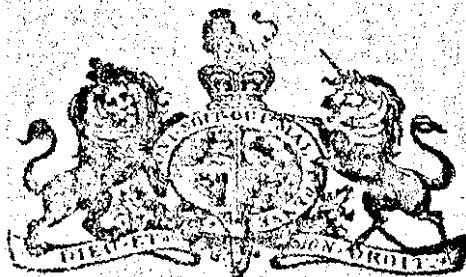


FOREIGN REPORTS.

Volume VIII.

ITALY.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1893.



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1893.

NOTE.

On the 19th May 1891 a letter was addressed by the Chairman of the Commission to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, requesting that instructions might be given to Her Majesty's Representatives in the principal European countries and in the United States to forward for the use of the Commission any publications which might have been recently issued in those countries bearing upon certain specified questions connected with the inquiry of the Commission, together with Reports containing such information as Her Majesty's Representatives might be able to supply.

In accordance with this request the Foreign Office obtained and forwarded to the Commission a large number of books, documents, and Reports drawn up by Her Majesty's Diplomatic or Consular Officers.

Some of the Reports last mentioned have been published as part of the Foreign Office series, but in order to arrange upon a systematic plan the information obtained from the Foreign Office and that derived from other sources, the Secretary of the Commission was directed to prepare Reports compiled from all these materials. These Reports are published in connection with the proceedings of the Commission, but the Commission is in no way responsible for the statements of fact or opinion which they contain. Nor are Her Majesty's Diplomatic and Consular Officers responsible for any statements contained in them except in so far as their own Reports are quoted.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR.

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR.

44, Parliament Street, London, S.W.,

October 5th, 1893.

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you the Report which I have been directed to draw up on the Labour Question in Italy.

I have paid special attention to questions such as the Secret Societies, the Migration of Labour, and Co-operation, the development of which peculiarly distinguishes the Labour Question in Italy from the Labour Question in other countries.

I may be permitted here to express my warmest thanks to Commendatore Luigi Bodio, Director-General of Statistics in the Ministry of Commerce at Rome, who has supplied me with valuable information on such subjects ever since I studied in Italy. There is hardly a section in this Report for which Signor Bodio has not directly or indirectly supplied me with materials, or in which his influence cannot be traced.

My thanks are also due to Professor Ugo Rabbeno, of the University of Bologna, and Professor Loria, of the University of Padua, for details on certain special subjects.

I am,

Your Grace's obedient Servant,

GEOFFREY DRAGE,

Secretary.

To

His Grace The Duke of Devonshire, K.G.,
Chairman of the Royal Commission on Labour.

REPORT ON THE LABOUR QUESTION IN ITALY.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page
MAP OF ITALY, SHOWING DIVISION INTO DEPARTMENTS AND PROVINCES.	
DIVISION I.—TRADE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.	
A.—GENERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.	
1. General Introduction	7
(a.) Two-fold aspect of the Italian labour question	7
(b.) Variety of local conditions in Italy	7
(c.) Results of the Revolution of 1860-1870	7
(d.) Industrial condition of Italy	7
(e.) General attitude of employers	7
2. Labour Organisations	8
(a.) Employers' associations	8
(b.) Workmen's associations	8
(c.) Labour congresses	13
(d.) Labour chambers	15
(e.) "Consolato Operaio" (Labour Federation at Milan)	19
(f.) Socialism	20
B.—CAUSES OF STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS.	
1. Wages	22
(a.) Advance or reduction	22
(b.) Irregular payment	22
(c.) Weekly payment	22
(d.) Payment in kind	22
(e.) Introduction of machinery	22
2. Hours	22
(a.) Advance or reduction	22
(b.) Normal hours	22
(c.) Overtime and night-work	23
(d.) Irregular work	23
(e.) Sunday and fête-day work	23
(f.) Piece-work	23
3. Other Causes	23
C.—DEVELOPMENT, ORGANISATION, AND CONDUCT OF STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS.	
1. Number of Strikes and Lock-outs throughout Italy	23
(a.) Sources of information	23
(b.) Number of strikes	23
(c.) Distribution by provinces	24
(d.) Distribution by industries	24
(e.) Agrarian strikes	25
(f.) Lock-outs	27
2. Duration of Strikes and Lock-outs, and Number of Men engaged in Strikes and Lock-outs	27
3. Important individual Strikes	28
(a.) Strikes among the weavers of the Biella district	28
(b.) Strikes among printers	29
(c.) General strikes	30
D.—GENERAL RESULTS OF STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS.	
1. Proportion of successful Strikes and Lock-outs	30
E.—PREVENTION AND SETTLEMENT OF STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS.	
1. Voluntary Boards of Arbitration or Conciliation	31
2. State Boards of Arbitration or Conciliation (<i>Collegi di Probi Viri</i>)	32
DIVISION II.—CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN CERTAIN SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.	
A.—MINING, IRON, ENGINEERING, HARDWARE, SHIPBUILDING, AND COGNATE TRADES.	
1. Mining and Quarrying	33
(a.) Number and distribution of Italian mines	33
(b.) General statistics	34
(c.) Wages	34
(d.) Hours of labour	37
(e.) Quarries and kilns	37
2. Iron, Engineering, Hardware, Shipbuilding, and Cognate Trades	37
(a.) General statistics	37
(b.) Wages	38
(c.) Hours of labour	38
B.—TRANSPORT AND AGRICULTURE.	
1. Railways and Tramways	39
2. Roadways	39
(a.) General statistics	39
(b.) Influence of transport on agriculture and commerce	39
3. Navigation and Mercantile Marine	39
4. Fisheries	39
5. Agriculture	39
(a.) Introductory	39
(b.) Existing depression and its causes	40
(c.) Systems of land tenure	40
(i.) Metayer system	40
(ii.) Leasehold system	41
(iii.) Wage-paying system	41

B.—TRANSPORT AND AGRICULTURE—continued.	
5. Agriculture—continued.	
(d.) Agricultural labour	42
(i.) Northern Italy	42
(ii.) Central Italy	43
(iii.) Southern Italy and Sicily	44
(iv.) Sardinia	46
(e.) Remedies	47
(i.) Closer connexion between town and country	47
(ii.) Cultivation of fruit trees and intensive cultivation	47
(iii.) Improvements in systems of land tenure	47
(iv.) Action of Government	47
(v.) Emigration	47
(f.) General statistics	47
C.—TEXTILE, CLOTHING, CHEMICAL, AND MISCELLANEOUS TRADES	
1. Textile, clothing, and miscellaneous trades	48
(a.) General introduction and statistics	48
(b.) Wages in the textile and other trades	48
(c.) Hours of labour in the textile and miscellaneous trades	49
(d.) Cost of living	49
2. Legislation on the labour of children	49
3. Employers' Liability and Insurance	50
DIVISION III.—CERTAIN SPECIAL SUBJECTS.	
A.—CO-OPERATION.	
1. Introduction	51
2. Credit	51
(i.) People's banks	51
(ii.) Rural banks	55
3. Productive Co-operation	58
(i.) Introduction	58
(ii.) Co-operative dairies	59
(iii.) Co-operative associations among day-labourers (<i>braccianti</i>)	60
(iv.) Co-operative associations among masons and bricklayers (<i>muratori</i>)	63
(v.) Industrial co-operative societies	64
(vi.) Industrial co-operative societies among manufacturers	65
(vii.) Co-operative societies for the provision of raw materials	66
4. Distributive Co-operation and co-operation in building	66
(i.) Introduction	66
(ii.) Co-operative Building Societies	67
(iii.) Organisation of distributive societies	69
(iv.) Distributive societies among railway officials	69
(v.) Other distributive societies	70
5. Agrarian Co-operation	70
(i.) Rural bakehouses	70
(ii.) Agricultural clubs	70
(iii.) Agricultural co-operative associations	70
(iv.) Co-operative farming associations	71
B.—EMIGRATION AND RE-MIGRATION.	
(i.) General characteristics	73
(ii.) Temporary emigration	73
(iii.) Permanent emigration	73
(iv.) Method of drawing up statistics	73
(v.) Distribution according to provinces	74
(vi.) Distribution according to sex, age, and trade	76
(vii.) Distribution according to destination	78
(viii.) Causes of emigration	79
(ix.) Special information	81
(a.) Europe	81
(b.) Africa	83
(c.) America	84
(d.) Australia	87
(x.) Concluding remarks	87
(xi.) Emigration law	88
C.—SECRET SOCIETIES AND BRIGANDAGE.	
(i.) Camorra	88
(ii.) Mafia	89
(iii.) Brigandage	89
D.—BENEFIT SOCIETIES AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.	
1. Benefit Societies	90
(i.) Number and distribution	90
(ii.) Members objects and constitution	90
(iii.) Benefit societies among railway hands	91
(iv.) Registration of benefit societies	91
(v.) Charitable institutions (<i>Opere Pie</i>)	92

APPENDIX A.

Statistics relating to the general economic condition of Italy	93
--	----

APPENDIX B.

Provisions relating to Co-operative Societies in the Italian Commercial Code	93
--	----

APPENDIX C.

Provisions relating to Offences against Liberty of Labour in the Italian Penal Code	-	-	94
---	---	---	----

APPENDIX D.

Literature consulted in the preparation of the Report on the Conditions of Labour in Italy	-	-	95
--	---	---	----

APPENDIX E.

Report of the First Congress of Italian Labour Chambers	-	-	-	-	-	97
---	---	---	---	---	---	----

NOTE.

The Statistics published in this Report have been derived directly from the sources mentioned in the references to the text. They will be found, in some instances, to differ slightly from the corresponding figures given in the Foreign Office Reports.

TABLE OF ITALIAN WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Money	-	100 centimes	=	1 lira.
		25 lire	=	1l. sterling.
Weight	-	1 kilogramme	=	2·2046 lbs. avoirdupois.
		1 myriagramme	=	22·0462 " "
		1 quintal	=	220·4621 " "
		1 ton	=	2204·621 " "
Land	-	1 metre	=	1·0936 English yds.
		1 kilometre	=	0·62138 " mile.
		1 sq. metre	=	1·196 " sq. yds.
		1 hectare	=	2·471 acres.