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A HISTORY
OF THE
ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL
LABOURER, 1870-1920

**A HISTORY OF
THE ENGLISH
AGRICULTURAL
LABOURER
1870 - 1920**

BY
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DEDICATED TO
"THE KING."

Who is the king ? The man who holds the plough !
There in high heaven is his charter set,
Pricked in eternal stars, tho' never yet
Has thought to rule ; a thousand years, as now,
Has brought his brother bread, regardless how
The bread was shared ; and, heedlessly, has let
Knavish usurpers wear the coronet—
The regal crown alone awaits his brow.

And humbly he will serve, and be the king ;
Bringing the clean counsels of the sunny field
Unto his Parhamment, and everything
Shall know the wholesome wind and rain, and yield
To the inspiration of the open places ;
And God shall see His image in our faces.

ANDREW DODDS.

PREFACE

THE history of farming should be written by a farmer. A history of labourers should be written by a labourer. This history suffers from the defect that it is not written by a labourer. It is, however, written by one who has tilled the land for many years and has tried to survey rural England through the eyes of a farm worker. Therefore I have written this history of the agricultural labourer as a partaker of his life, rather than from the detached point of view of the spectator, or the man of the study. To my mind the only honest historian is he who is not afraid to wear his heart upon his sleeve, as Cobbett did when he wrote his *Rural Rides*. A Gradgrind historian in exhibiting his selected facts is accurate at the expense of truth.

I have tried to interest the student in a life which has been considered prosaic to the point of stolidity, by showing him that it is filled with great adventures. He will find many references to 'Blue Books, sufficient, at any rate, I hope, to satisfy the academic mind; but my chief authorities bear names which it would be fruitless to mention, for they are the obscure folk who follow the plough, who drive the cattle from the pastures, and who fold the sheep at the foot of the Downs. They are the unrecorded men who give us our daily bread. It is to them that I and my readers owe thanks. One day, let us hope, some Englishman, who has endured with fortitude the life on the land, with all its pain and pleasure, will tell the story as it should be told, in words of imperishable beauty.

F. E. GREEN.

Author's Note.

IN the making of this book I have had the valuable assistance of Mr. Arthur W. Ashby, who has kindly read the proof sheets ; and of Mr. Ernest Selley, the author of *Village Trade Unions in Two Centuries*, who has provided me with much information which has been laboriously acquired. Mr. Frederick Verinder generously put at my disposal the only complete copies in existence, I believe, of the Red Van Reports, and the *Church Reformer*. The Presidents and Secretaries of the two great unions involved, the National Agricultural Labourers' and Rural Workers' Union, and the Workers' Union, namely Messrs. W. R. Smith, M.P., R. B. Walker, John Beard, and Charles Duncan, have allowed me free access to their books and papers ; and Sir Henry Rew has helped me in the compilation of the Appendices. To all of these and to many others, my thanks are due ; and I should like to add, that I alone am responsible for the statements expressed.

F. E. G.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	I
PART ONE.	
SEED TIME FOR REVOLT. Conditions prior to 1872	13
PART TWO.	
THE UPSTANDING CROP. 1872	28
PART THREE.	
THE FARMER SWINGS HIS SCYTHE. The great Lock-Out of 1874	49
PART FOUR.	
THE AFTERMATH OF THISTLES. The 'Eighties	67
PART FIVE.	
THE WINTER OF DISCONTENT.	
I. The 'Nineties	96
II. A Gleam of Sunshine: 1894.	121
PART SIX.	
STIRRINGS OF NEW LIFE. 1900	145
PART SEVEN.	
GROWTH UNDER STORMY SKIES. 1910-14	177
PART EIGHT.	
WHAT OF THE HARVEST?	
I. The Autumn of 1914	233
II. The Organizer at Work	259
III. The Corn Production Act at Work	288
IV. 1920	317
CHIEF BOOKS AND PAPERS USED	332

APPENDICES.	PAGE
I. Average Prices, per Imperial Quarter, of British Corn, in England and Wales from 1850 to 1919	335
II. Average Cash Wages per Week of Ordinary Agricultural Labourers from 1850 to 1907	336
III. Weekly Cash Wages, Allowances and Earnings of Agricultural Labourers in England and Wales 1907, 1912-13 and 1919	337
IV. Minimum Rates of Wages (April 19, 1920) in Force for Male Workers, 21 Years of Age and over, in England and Wales	339
V. Statement showing Changes in Cost of the Undermentioned Items of Workmen's Expenditure in London and Large Towns in Great Britain (Cost in 1900 = 100)	341
VI. Percentage Changes in Average Retail Price of Food in the United Kingdom, to a Workman's Family (Average Price in 1900 = 100).—Percentage Changes between 1905 and 1912 in Rents, Retail Prices, and Rents and Retail Prices combined, in London and 87 Large Towns.—Estimated Percentage Increase, on the Prices of July, 1914, in the Retail Prices of Food.	341
VII. Number of Agricultural Labourers, Shepherds, Nurserymen, Gardeners, etc., in England and Wales and Great Britain, as returned at the Census of 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901 and 1911 respectively	34
INDEX	34

A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL LABOURER.

INTRODUCTION.

WHEN German siege guns hammered at the gates of Western civilisation and the waters of our island home were haunted with enemy submarines, then it was that a "nation of shopkeepers" awoke to the fact that the invaluable worker was he who tilled its fields. Everybody who needed bread to sustain life became alarmingly aware that it was the farm worker who was the giver. A further discovery was made by our manufacturing classes, and this was that the agriculturist was a highly skilled worker. Those who answered to the Call of the Country to perform work of national importance in the field and stockyard soon found how clumsy were their attempts at agricultural work compared with the skill of the ploughman, the shepherd, the stockman, and even with that of the "ordinary" agricultural labourer.

As we delve into history what astonishes us most of all is, that there should be any agricultural labourers surviving in our country; for though agriculture is the oldest of the crafts, since factory chimneys have flourished at its expense, it has been the least honoured and the worst paid. During the war, a Member of the House of Commons startled that august assembly with the truth steeped in irony, that it was more difficult to replace a skilled carter than a Cabinet Minister.

That we still have skilled agricultural workers amongst us we owe to their supreme quality of patient endurance,

APPENDIX I

AVERAGE PRICES, PER IMPERIAL QUARTER, OF
BRITISH CORN, IN ENGLAND AND WALES FROM
1850 TO 1919

Year.	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Year.	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1850	40	3	23	5	16	5	1885	32	10	30	1	20	7
1851	38	6	24	9	18	7	1886	31	0	26	7	19	0
1852	40	9	28	6	19	1	1887	32	6	25	4	16	3
1853	53	3	33	2	21	0	1888	31	10	27	10	16	9
1854	72	5	36	0	27	11	1889	29	9	25	10	17	9
1855	74	8	34	9	27	5	1890	31	11	28	8	18	7
1856	69	2	41	1	25	2	1891	37	0	28	2	20	0
1857	56	4	42	1	25	0	1892	30	3	26	2	19	10
1858	44	2	34	8	24	6	1893	26	4	25	7	18	9
1859	43	9	33	6	23	2	1894	22	10	24	6	17	1
1860	53	3	36	7	24	5	1895	23	1	21	11	14	6
1861	55	4	36	1	23	9	1896	26	2	22	11	14	9
1862	55	5	35	1	22	7	1897	30	2	23	6	16	11
1863	44	9	33	11	21	2	1898	34	0	27	2	18	5
1864	40	2	29	11	20	1	1899	25	8	25	7	17	0
1865	41	10	29	9	21	10	1900	26	11	24	11	17	7
1866	49	11	37	5	24	7	1901	26	9	25	2	18	5
1867	64	5	40	0	26	0	1902	28	1	25	8	20	2
1868	63	9	43	0	28	1	1903	26	9	22	8	17	2
1869	48	2	39	5	26	0	1904	28	4	22	4	16	4
1870	46	11	34	7	22	10	1905	29	8	24	4	17	4
1871	56	8	36	2	25	2	1906	28	3	24	2	18	4
1872	57	0	37	4	23	2	1907	30	7	25	1	18	10
1873	58	8	40	5	25	5	1908	32	0	25	10	17	10
1874	55	9	44	11	28	10	1909	36	11	26	10	18	11
1875	45	2	38	5	28	8	1910	31	8	23	1	17	4
1876	46	2	35	2	26	3	1911	31	8	27	3	18	10
1877	56	9	39	8	25	11	1912	34	9	30	8	21	6
1878	46	5	40	2	24	4	1913	31	8	27	3	19	1
1879	43	10	34	0	21	9	1914	34	11	27	2	20	11
1880	44	4	33	1	23	1	1915	52	10	37	4	30	2
1881	45	4	31	11	21	9	1916	58	5	53	6	33	5
1882	45	1	31	2	21	10	1917	75	9	64	9	49	10
1883	41	7	31	10	21	5	1918	72	10	69	0	49	4
1884	35	8	30	8	20	3	1919	72	11	75	9	52	5

APPENDIX II

AVERAGE CASH WAGES PER WEEK OF ORDINARY AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

FROM MR. WILSON FOX'S REPORT ON WAGES, ETC., OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1905. Cd. 2376.
This Table should be compared with prices of British corn.

Year	England and Wales, 1850-1903 (69 farms).	Eastern Counties of England, 1850-1903 (12 farms).	Year	England and Wales, 1850-1903 (69 farms).	Eastern Counties of England, 1850-1903 (12 farms).	England and Wales, 1874-1903 (128 farms).
	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1850	9 3½	8 8	1874	13 7	13 2½	13 11½
1851	9 2½	8 3	1875	13 7	12 11½	14 0
1852	9 3	8 6½	1876	13 8	13 1	14 1½
1853	9 11	9 11½	1877	13 8	12 10½	14 1½
1854	10 8	11 2	1878	13 8	13 0½	14 0½
1855	10 11½	11 5	1879	13 3½	12 5½	13 8½
1856	11 0½	11 5	1880	13 2½	12 1	13 7½
1857	10 11½	10 11	1881	13 2	12 0	13 7½
1858	10 9½	10 5½	1882	13 2½	12 1	13 7½
1859	10 8½	10 2½	1883	13 3	12 0½	13 8
1860	10 11	10 8	1884	13 2½	11 11½	13 7½
1861	11 1	10 10	1885	13 1	11 5	13 5½
1862	11 1	10 7	1886	12 11	11 2½	13 4
1863	11 0	10 1½	1887	12 9½	10 11½	13 2½
1864	11 0½	10 3	1888	12 9½	10 7½	13 2½
1865	11 3	10 5	1889	12 10½	10 11	13 4
1866	11 6	10 1½	1890	13 0½	11 0½	13 6
1867	11 11	11 6½	1891	13 4	11 9½	13 9½
1868	12 0	11 9	1892	13 5	11 8	13 10
1869	11 8½	11 3	1893	13 3½	11 4½	13 9
1870	11 10½	11 1½	1894 ¹	13 3	11 1	13 8
1871	12 1	11 7½	1895	13 2½	11 0	13 8½
1872	12 8½	12 4½	1896	13 4	11 1½	13 9
1873	13 4	13 0½	1897	13 5	11 6	13 10½
			1898	13 8½	12 3	14 1½
			1899	13 10½	12 6½	14 4
			1900	14 5½	13 1½	14 10
			1901	14 6½	13 2½	14 11
			1902	14 7	13 2½	14 11½
			1903	14 7	13 2½	11 11½
			1907	14 9 England	12 6½ Norfolk & Suffolk	

" Since 1861 the tide of agricultural prosperity had ceased to flow, after 1874 it turned and rapidly ebbed." Ibid, p. 374.

Note.—Extra earnings per week: Ordinary Labourers, 10d.; Horse-men, 1s. 6d.; Cattle-men, 1s. 8d.; Shepherds, 1s. 10d.

¹ In 1894 wheat dropped to its lowest recorded figure, 22s. 10d.

² Cd. 5460.

APPENDIX III

TABLE SHOWING AVERAGE PRE-WAR WEEKLY EARNINGS OF ORDINARY AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

INCLUDING CASH WAGES, EXTRAS AND ALLOWANCES TOGETHER WITH MINIMUM WEEKLY WAGE AND HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR MALE AGRICULTURAL WORKERS OF 21 YEARS AND UPWARDS ON OCTOBER 6, 1919.

County.	Board of Trade Report, 1907. ¹	Board of Agriculture Enquiry, 1912.	Central Land Association Enquiry, 1912-13	Rural League Enquiry, 1912-13	Wages Board, October, 1919.		
					Minimum Wage.	Hours. ²	Summer
NORTHERN COUNTIES.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		
Northumberland	—	24 8	24 8	25 0	42 6	50	48
Durham	—	24 8	24 10	25 6	42 6	50	48
Cumberland	20 3	18 6	22 6	20 0	40 0	50	48
Westmorland	20 0	15 6	18 0	20 6	40 0	50	48
<i>Average</i>	20 5	—	22 6	23 3	—	—	—
YORKS, LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.							
Yorks—East Riding	19 6	—	21 5	—	—	—	—
North Riding	19 10	20 10	21 7	—	—	—	—
West Riding	20 2	20 2	22 1	—	41 0	50	48
Whole County	19 10	—	21 8	20 8	—	—	—
Lancashire	20 8	22 0	22 0	21 5	39 6	50	48
Cheshire	19 1	18 8	19 6	20 2	39 0	50	48
<i>Average</i>	19 9	—	21 1	20 9	—	—	—
NORTH AND WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES.							
Leicestershire	18 9	—	19 1	19 8	37 6	50	48
Rutland	17 0	17 1	20 3	20 0	37 6	50	48
Lincolnshire	19 5	17 6	21 3	19 8	40 6	50	48
Nottinghamshire	19 5	19 5	20 9	18 7	38 0	50	48
Derbyshire	20 10	22 6	20 9	25 3	37 6	50	48
Gloucestershire	16 3	—	17 5	16 6	36 6	50	48
Herefordshire	17 1	17 9	20 0	17 6	36 6	50	48
Shropshire	18 2	18 0	20 0	19 10	37 0	50	48
Staffordshire	18 10	19 6	20 2	19 6	38 6	50	48
Worcestershire	16 3	16 0	16 6	17 11	36 6	50	48
Warwickshire	17 2	17 1	20 2	17 4	36 6	50	48
<i>Average</i>	18 4	—	19 8	19 2	—	—	—
SOUTH MIDLAND AND EASTERN COUNTIES.							
Middlesex	20 3	—	21 6	21 3	40 6	50	48
Hertfordshire	16 10	16 3	18 9	17 9	38 6	50	48
Buckinghamshire	16 11	—	18 0	18 3	36 6	50	48
Oxfordshire	14 11	—	17 0	15 5	36 6	50	48
Northamptonshire	16 9	—	18 2	17 3	36 6	50	48
Huntingdonshire	16 2	—	19 0	16 6	36 6	50	48
Bedfordshire	16 3	—	17 6	16 3	36 6	50	48
Cambridgeshire	16 3	—	19 9	16 4	36 6	50	48
Essex	16 4	—	19 0	16 6	38 6	50	48
Suffolk	15 9	—	18 0	16 0	36 6	50	48
Norfolk	15 4	15 11	17 6	16 7	36 6	50	48
<i>Average</i>	16 1	—	18 6	17 0	—	—	—
SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES.							
Surrey	18 9	—	19 7	18 10	39 6	50	48
Kent	18 10	—	21 10	21 2	39 6	50	48
Sussex	17 9	—	19 2	18 2	38 6	50	48
Hampshire	17 5	—	18 11	16 10	37 6	50	48
Berkshire	16 8	—	18 9	16 10	36 6	50	48
<i>Average</i>	18 1	—	19 7	18 4	—	—	—
SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES.							
Wiltshire	16 0	—	17 2	17 3	36 6	50	48
Dorsetshire	16 1	—	17 7	17 0	36 6	50	48
Devonshire	17 9	18 7	19 0	17 2	37 6	50	48
Cornwall	17 7	18 3	17 0	19 2	37 6	50	48
Somersetshire	17 3	17 4	18 6	18 3	36 6	50	48
<i>Average</i>	16 10	—	17 10	17 9	—	—	—
AVERAGE FOR ENGLAND	17 6	—	19 10	—	37 6	50	48

¹ For purposes of comparison these wages are based on a uniform working week of 50 and 48 hours, though higher rates were allowed where the statutory hours were longer.

WEEKLY CASH WAGES, ALLOWANCES AND EARNINGS
OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN WALES
ALL CLASSES

County.	Cash Wages		Allowances and Extra Earnings.		Total Earnings.		Wages Board, October, 1919		
	Board of Trade, 1907.	Central Land Association, 1912-13	Board of Trade, 1907.	Central Land Association, 1912-13	Board of Trade, 1907.	Central Land Association, 1912-13	Minimum Wage.	Summer.	Winter.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		
Flintshire . .	15 11	18 0	2 11	3 8	18 10	21 8	36 6	50	48
Denbighshire . .	13 11	20 0	4 2	4 6	18 1	24 6	36 6	50	48
Carnarvon . .	13 10	17 6	4 9	3 0	18 7	20 6	36 6	50	48
Anglesey . .	11 9	16 6	5 9	3 3	17 6	19 9	36 6	50	48
Merionethshire .	13 3	14 3	4 11	7 6	18 2	21 9	36 6	50	48
Montgomeryshire	12 8	18 1	3 11	3 1	16 7	21 2	36 6	50	48
Cardiganshire . .	11 6	15 9	5 0	1 6	16 6	17 3	37 6	50	48
Radnorshire . .	11 1	10 0	5 7	7 6	16 8	17 6	36 6	50	48
Brecknockshire .	14 7	13 10	4 2	5 6	18 9	19 4	36 6	50	48
Carmarthenshire	13 9	19 1	4 4	5 0	18 1	24 1	37 6	50	48
Pembrokeshire .	12 9	9 10	4 6	3 6	17 3	18 4	37 6	50	48
Glamorganshire	15 8	19 5	3 7	3 3	19 3	22 8	41 6	50	48
Monmouthshire	14 9	17 3	3 4	1 10	18 1	19 1	41 6	50	48
AVERAGE FOR WALES.	13 9	16 2	4 3	4 5	18 0	20 7	37 6	50	18

Note.—In some cases the Minimum Wage applies to all classes. In others higher rates are allowed for horsemen, shepherds, etc.,

APPENDIX IV

MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES (APRIL 19. 1920) IN FORCE FOR MALE WORKERS, 21 YEARS OF AGE
AND OVER IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

In the areas of the District Wages Committees for —											Minimum Rates.	Overtime Rates.		Hours per week for Employment.	
												On Week-days.	On Sundays.	In Summer.	In Winter.
33	Berkshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		
33	Buckinghamshire ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Brecon and Radnor ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Cornwall	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Derbyshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Devonshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Dorset	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Hampshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Herefordshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Leicestershire and Rutland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42 0	1 1	1 3½	50	48
	Northamptonshire (including the Soke of Peterborough)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Nottinghamshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Oxfordshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Pembroke, Carmarthen and Cardigan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Shropshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Somerset	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Wiltshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
	Worcestershire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					

In the areas of the District Wages Committees for —											Minimum Rates	Overtime Rates.			Hours per week for Employment	
												On Week-days	On Sundays		In Summer	In Winter
Staffordshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	s d.	s d.	s d.			
Sussex	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42 6	1 1	1 3½		50	48
Kent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
Lancashire (excluding the Furness District)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43 6	1 1	1 4		50	48
Surrey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
Lincolnshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44 6	1 1½	1 4		50	48
Yorkshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45 0	1 1½	1 4½		50	48
Glamorgan and Monmouth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45 6	1 2	1 4½		50	48
Anglesey and Carnarvon	{ Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Horsemen, Cowmen, Shepherds, or Hwsmyrn (Bailiffs)										54 0	1 1	1 3½		51	58
											42 0	1 1	1 3½		50	48
Cambridgeshire (including Isle of Ely) Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire	{ Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Horsekeepers, Cowmen or Shepherds, other than workers employed solely as Stockmen and Yardmen										52 6	1 1	1 3½		59	57
											42 0	1 1	1 3½		50	48
Cheshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*50 0	1 2½	1 5½		54	
	{ Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Second Stockmen, Second Teamsmen, or Second Shepherds										*50 0	1 2	1 4½		54	
	{ Other classes of workmen										*48 0	1 1½	1 4		54	

* Proposal May 20, 1920.

In the areas of the District Wages Committees for:—		Minimum Rates.	Overtime Rates.		Hours per week for Employment.	
			On Week-days.	On Sundays.	In Summer.	In Winter.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		
Cumberland and Westmorland (including the Furness District of Lancashire)	Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Horsemen, Cattlemen or Shepherds with the addition in the case of a workman of any of these classes who has been so employed for a full half yearly term (expiring at Whitsuntide or Martinmas) of a further sum equal to the amount of his minimum wage specified	60 0	1 1½	1 4	63	63
	Other classes of workmen	44 0	1 1½	1 4	50	48
Denbigh and Flint	Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Team-men, Cattlemen, Cowmen, Shepherds or Bailiffs.. ..	54 0	1 1	1 3½	61	58
	Other classes of workmen	42 0	1 1	1 3½	50	48
Essex	Workmen employed wholly or mainly in connection with the use of land for a market garden under a contract of service or apprenticeship with an employer who is engaged in the trade or business of market gardening	46 6	1 1	1 3½	50	48
	Other classes of workmen	42 6	1 1	1 3½	50	48
Gloucestershire	Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Horsemen	52 6	1 1	1 3½	58	60
	Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Stockmen or Shepherds	54 0	1 1	1 3½	60	60
	Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Under Horsemen	48 6	1 1	1 3½	54	57
	Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Under Stockmen or Under Shepherds	51 0	1 1	1 3½	57	57
	Other classes of workmen	42 0	1 1	1 3½	50	48

In the areas of the District Wages Committees for —					Minimum Rates.		Overtime Rates.		Hours per week for Employment.	
							On Week-days.	On Sundays.	In Summer.	In Winter.
Merioneth and Montgomery	{	Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Stockmen,			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.			
		Teamsters, Carters or Shepherds			48 6	1 1	1 3½		56	53
		Other classes of workmen			42 0	1 1	1 3½		50	48
Northumberland and Durham	{	Workmen employed as whole-time Shepherds or wholly in tending sheep			58 0	Customary			in the	area
		Other classes of workmen			46 6	1 2	1 5		50	48
Warwickshire		All classes of workmen*			42 0	1 1	1 3½		50	48
Norfolk	{	Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Teamsmen, Cowmen or Shepherds			42 0	1 1	1 3½		50	48
		Sheep-tenders or Bullock-tenders			42 0	1 1	1 3½		50	48
		Other classes of workmen			42 0	1 1	1 3½		50	48

* Order dates from May 1920.

In the areas of the District Wages Committees for :—		Minimum Rates.	Overtime Rates.		Hours per Week for Employment.	
			On Week-days.	On Sundays.	In Summer.	In Winter.
Suffolk	Workmen employed wholly or mainly as Horsemen, Stockmen or Shepherds, whose whole time is occupied in looking after a flock of breeding sheep ..	s. d. 42 0	s. d. 1 1	s. d. 1 3½	50	48
	Other classes of workmen	42 0	1 1	1 3½	50	48
Hertfordshire and Middlesex	(1) That part of the area comprising the administrative county of Hertford	42 6	1 1	1 3½	50	48
	(2) That part of the area comprising the administrative county of Middlesex, the city of London and those parts of the administrative county of London (except the parts of the metropolitan borough of Woolwich) which lie north of the River Thames ..	44 6	1 1½	1 4	50	48

Notes :—"The Board resolved to give notice of a Proposal to increase the minimum and overtime rates for male workers under the age of 21 years throughout the country, the proposed increases in the weekly minimum rates varying generally in the case of workers aged 20 to 21 from 3/6 to 5/- according to the area, for workers aged 19 to 20 from 3/- to 4/-, and for workers aged 18 to 19 from 2/6 to 3/6, with proportionate increases for workers under the age of 18.

"The Board also decided to give Notice of Proposal to increase the minimum rates for female workers of all ages. In the case of female workers, the minimum rates are on an hourly basis, and the Board's Proposal is to increase the rate for workers aged 18 and over from 6d. to 7d. per hour in all areas except Somerset and Yorkshire, where the proposed rate would be 8d. per hour. Proportionate increases are proposed for female workers under the age of 18, together with consequential adjustments of the overtime rates for all ages."—*Agricultural Wages Board*, April 9, 1920. Cyclo No. 3091. †

* This order dates from May 3, 1920.

† Order came into operation May 31, 1920, with the alteration of Yorkshire female workers being paid 10d. an hour. The Agricultural Wages Board on June 3, 1920, decided to issue a proposal for consideration by District Wages Committees for a further increase, making the minimum wage 46s. per week.

APPENDIX V

STATEMENT SHOWING CHANGES IN COST OF THE UNDERMENTIONED ITEMS OF WORKMEN'S EXPENDITURE IN LONDON AND LARGE TOWNS IN GREAT BRITAIN (Cost in 1900 = 100).

EXTRACTED FROM SECOND SERIES OF "MEMORANDA, STATISTICAL TABLES
AND CHARTS." Cd 2337 of 1904.

Year.	Food.	Rent. ¹	Clothing.	Fuel and Lighting	Cost of the Four • Items. •
1880 . .	142.3	86.6	108.5 ^a	74.1	121.7
1881 . .	140.2	87.3	108.5	77.0	120.8
1882 . .	140.1	88.0	107.5	73.0	120.4
1883 . .	139.9	88.7	105.1	75.7	120.2
1884 . .	127.9	89.4	102.7	75.1	112.9
1885 . .	116.2	90.1	102.1	75.1	106.1
1886 . .	110.3	90.1	102.2	73.2	102.5
1887 . .	104.9	90.0	102.2	71.5	99.2
1888 . .	104.6	90.0	100.8	72.9	98.9
1889 . .	108.3	89.9	100.4	73.9	101.1
1890 . .	106.3	89.9	101.8	79.6	100.6
1891 . .	108.8	91.2	101.9	78.2	102.2
1892 . .	108.9	92.5	101.0	77.7	102.3
1893 . .	103.1	93.7	100.3	84.5	99.5
1894 . .	100.0	95.0	99.1	73.4	96.8
1895 . .	95.0	96.3	97.8	71.3	93.7
1896 . .	91.0	97.0	98.6	72.1	91.7
1897 . .	97.6	97.8	98.2	72.6	95.7
1898 . .	103.9	98.5	97.0	73.3	99.3
1899 . .	97.4	99.3	96.2	79.5	96.0
1900 . .	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1901 . .	105.1	100.7	100.6	90.2	102.4
1902 . .	102.6	101.5	99.9	87.2	100.7
1903 . .	104.3	102.2	99.7	82.5	101.4

¹ In the case of rent only the figures for 1880, 1885, 1890, 1895 and 1900 are ascertained data. The intermediate figures are interpolated on the assumption that the average level of rents within each five year period changed at a uniform rate. For 1901-3 the rate of increase between 1895 and 1900 has been assumed to have continued.

^a Figure for 1881 has been used, earlier information not being available

APPENDIX VI

PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF FOOD IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, TO A WORK- MAN'S FAMILY (AVERAGE PRICE IN 1900 = 100).

EXTRACTED FROM "MEMORANDA, STATISTICAL TABLES, AND CHARTS
BEARING ON BRITISH AND FOREIGN TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL
CONDITIONS." Cd. 1761 of 1903.

Year.		Year.		Year.	
1877	143	1886	105	1894	95
1878	134	1887	100	1895	91
1879	128	1888	100	1896	87
1880	136	1889	104	1897	94
1881	133	1890	102	1898	100
1882	133	1891	104	1899	93
1883	133	1892	104	1900	96
1884	122	1893	98	1901	100
1885	111				

PERCENTAGE CHANGES BETWEEN 1905 AND 1912 IN RENTS, RETAIL PRICES, AND RENTS AND RETAIL PRICES COMBINED IN LONDON AND 87 LARGE TOWNS.

EXTRACTED FROM "SEVENTEENTH ABSTRACT OF LABOUR STATISTICS."
Cd. 7733 of 1915.

Geographical Group.	Mean Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in		
	Rents.	Retail Prices.	Rents and Retail Prices Com- bined.
London Area { Middle Zone . . .	-4	+12	+9
	-6	+12	+8
	-2	+10	+8
Northern Counties and Cleveland.	+0.7	+13.2	+10.7
Yorkshire (except Cleveland) . .	+1.3	+14.0	+11.5
Lancashire and Cheshire . . .	+3.4	+15.8	+13.3
Midlands	+0.4	+14.4	+11.6
Eastern and East Midland Counties	+3.1	+12.4	+10.5
Southern Counties	+1.2	+ 9.8	+ 8.1
Wales and Monmouth	+4.3	+15.0	+12.9
Scotland	+1.9	+13.1	+10.9
Ireland	+1.2	+15.0	+12.2

ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE INCREASE, ON THE PRICES
OF JULY, 1914, IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

EXTRACTED FROM THE "LABOUR GAZETTE."

Date.						Increase per cent.
January 1st, 1915	.	.	.	.	.	18
January 1st, 1916	.	.	.	.	.	45
January 1st, 1917	.	.	.	.	.	87
January 1st, 1918	.	.	.	.	.	106
January 1st, 1919	.	.	.	.	.	130.
January 1st, 1920	.	.	.	.	.	136

APPENDIX VII

NUMBER OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS, SHEPHERDS,
NURSERYMEN, GARDENERS, ETC., IN ENGLAND
AND WALES AND GREAT BRITAIN, AS RETURNED
AT THE CENSUS OF 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901 AND 1911
RESPECTIVELY.

		1871.	1881.
Agricultural Labourers (incl. cattlemen and horsemen)	England and Wales	798,087	847,953
	Great Britain . .	891,185	983,919
Shepherds	England and Wales	23,323	22,844
	Great Britain . .	31,675	33,125
Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists	England and Wales	103,564	148,285
Market Gardeners, Other Gardeners (incl. Domestic Gardeners)	Great Britain . .	112,490	163,621

		1891.	1901	1911.
Agricultural Labourers incl. cattlemen and horsemen)	England and Wales	759,134	595,702	635,493
	Great Britain . .	866,546	689,292	722,031
Shepherds	England and Wales	21,573	25,366	20,844
	Great Britain . .	31,686	35,022	29,885
Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, Market Gardeners, other Gardeners (incl. Domestic Gardeners)	England and Wales	179,336	216,165	263,147
	Great Britain . .	195,721	235,971	284,830

INDEX.

- ADDERLEY, Sir Charles**, 40
Agricultural education, grants for, 151
Agricultural Employment Board's Bill, 1914, 200
Agricultural Holdings Act, 68, 172
Agricultural Ratings Acts, 1896-1902, 150
Agricultural Wages Boards :—
 Creation of, 253 *et seq.*, 298
 District Wages Committees, *see* that title.
 First meeting, 256
 Harvest rates, 1918, 297
 Minimum wage, *see* that title.
 Orders, 288
Aldous, J. A., 273
Allotments and Small Holdings :—
 Act of 1887, 82
 Chaplin's Bill, 1886, 84
 Co-operative Society, 165
 County Councils, powers of, 161
 Ex-soldiers' settlement, 310
 Extension Act, 1882, 80
 Glebe land used as, 80
 Labourer's Friend Society, 1834, 79
 Land Enquiry Report, 209
 Liberal Party's programme, 1906, 159
 Organization, lack of, 165, 171
 Parish Councils, powers of, 136, 161, 162
 Popularity of, 81
 Small Holdings and Allotments Act, 1907, 127, 136, 161, 163
 Small Holdings Act, 1892, 137, 139
 Small Holdings (Colonies) Act, 1916, 246
 Spalding Association, 1892, 139
 "Appeal to Farmers," 1920, 317
Arch, Joseph, 6, 12, 14, 28, 29, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 41, 44, 45, 46, 50, 53, 58, 69, 70, 277
 Death of, 299
 Emigration schemes, 45
 First meeting held by, 34
 Grace—Joseph Arch's grace, 32
 Interview with, 1909, 173
 Parliament, election to, 83, 84, 85
 Royal Commission, 1880-2, evidence by, 71-7
Arnold, A., 38
Ashby, Arthur W., 315
Ashley, Sir William, 315
Asquith, Rt. Hon. H. H., 243
BACK TO THE LAND movement, 159
Balfour, A. J., 251
Ball, R., 61, 63
Bankruptcy statistics, 1892-1918, 177
Barttelot, Sir Walter, 87, 238
Batchelor, W., 315
Bateman, Lord, 114
Beard, John, 142, 143, 144, 183, 257, 264
Beaufort, Duke of, 113
Bedford, Duke of, 74, 113, 154
Bedfordshire labourer, conditions before 1872, 19
Bennet, Capt. E. N., 297, 299
Bennett, Sir John, 40
Bennett, W., 299
Bentinck, Lord Henry, 83, 165, 200
Berkshire labourer, conditions before 1872, 20
Birkenhead, Lord, 232
 "Black Year," 1879, 67
Board of Agriculture, creation of, 1899, 150
Booth, Charles, 153

- Bothy system, 90
 Bourne, George, 178
 Box, S., 277, 299
 Bradlaugh, Charles, 40
 Bradley, A. D., 254
 Brighton, Jesse, 308
 Brine, James, 184
 Bristol, Marquis of, 62
 Buckinghamshire labourer, conditions before 1872, 19
 Budgets, Labourers', 78 *note*, 203 *et seq.*, 344, 345, 346
 Burns, John, 173, 185
 Burston school strike, 220
 Buxton, Charles Roden, 165, 207

 CAMBRIDGESHIRE LABOURER, conditions before 1872, 19
 Campbell, Colin, 256
 Carrington, Lord, 139
 Carson, Sir Edward, 232
 Cautley, H. S., 315
 Caxton Hall Meeting, October, 1919, 313
 Census of agricultural labourers, 322, 347
 Central Land Union, 211
 Chamberlain, Joseph, 70, 87
 Chamberlain, Neville, 245
 Chaplin, Lord, 237
 Charitable Trusts Act, 1884, 80 *note*
 Charity lands :—
 Allotments Act, 1882, 80–126
 Maladministration of, 79
 Chatteris strike, 1919, 299
 Cheshire labourer, conditions before 1872, 21
 Child-labour, war exemptions, 235 *et seq.*
 Chitterne (Wilts) strike, 1914, 224
 Clayden, Arthur, 14, 46 *note*
 Clergy, attitude towards labourers, 42, 44, 118, 119, 262
 Clifford, Frederick, 14, 49, 52, 56 *note*, 58 *note*
 Cobbett, William, 6 *et seq.*
 Codrington, W. G., 160
 Coe, James, 242, 245
 Close, Admiral, 113
 Collings, Jesse, 38, 79
 Common and grazing rights, 136
 Conference of agricultural workers, Jan. 1920, 322
 Co-operative Land Company, 69
 Co-operative Small Holdings Society, 165
 Co-partnership State farms, 328

 Corn prices, 1850–1919, 335
 Corn Production Act, 1917, 200, 250, 253, 254, 297
 General working of, 288 *et seq.*
 See also Wheat, etc
 Corsley village, investigation reports, 157 *et seq.*
 Cost of living :—
 Rises in, 241, 247, 287, 301
 Workmen's Budgets, 78 *note*, 203 *et seq.*, 344, 345, 346
 Costings Committee, 313
 Cottages, *see* Housing.
 Cotterell, Sir John, 226
 Council of Agriculture, labourers eligible for, 127, 329
 County Agricultural Committee, eligibility of labourer, 329
 County Councils :—
 Allotments, powers as to, 162 *et seq.*
 Creation of, 122, 127
 Elections, 1919, 307
 Ex-soldiers' settlement, 310
 Courthope-Munroe, Harry, 250
 Cowdray, Viscount, 136
 Cox, J. C., 41
 Credit Societies, advances to, 191 *note*
 Cultivation of unused land, 245, 256
 Cumberland and Westmoreland labourers, conditions before 1872, 17
 Curtler, W. H. R., 30 *note*, 31 *note*, 32 *note*, 67 *note*
 "Customary Hours" Clause, 288, 289

 DAILY CHRONICLE reports, 206
 Daily News reports, 37, 104, 108, 114
 Dallas, George, 253, 257, 264, 298, 315
 Davenport, Bromley, 45
 Davies, Maude, 154, 157
 Day, H. A., 160, 179, 180, 182, 242
 Dee, F., 244
 Demobilised soldiers, settlement of, 309
 Denmark, Suffolk Farmers' Deputation to, 1901, 150
 Depopulation of Rural Districts, 88, 93
 Derby, Lord, 195, 196, 197
 Derbyshire labourer, conditions before 1872, 18

- Devonshire labourer, conditions before 1872, 21
- Dilke, Sir Charles, 40, 80
- District Wages Committees, 207, 212, 250, 253
 - Bias of members, 290
 - Working of, 288 *et seq.* •
- Dixon, 9, 38
- Dockers' Union, 197
- Dodd, J. Theodore, 80
- Dorsetshire labourer, conditions before 1872, 20, 183 *note*
- Douglas, Charles, 315
- Drainage—Peel's Drainage Loan, 30
- Drago, Geoffrey, 254
- Duncan, Charles, 142, 299
- Duncan, Joseph F., 315
- Dunlop, Miss, 178
- Dyke-Acland, Rt. Hon. A. H., 207, 256
- EASTERN COUNTIES Agricultural Labourers' and Small Holders' Union, 160, 179
- Eastern Counties Labour Federation, 97, 98, 100, 101, 114, 140 *note*
- Ede, J. Chuter, 299
- Education :—
 - Child labour exemptions, 235
 - Rural, in 1872, 70
 - Technical, in 1889, 151
- Edwards, George, 29, 44, 73, 118, 124, 160, 179, 195, 196, 199, 239, 242, 247, 257, 259, 263, 299
- Edwards, William, 315
- Ehot, George, 13
- Ellicott, Dr., 37
- Emigration schemes, 37, 45, 53
- Enclosures :—
 - Acts, 1760–1867, 16, 79
 - Arch's statements, 62
 - Parish Council's action, 1
 - Royal Commission on Inclosures of Commons, 1869, 16
- English Land Restoration League, 97, 98, 109, 114, 116
- Engineers, Amalgamated Society of, 56
- Ernie, Lord, 14, 30 *note*, 178, 250, 254, 255, 312
- Escombe, Jane, 133
- Essex and Suffolk Farmers' Association, 54
- Essex Labourers' Union notices, 1872, 52, 53
- Evans, Howard, 80
- Evans, John, 256
- Everington, W., 242
- Exodus from villages, 88, 93
- FABIAN SOCIETY pamphlets, 137, 178
- Farm and Dairy Workers' Union, 227
- Farmers' Federation, 219
 - St. Faith's strike, 179
- Farmers' Union, 197, 211, 226, 237, 264, 292
 - Workers and Farmers Joint Council, 282
- Farming :—
 - Corn Production Act, *see* that title
 - Improvements, growth of, 31
 - War profits, 1916–17, 247
- Federal Union of Agricultural General Labourers, 55
- Fellowes, Sir Ailwyn, 256, 301, 311
- Fels, Joseph, 311
- Fielding, W. T., 276
- Footpath rights, 135
- Forbes, Archibald, 37, 38
- Fordham, Montague, 165
- Forfarshire labourers, wages in kind, 323
- Forty-eight Hours Bill, 1919, 312
- Fox, T. Hamilton, 165
- Fox, Wilson, 16, 116 *note*
 - Wages, etc., report, 1905, 152, 155
- Franchise, agricultural, 86
- Fraser, Bishop, 37
- Frozen meat, 76
- GAME LAWS :—
 - Committee, 1873, 33 *note*
 - Ground Game Act, 68
 - Land Enquiry Report, 210
 - Warreners, appointment of, 248
- "Gang" system for field work, 77
- General election, 1918, rural vote, 298
- George, S. E., 270
- Gibbard, W. S., 256
- Girdlestone, Canon, 19, 21, 37, 44
- Gladstone, Rt. Hon. W. E., 85
- Gore, Bishop, 46 *note*, 235
- Graeme, Lloyd, 165
- Grafton, Duke of, 74, 110
- Graham, Anderson, 87 *note*, 90, 104, 109
- Green, Robert, 257, 299

- Groom, Col. J. E., 242
 Ground Game Act, 68
 Guaranteed prices, wheat and oats,
 251, 255, 315, 324
 Gurd, J. T., 256
 Gurdon, Sir W. Brampton, 83
- HAGGARD, Sir H. R., 145, 207
 Hall, Sir Daniel, 178
 Hammett, James, 184
 Hammond, J. L., and Barbara, 16,
 178
 Hampshire labourer, conditions be-
 fore 1872, 19
 Hardy, Thomas, 14
 Harvest rates, 296, 308
 Hasbach, Dr., 6
 Hastings, Lord, 308
 Hayes, J., 299
 Heath, F. G., 15, 23 *note*, 49
 Helions Bumpstead strike, 1914,
 214 *et seq.*
 Henderson, J. M., 315
 Henderson, Thomas, 315
 Herbert, Hon. Amheron, 38
 Hereford, Dean of, 37
 Herefordshire labourer, conditions
 before 1872, 21, 25
 Herts County Council Housing
 Inquiry, 1906, 166
 Hewitt, G. E., 99, 181, 242, 257
 Hewlett, Maurice, 254
 Higdon, T. G., 173, 220, 257
 Holdenby, Christopher, 178
 Hours of Employment Bill, 1919,
 311
 Heath, Richard, 15, 35
 Hobbs, R. W., 256
 Holman, M. H., 256
 Holmes, W., 257
 Hours of labour, decreased,
 298 *et seq.*, 303 *et seq.*
 Housing :—
 Bothy system, 90
 Conditions, 1853-92, 32
 " Cottage Right," 72, 73
 Depopulation caused by bad
 housing, 88
 Heath's Report, 1872, 35
 Herts County Council Inquiry,
 1906, 166
 Insanitary conditions, 32, 52,
 295, 296
 Ixworth Cottages Inquiry, 121
 Land Enquiry Report, 1912,
 209
 Rural District Councils' atti-
 tude, 133
- Housing—*continued.*
 Tied cottages, 72, 73, 173,
 209, 245, 251, 294
 Times reports, 1874, 52
 Workers' Union reports,
 264 *et seq.*
 Housing and Town Planning Act,
 1909, 134, 166, 185
 Housing of the Working Classes
 Act, 1890, 121, 122
 Hudson, W. H., 14, 23, 146
 Hughes, Tom, 40
 Hull, Daniel, letter to Essex
 County Council, 141
 Hyder, Joseph, 97
- IXWORTH Agricultural Labourers'
 Association, 121
- JEBB, Miss, 165
 Jefferies, Richard, 15, 87
 Jenkins, E., 38
 Jessopp, Dr., 15, 85, 88, 89, 91, 92
 Jones, Thomas P., 314
- KEBBEL, T. E., 104
 Keith, A., 242
 Kendall, Capt., 299
 Kendall, May, 178, 203
 Kent and Sussex Labourers' Union,
 64, 99
 Kent labourer, conditions before
 1872, 19
 Kenyon, Lord, 256
 Kerrison, Sir Edward, 62, 174
 Kidner, S., 256
 Kimberley, Lord, 160
- LABOUR PARTY Policy, 159
 Labour Party Rural Vote, 1918,
 298
 Labour, Royal Commission on,
 107 *note*
 " Labourer," 219
 Labourer's Friend Society, 1834, 79
 Labourers' Unions :—
 " Black Year," effect on, 68, 69
 Circular notices, 50, 51, 52, 53
 Clergy, attitude of, 42, 44
 Congress, 1872, 38, 39
 Corn Production Act, 1917,
 effect on, 259
 Creation of, 1872, 29, 34
 " Federals," 69
 Imprisonment of women, 41

- Labourers' Unions—*continued*.
 King George, recognition
 Unions, 217 *et seq.*
 Letter to farmers, 1872, 36
 Magistrates, attitude of, 41, 42
 Meetings, 46, 47, 261, 262
 Membership, growth of, 322
 National Agricultural Union,
see that title
 National Unions, formation of,
 38
 Organiser's reports, 264 *et seq.*
 Revival of Agricultural
 Unions, 201 *et seq.*
 Right of meeting, 41
 Victimisation cases, 318
 Warwickshire Union, forma-
 tion of, 38
Labourer's Union Chronicle, 35, 39
note, 42, 47
 Land Enquiry, 1912, 191 *et seq.*
 Rural report, 207
 Land Nationalization Society, 97
 Land Settlement (Facilities) Act,
 1919, 310, 311, 312
 Landlords benevolent despotism,
 111
 Langford, E. W., 38, 315
 Lansdowne, Lord, eviction on
 estate, 1912, 185
 Latham, William, 238
Leamington Chronicle, 34, 36
 Leamington demonstration, 1872,
 37
 Lee of Fareham, Lord, 312, 313,
 324, 325, 326, 327
 Leicester, Earl, 242
 Leicestershire labourer, conditions
 before 1872, 20
 Leigh, Hon. and Rev. J. W., 37
 Leigh, Lord, 37
 Leighton, Sir Baldwin, 38
 Lennard, R. V., 207, 236, 315
 Liberal Party Programme, 1906,
 159
 Libraries, village, 134, 328
 Lilford, Lord, dispute with labour-
 ers, 1913-14, 228
 Lincolnshire Labourers' Union, 56
 Lincs and Norfolk Small Holdings
 Association, 139
 Literature, agricultural labourer
 in, 13 *et seq.*
 Little, W. C., 107, 117 *note*
 Lloyd George, Rt. Hon. D., 191,
 207, 211, 232, 243, 251, 252, 313,
 326
 Land campaign, 173, 177, 178
 Local Government Act, 1894, 112,
 116, 121, 125, 127
 Lock-outs:—
 Agricultural lock-out, 1874,
 49 *et seq.*
 Warwickshire Labourers'
 Union, 38
See also Strikes
 London and Southern Counties
 Labour League, 50
 London Trades Council, 37, 40
 Longmore, Sir Charles, 300
 Loveless, James and George, 184
 Lovell, M., 257
 MACDONALD, James, 106
 Machinery, displacement of la-
 bour by, 145
 Mackley, Tom, 261, 267
 Magistrates, attitude of, 41, 43
 Mallon, J. J., 298
 Mann, Dr. H. H., 153 *et seq.*
 Mann, Tom, 142
 Manning, Cardinal, 40
 Marlborough, Duke of, 40, 110
 Meetings, open air, disallowed, 41
 Meredith, George, 14
 Military, use of, in strikes, 40
 Mill, John Stuart, 81, 138
 Miller, W. S., 256
 Millin, G. F., 104, 105, 109, 110, 114
 Minimum wage:—
 Complaints and prosecutions,
 317
 Corn Production Act, working
 of, 288 *et seq.*
 Demand, January, 1920, 323
 Land Enquiry Report, 1912,
 208
 Lloyd George campaign, 211,
 312
 Rates in force, 1920, table,
 339 *et seq.*
 Twenty-five shilling minimum,
 243, 246
 Women and girls, 305
 Mordaunt, Sir Charles, 37
 Morgan, Brette, 298
 Morley, Alderman, 183, 282
 Morley, Samuel, 40, 60
 Morris dancing, 47
 Moscrop, A., 256
 Moulton Small Holdings move-
 ment, 140
 Mundella, A. J., 40
 Music in villages, decay of, 92

- NATIONAL Agricultural Labourers' Union, 34, 38, 42, 50, 51, 155, 195, 217, 250, 322, 323
 Conference, 1915, 235, 242
 Decline of, 69, 70
 Increased membership, 1890, 99
 Trade Union grant to, 198
 National Agricultural Labourers' and Rural Workers' Union, 179, 182
 National Farmers' Union, 211, 291
 National Insurance Act, 1911, 182
 National Land and Home League, 165, 185, 200
 National Union of Railwaymen, Ormskirk Branch, 197
 National Unions, 1872, 38
 Nationalisation of Land, early propaganda, 97
 Navvies' and National Bricklayer's Labourers Union, 323
 Neame, Ivo, 356
 Newmarket Agricultural Association, 54
 Nicholls, George, 160, 181, 256, 299, 315
 Northcote, Sir Stafford, 83
 Nottingham Co-operative Society, 252
 Northumberland, Duke of, 167
 Northumberland labourer, conditions before 1872, 17
 OLD AGE PENSIONS ACT, 1908, 172
 Old Age Pensions, Liberal Party programme, 1906, 159
 Orwin, C. B., 256
 Oswestry Farmers' Union, 243
 Overman, H., 242, 256, 315
 Overwell, H., 242
 Oxford, Bishop of, 46 *note*, 235
 Oxfordshire labourers, conditions before 1872, 20
 PADWICK, H., 256
 Pargeter, T., 299
 Parish Councils :—
 Creation of, 116, 118
 Elections, 1919, 305, 306
 Labourers' eligibility, 122, 123, 305
 Powers and work of, 134 *et seq.*
 Parish Councils Act, 1894, 112, 116, 121, 125, 127
 Parker, E. H., 315
 Patterson, P. G., 256
 Paul, Herbert, 28, 46 *note*
 Pease, Edward R., 165
 Pease, Mrs Edward R., 165
 Peat, Sir William B., 315, 325
 Pedder, Lt.-Col., 148, 185, 238
 Penshurst cottage building, 133
 Perrott, F. D., 121
 Phipps, J., 227
 Piggott, Professor G. C., 279
 Pigou, Professor A. C., 212
 Pile, J., 298, 299
 Pilgrims' march, 1874, 56 *et seq.*
 Pirrie, Lord, 190
 Plowman, Thomas, 48 *note*, 59
 Plummer, S. J., 298
 Poaching Prevention Act, 1862, 33, 211
 Pole, Major D. G., 299
 Politics of the agricultural labourer, 86 *et seq.*
 Porter, Haman, 257
 Powis estate dispute, 246
 Prothero, R. E., *see* Lord Ernle
 Public Libraries Act, 1919, 328
 RAILWAY STRIKE, 1919, 309
 Rea, G. G., 256, 315
 Read, C. S., 49
 Reading rooms, parish, 134, 135
 Red Van reports, 1893, 111 *et seq.*, 129
 Reiss, R. L., 165, 207
 Rents :—
 Increase forbidden, 256
 Rebates in 1881, 68
 Revolt of the Field, 1872, 28 *et seq.*
 Rew, Sir Henry, 256
 Reynolds, James, 63
 Richards, Robert, 257
 Richmond and District Farm Labourers' Union, 201
 Richmond, Duke of, 68, 71
 Ridgmount village, investigations, 154
 Ridgmount estate, conditions, 1917, 283
 Rights of way, 135
 Robbins, Roland R., 256, 315
 Roberts, G. H., 165, 200, 247
 Roberts, J., 256
 Roberts, T., 271
 Rodwell, Lionel, 242
 Rogers, Thorold, 2
 Rosbotham, S. T., 256
 Rothschild Committee, 1908, 141 *note*
 Rothschild, Mrs. Leopold de, 306

- Rowntree, H. Seebohm, 16, 153, 158, 178, 203, 207
 Royal Commission on Agriculture, 1880-2, evidence before, 65
 Royal Commission on Agriculture, 1919, 177 *note*, 254 *note*, 311 *et seq.*, 323
 Resignations, 1920, 324
 Royal Commission on Labour, 107 *note*
 Runciman, Walter, 190
 Rural District Councillors, labourers as, 127
 Rutland, Duke of, 60
- SAGE, J., 160
 St. Faith's strike, 1889, 99
 St. Faith's strike, 1910, 178 *et seq.*
 Sandingham estate wages, 217 *et seq.*
 Saturday Half Holiday Order, 304
 Saumarez, Lord de, 110
 Saye and Sele, Lord, 165
 Scott, Leslie, 200
 Scott, Holland, 238
 Selborne Committee, 1916, 325
 Selborne, Earl of, 125
 Selley, E., 39 *note*
 Sexton, James, 197
 Sheep counting, Sussex methods, 1880, 71
 Shingfield, Jack, 281, 295
 Shipham and Winscombe Inquiry, 1913, 187
 Shropshire labourer, conditions before 1872, 20
 Simmons, W. Anker, 50, 64, 65, 73 *note*, 315
 Simpson, John, 142, 144
 Single Tax movement, 97, 102
 Skilled work in agriculture, 2 *et seq.*
 Small Holdings, *see* Allotments and Small Holdings
 Smith, A., 298
 Smith, Adam, 9, 43
 Smith, W., 308
 Smith, W. P., 181, 242, 257, 264, 299, 302, 315
 Social status of farm labourer, 1920, 329
 Soldiers.—
 Demobilised, settlement of, 310
 Soldier labour on farms, 239, 244
 Stakes, use of military in, 40
 South West Lancashire strike, 1913, 195
- Sports, village, decay of, 92
 Staffordshire strike, 1919, 308
 "Standard" articles, 40 *note*
 Stanfield, John and Thomas, 184
 State co-partnership farms, 328
 Stradbroke, Lord, 74
 Strikes:—
 Burston school, 220
 Chatteris, 1919, 299
 Chitterne (Wilts), 1914, 224
 Dockers' strike, 1889, effect on labourers' unions, 96
 Helions Bumpstead, 1914, 214 *et seq.*
 Military, use of, 40
 Railway strike, 1919, 309
 St. Faith's, 1889, 99
 St. Faith's, 1910, 178 *et seq.*
 Staffordshire, 1919, 308
 South West Lancashire, 1913, 195
 Trunch, 220
 Wellsbourne district, 1872, 36, 37, 49
 Surrey labourer, conditions before 1872, 20
 Sussex labourer, conditions before 1872, 19
- TAYLOR, Arnold, 119
 Taylor, Henry, 38, 44, 56
 Technique in agricultural work, 2 *et seq.*
 Thomas, J. H., 251
 Tied cottages, 72, 73, 193, 209, 245, 251, 294
 Workers' Union reports, 264 *et seq.*
 Times reports, 43 *note*, 49, 52
 Tolpuddle Martyrs' memorial, 183
 Toon, Mrs. F. R., 257
 Trade Unions, *see* Labourers' Unions
 Trades Union Congress, 1890, 96
 Birmingham resolution, 1916, 250
 Compulsory cultivation resolution, 1915, 245
 Transport Workers' Federation, 197
 Trevelyan, Sir C., 40
 Trunch strike, 220
 Tuckwell, Canon, 37, 80, 85, 103
- VAISEY, H. J., 264
 Verinder, H., 98, 115
 Verney, Sir Edmund, 134, 309 *note*
 Verney, Sir Harry, 134
 Villages, social life in, 134, 327, 330

- Vincent, J. E. Matthew, 34, 36, 38, 47, 69
- WALES, agricultural labourers before 1872, 21
- Walker, P. B., 199, 242, 245, 257, 264, 299, 315
- Wallace, Dr. Alfred Russel, 168
- Walsingham, Lord, 62
- Wantage, Lord, good conditions on estate of, 111
- War :—
Agricultural committees, 245
Disorganisation caused by, 233 *et seq.*
- Ward, W. G., 38
- Warwickshire Agricultural Union, 38
- WAGES :—
Agricultural Wages Board, *see* that title
"Back Pay"—Corn Production Act, 1917, 297
Board of Agriculture investigation reports, 1917, 254
Custom, cause of variation, 108
Diminution, 1900-10, 205
District Wages Committees, *see* that title
Fines and deductions, 117
Fox, Wilson, report, 1905, 152 *et seq.*
Harvest rates, 296, 308
Investigations, 1890-3, 103 *et seq.*
Increased demand, 1919, 301
Kind, wages paid in, 108, 323
Lock-out, 1874, non-union wages, 60
Minimum wage, *see* that title
Prices and wages, 1853-72, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 31 *et seq.*
Rates, 1915, 241 *et seq.*
Royal Commission, 1880-2, Arch's evidence, 72
Sandringham, estate, 217 *et seq.*
Soldier labour, 239, 244
Tables, 76, 336, 337, 338
Victimisation of Trade Unionists, 318
Wet weather losses, 77, 78, 110
- WAGES—*continued.*
Winter and summer rates, 116, 117
Women field workers, 117, 305
Workers' Union campaign, 1917, 253, 264 *et seq.*
Workers' Union scale, 1914, 226
Wages Board Gazette, 318
Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney, 114 *note*
Wet weather wage losses, 77, 78, 110
Wheat and Oats.—
Corn Production Act, *see* that title
Guaranteed prices, 251, 255, 315, 324
Prices, 1850-1919, table, 335
White, Harry, 282, 300
Whittle, W. B., 274
Wilkins, Mrs. Roland, 256, 291
Wilson, P. W., 194
Wilts Agricultural and General Labourers' Union, 117
Wilts labourer, conditions before 1872, 21
Winfrey, Sir Richard, 139, 160, 165, 181
Winscombe and Shipham Inquiry, 1913, 187
Winterbourne, Dorset, small holdings, 169
Women, imprisonment, Oxfordshire case, 41
Women farm workers.—
Social status, 329, 330
Wages, 117, 305
Woodhead, Denton, 257
Workers' Union, 142, 144, 183, 201, 322
Organisers' reports, 264 *et seq.*
Wages and hours scale, 1914, 226
- YATES, W. B., 256
Yorkshire Agricultural Union, 1915, 244
Yorkshire labourer, conditions before 1872, 17