.8 per cent. (against 88.6 per cent. in 1925), and for females, 14.2 per cent.

For every 1,000 applications for employment from male workers, 283 positions were filled in 1926, as against 385 in 1925, while the number of positions found for female workers for every 1,000 applications was 781.

§ 4. Assisted Immigration.

1. **General.**—The following table shows the number of immigrants the cost of whose passage was wholly or partly defrayed by the State Governments up to the end of the year 1920, and the number arriving in each year since that date.

Assisted Immigration.—Summary, Australia, to 31st December, 1926.

Particulars.	To end of 1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	Total.
No. of Immigrants	848,861	14,482	24,258	26,645	25,036	24,827	31,260	1,095,559

For the three pre-war years 1911 to 1913 inclusive, the average number of assisted immigrants was 41,317. In 1914, as the result of the outbreak of war, the number dropped to 20,805. In each of the years 1915 to 1919 inclusive, the number was small, and in 1919 was only 245. Increases are shown in the years 1920 to 1923, and slight decreases in 1924 and 1925. The number for 1926 shows a considerable increase and is the highest for any year since the outbreak of war, although it represents only 76 per cent. of the average for the three pre-war years.

2. **Immigrants to each State.**—The next table shows the numbers of assisted immigrants arriving in each State during the year 1926 :—

Assisted Immigration.—States, 1926.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic	Q'land	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Selected	{ Male	1,174	2,062	735	17	1,474	6,062
	{ Female	491	679	90	85	477	1,822
Nominated	{ Male	5,561	2,559	1,482	941	1,049	11,674
	{ Female	5,604	2,688	1,362	950	1,030	11,702
Total ..	12,830	8,586	3,609	1,993	4,030	152	31,260

3. **Immigrants in Industrial Groups.**—The following table gives the number of assisted immigrants of each sex classified in industrial groups, dependents being specified separately :—

Assisted Immigration.—Sexes and Industrial Groups, Australia, 1926.

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	SELECTED.			NOMINATED.		
	Males.	Females.	Total	Males.	Females.	Total.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	..	..	..	247	4	251
II. Engineering, Metals, etc.	..	..	..	1,475	..	1,475
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	..	..	..	132	10	142
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	..	..	..	200	315	515
V. Books, Printing, etc.	..	..	..	48	13	60
VI. Other Manufacturing	..	..	..	140	41	181
VII. Building	..	..	..	354	..	354
VIII. Mining	..	..	..	1,244	..	1,244
IX. Rail and Tramway Services	..	..	..	126	..	126
X. Other Land Transport	..	..	..	193	1	194
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc.	..	..	..	75	..	75
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	5,720	1	5,730	804	18	822
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	..	1,180	1,180	46	1,002	1,047
XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous Dependents	333	635	968	1,940	506	2,446
				4,743	9,192	13,935
Total	6,052	1,822	7,884	11,674	11,702	23,376

Of the total number of immigrants, 14,903, or 47.7 per cent. were dependents, of whom 65.9 per cent. were females. Exclusive of dependents, 51.6 per cent. of the males were in Group XII. (Agricultural, etc.), and 75.4 per cent. of the females in Group XIII. (Domestic, etc.).

§ 5. Industrial Accidents.

1. **Scope of Inquiry.**—A list of the districts from which returns of industrial accidents are received is given on page 135 of Labour Report No. 6. Limitations of space preclude its repetition in the present number. The tables in the following sub-paras. do not include non-fatal mining accidents in New South Wales, particulars of which are not available.

2. **Number of Accidents reported.**—The following table shows the number of accidents reported in each State during the years 1922 to 1926 :—

Industrial Accidents.—Numbers, 1922 to 1926.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.	
No. of Fatal Accidents	{ 1922 ..	33	18	17	3	10	4	85
	{ 1923 ..	49	22	14	5	12	6	108
	{ 1924 ..	49	18	12	3	13	1	96
	{ 1925 ..	58	12	13	6	19	6	114
	{ 1926 ..	68	23	11	18	16	7	143
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days	{ 1922 ..	801	517	474	176	353	42	2,363
	{ 1923 ..	900	606	476	234	319	117	2,652
	{ 1924 ..	1,061	473	545	290	259	104	2,741
	{ 1925 ..	902	453	428	266	415	78	2,032
	{ 1926 ..	845	523	292	331	691	67	2,752

During the year 1926 a considerable increase in the number of accidents which proved fatal was reported. Slight decreases were recorded in Queensland and Western Australia, but in each of the other States increases occurred. The number of non-fatal accidents incapacitating for over fourteen days declined in New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania, but increased in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, the total for Australia being 2,752 in 1926, compared with 2,632 in 1925, an increase of 4.6 per cent.

3. **Accidents in Industrial Groups.**—The next table gives the number of accidents in industrial groups for Australia during 1926.

Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in Industrial Groups, Australia, 1926.

Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incapacitating for over 14 days.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	8	294
II. Engineering, etc.	15	616
III. Food, Drink, etc.	7	142
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	1	152
V. Books, Printing, etc.	..	150
VI. Other Manufacturing	9	184
VII. Building and Scaffolding	13	39
VIII. Mining	82	1,074
IX. Lifts	6	18
X. Miscellaneous	2	83
Total	143	2,752

As usual, the largest number of accidents both fatal and non-fatal occurred in the mining industry, the percentages being 57 for fatal and 39 for non-fatal on the respective totals recorded for all industrial accidents.

4. **Mining Accidents.**—(i) *Sources of Information.*—Information regarding mining accidents is obtained from the sources specified in previous reports (see No. 11, page 175).

(ii) *Classification.*—The following tables give particulars of mining accidents reported to the Mines Departments in each State during the year 1926.

Mining Accidents.—Classification according to Causes, 1926.(a)

A.—Fatal Accidents.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives	2	..	1	..	..	1	4
" " Falls of Ground	2	1	1	..	..	..	13
" " Falling down shafts, etc.	3	..	..	..	2	..	5
Other Accidents	3	..	..	1	..	1	5
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion	3	..	..	..	2	..	5
Other Accidents	(b)7	3	..	3	1	2	18
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.							
..	..	1	..	3	..	1	5
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)	5	..	..	..	..	..	5
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	9	1	1	..	..	..	11
Other Accidents	6	..	1	..	..	..	7
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Accidents	4	1	..	..	..	..	5
Total	45	7	4	7	14	5	82

(a) The figures relating to mining accidents do not in all cases correspond with those published by the States Mines Departments, the discrepancies being partly due to the fact that accidents occurring in certain metallurgical works are not included in the figures issued by the Mines Departments, and partly to the lack of uniformity regarding the definition of a non-fatal accident.

(b) Includes two quarry accidents.

B.--Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days.

Cause of Accident.	(a)						(b) Total.
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	
METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives	1	..	10	..	10
" " Falls of Ground	5	..	..	36	1	43
" " Falling Down Shafts, etc.	15	1	16
Other Accidents	12	4	280	13	309
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion	1	1	29	..	31
Other Accidents	9	21	25	120	23	198
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelt- ing and other Metallurgical Works, etc.							
..	20	160	20	7	197
COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.)
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dyna- mite, etc.)	2	..	13	..	15
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth	4	19	..	26	1	50
Other Accidents	64	..	107	3	174
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion	2	4	..	2	..	8
Other Accidents	7	..	13	3	23
Total	20	151	180	671	52	1,074

(a) Not available.

(b) Exclusive of New South Wales.

The number of accidents occurring below ground in 1926 was considerably larger than that occurring above ground, the respective figures for the year being 50 fatal and (b)617 non-fatal accidents below ground, and 32 fatal and (b)457 non-fatal accidents above ground.

(iii) *Proportion per 1,000 Persons Employed in Mining.*—The table hereunder shows the number of persons who met with accidents per 1,000 persons employed in 1925. Comparative figures for 1926 are not yet available.

Number of Fatal and Non-fatal Accidents per 1,000 Persons Engaged in Mining, 1925.

STATES.	FATAL ACCIDENTS.		NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS.		ALL ACCIDENTS.	
	Metal Mining.	Coal Mining.	Metal Mining.	Coal Mining.	Fatal.	Non-fatal.
New South Wales	1.05	1.08	(a)	(a)	1.07	(a)
Victoria	0.40	1.93	2.38	7.33	1.17	4.89
Queensland	0.97	1.06	03.90	41.05	0.86	52.79
South Australia	1.06	..	191.74	..	1.06	191.74
Western Australia	2.82	..	5.96	115.21	2.33	65.88
Tasmania	0.96	..	21.60	..	0.60	19.57
Australia	1.23	1.12	(b)51.45	(b)33.24	1.17	(b)45.94

(a) Not available.

(b) Exclusive of New South Wales.