

into force of the present Act—November, 1901. 1,111 men and youths have worked 22,665 hours' overtime, but I am not sure that we have all the returns. This dates from the 1st December last to date—a period of four months. The task of collecting this overtime is a very heavy one, and there is always the risk of repeating the persons working. The permit system would greatly facilitate the work, and would secure more accurate returns. The following are the trades, together with particulars as to number of persons and hours of overtime worked :—

Trade or Occupation.	Males			Females.		
	Number of Persons.	Number of Hours worked Saturday Afternoon.	Number of Hours worked other Days.	Number of Persons.	Number of Hours worked Saturday Afternoon.	Number of Hours worked other Days.
Tailoring (factories) ...	34	...	462	451	477	21,255
" (order) ...	59	...	2,288	143	120	4,561
Dressmaking ...	...	...	...	489	720	9,074
Laundry-work ...	...	...	...	279	303	5,778
Waterproof clothing ...	...	...	...	61	...	4,389
Woollen-milling ...	34	...	562	100	189	3,333
Printing and bookbinding ...	84	...	757	123	...	2,661
Shipwright-work ...	179	...	5,223	...	...	...
Brushmaking ...	7	...	327	6	...	300
Buttermaking ...	3	...	189	...	...	...
Packing (general) ...	36	...	905	43	...	249
" (tea) ...	39	...	452	...	...	...
Engineering (foundries) ...	408	...	6,944	...	...	...
" (jobbing) ...	14	...	140	...	...	...
Millinery-making ...	...	...	...	39	24	636
Bootmaking ...	20	...	89	27	...	555
Furniture and upholstering ...	11	...	151	8	18	407
Confectionery-manufactur- ing	4	...	117	12	...	230
Basket and wicker work	6	...	190	...	...	...
Saddle and harness making	22	...	776	4	...	48
Carriage-building ...	37	...	424	...	...	...
Incandescent-lamp-mantle making	...	...	...	9	15	276
Plumbing and brass-working	52	...	493	...	...	...
Cordial-making ...	26	...	1,274	...	...	...
Hat and cap making ...	...	...	...	6	...	48
Sawmilling, &c. ...	11	...	93	...	...	...
Coopering ...	5	...	45	...	...	...
Tent and sail making ...	...	...	...	5	...	90
Tanning and currying ...	20	...	764	...	...	...
Shirtmaking ...	...	...	...	58	...	873
Photographing ...	...	...	...	4	...	48
Grand totals ...	1,111	...	22,665	1,867	1,866	54,811

There are 650 factories and workrooms, employing 6,731 persons—viz., 4,775 men and boys and 1,956 women and girls; an increase of 74 factories, &c., employing 335 persons—viz., 166 men and 169 women, &c. The increase is accounted for partly by the alteration in the new Act, which requires all places where laundry-work is carried on for profit to be registered, but mainly to the fact that the period dealt with now extends over the whole period instead of only three months as formerly. Hitherto none of the places that registered after the 31st March in each year were shown in the return, but this year they are all included; hence the increase.

Permits have been issued to 408 young persons to work in factories—viz., 200 boys, of whom 78 had passed Standard IV., 52 Standard V., 46 Standard VI., and 24 Standard VII.; and 208 girls, of whom 90 had passed Standard IV., 46 Standard V., 50 Standard VI., and 22 Standard VII. Care is always taken to obtain proof of age and the production of standard certificates, &c., before permits are issued.

There were 69 accidents reported during the period under consideration. Eleven were of a severe nature, but none very serious. The remaining 58 were of a very slight nature, and necessitated absence from work for only a few days. In all cases inquiries were made, which went to show that they were the result of pure misadventure. Many of the cases reported do not come within the range of the Factories Act at all, as the two worst cases happened to men employed as carters—one man was run over by his cart, the other collided with the train near the railway-station.

There were only two prosecutions; in each case a conviction was secured.