Tobacconists.

Section. 55

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Tobacconists.
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Name of Firm or Society	Address	Page	Remarks
Ages of	those employed	2	Taken from Census returns.
Occupations	& ~~distribution~~	4	" " " "
Revenue	returns from Tobacco	8.	From 38th Report (year ending march 1895) Comm of Inland Rev
Cigar Sorters	& Bundlers Soc. Swan Tavern Bethnal Grn Rd.	10	Interview with J Kerrison Secy
Tobacco Strippers	mutual Association.	28	Interview with T Bye & P members of the Society.
	'Prince of Hesse' Fieldgate St. Whitechapel.		
Cigar makers	mutual Association.	34	Interview with Ben Cooper Secy
	60 Exmouth St. Stepney (Ben Coopers address)		
Comparative	mortality figures for Tobacconists	48.	From Census 1880-2. & Dr Holidays Book
Tobacco	Cutters' Trade Society	52	Interview with H Sutter Secretary.
Cigarette makers	Society. 292 Nathaniel Bldgs. Commercial St E.	54.	Address of Secy. sent by J. Kerrison.

Ages at which the greatest numbers of women & men are employed as tobacconists etc

Compared with mean of occupied London.

The ages of those employed.

The total number of males in the trade is given by the Census as 5703. & of females as 3925.

Females are employed in their greatest numbers between 15 & 20 when there are 1402 of them & only 649 males. After this there is a gradual decrease. & from the table of ages it would seem to be unusual for married women to take up the trade again (to any large extent) after the period of child bearing.

Males. increase gradually in number up to 25. The largest numbers are between 25 & 35. years of age. A slight decrease sets in after 35 Between 45 & 55 there is a considerable drop. then a regular descent to the end.

The numbers (of males) are below the average at the diff.t ages until 30 yrs of age. They are still above at 40. slightly below at 50. Above at 60 & slightly below between 70 & 75.

Occupations of those enumerated
by the Census under the Heading
Tobacco Manufacturer, Tobacconist

Snuff Grinder

Cigar makers

The occupations of those enumerated by
by the Census under the Heading
Tobacco Manufacturer & Tobacconist.

Tobacco & Snuff making.
- Sorter.
- Stripper (midrib)
- Cutter
- Stover
- Panner
- Moulder
- Beater up
- Spinner
- Turner off

Snuff Grinder, Maker
- Cigarette maker
- Leaf Opener.

Cigar making
- Cheroot maker
- Cigar "
- Whiff "
- Stripper.
- Bunch maker

Distribution (Census & by heads of families)

Sex.

Birthplace

Industrial status.

Average family

Roller.
Sorter
Finisher.

Distribution (Census 1891)		By families (CB).	
East.	4530	East.	8559
North.	1358	North	3453
West.	1539	West.	1530
South.	2201	South E.	1750
	9628	South W.	2437.
			19,444

persons represented by 4143 heads of families.
of whom 11880 live in the inner ring or 61%
7564 ——— outer — 39%

Sex	male	3738	Heads of families 4143.
	Female	405	
Birthplace.	In London 53%	2207	
	Out of London 47%	1936	
Industrial Status.			
	Employers 19%	770	
	Employed 59%	2433	
	Neither 22%	940	
Average		4.69 per family	

Re. Tobacco.

Amount of duty received by Inland revenue.

Consumption per head of pop.

Taken from 38th Report of Commissioners of Inland Revenue.

page. 18

Amount of duty received by inland revenue for the years ending March 1895 & 1894.

	1895.	1894	Decrease.
Tobacco.	£1,162,964	1,246,818	£83,854

p. xlv.

Consumption of Tobacco in proportion to population.

	Total pop. of Uk.	lbs cleared for consumption.	Per head. lbs. oz.
1894.	38.712.000	63,847,707 lbs.	1 10 3/8.
1895.	39.059.440	65,572.157 "	1. 10 3/4.

J. Kerrison. Cigar Sorters & Bundlers. Soc.

3 Societies in the Trade.

Snuff.

Cigarettes.

Oct. 24th G.H.D.

J. Kerrison. Sec. Cigar Sorters & Bundlers Association. Held at the Swan Tavern Bethnal Green road. Shoreditch. pers address. 113. Globe Road. Mile End. E. meet Wednesdays at 8.30.

There are 3 branches in cigar trade.

Cigar makers.
Tobacco strippers.
Cigar sorters & Bundlers } Trade Societies

Snuff employs only 2 or 3 men in each firm. The men are not in any soc or combined in any way. There are so few of them in comparison with the other branches of the trade.

Cigarettes compared to cigar making is a recent trade. Very popular now. Has been in existence a long time but never been so flourishing as now. Many men smoke cigarettes in preference

Cigarette manufactories

Tobacco for pipes.

The principal houses in the London trade. (Society shops)

to pipes as being more fashionable than pipes & less expensive than cigars.

Does not know of any cigarette operatives Society

Both men & women employed.

Cigarettes more made in shops now. A few cigarettes not to be made at home but it is a decreasing custom.

Tobacco for pipes. has a Soc. ie Tobacco cutters Society.

Cigar making principally in (Kingsway

Lambert & Butler. employs in cigar line ie

sorters & bundlers Cigar makers & Strippers 200.

(men & women)

altogether Lambert & B wd employ over 300.

Branxtons (Carterlane. EC) total 200.

in cigar line 60

make roll tobacco. fancy snuffs etc.

Newtons. total 150.

in cigar line 100

Chief London Houses (cont)

Faulkner (very good & popular firm) in Black friars Road.

		now.
Cigar making (sort. strip. bundles).	over	200
tobacco cutting & others		100.
	total.	300

Morris' Half moon passage. Whitechapel.

Cigar making	over	100
	total	200.

Lloyd. in Street bet. Holborn & Ludgate circus

Cigar making	abt.	30
Tobacco cutting etc.		50
	total.	80

These are all trade Union or Society shops. 150 are.

Levy. Shoreditch

cigar dept.	over	100.
Tobacco etc		50.
	total.	150

Van Oostren. Commercial St. E.

Cigar dept		100.
Rest		40
	total	140

Abraham Chucksteins. Whitechapel.

Cigar dept.		120.
Rest		80
	total.	200

Numbers in the Society.

Each sorter or bundler represents 10 or more cigar makers

Mnfr. are not generally shopkeepers.
one exception.

Seasons.

Much more smoked in winter than in summer.

Hill. Cot. Shoreditch. Cigar Dept. over abt. 100.
Rest 200

(Write to him about other shops).

No. in Society (Sorters & Bundlers.) 100

Each Sorter & Bundler represents at least 10 or more cigar makers women or men: depending on the class of work.

Manufacturers are not generally shop-keepers. with the exception of Salmon & Gluckstein

The last quarter of the year is the busy season working up for Xmas.
1st-Quarter is rather
Much more smoked in winter than in summer.
Nerves are stronger in winter you can smoke.
Personally he wd. say the less you smoke

Training.

Boys gen. pick work up.

Meeting house of the Cigar makers Soc.

Many foreigners in the Trade.

Machinery has not come in much of late.

Employers send to Soc. for ~~more~~ men when wanted.

the better.

Some are apprenticed with indentures for 5 yrs. but more often come in as boys & pick it up.
They dont like fathers to bring their sons in. Sorters & handlers dont like to teach boys. They will work with them but wont teach them professedly.

Cigar makers meet at The Royal Oak. Mile End. E. Bro. Coopers Lec. Society.

Great many foreigners in the trade. Jews & Dutchmen.

The mould is still in use but machinery is not to any extent ousting hand labour.

In good houses the Society is liked. "We recognize them & they recognize us." Employers send ups to the Society for men when they want them. Even non soc masters will send for them

How Trade disputes are settled among the Cigar sorters & handlers.

them & will be supplied as long as they will pay the price asked. In case of dispute employer applies to secy; he showed a letter from Faulkner speaking of an unpleasantness with a man over prices & asking him to go down & discuss the matter. "Mr Faulkner he says, good day Kerrison glad to see you, the question is this, the man says he must have 2/5 per 100 for this class of goods, I say its not worth more than 2/4 & that no-one else in the trade is paying 2/5. Man says it isn't true & anyhow he's not a going to do it for less. There's some unpleasantness about it & that's why I've sent for you. I dont want to pay less than the rest of the trade but where I dont think it is worth so much I wont pay more... Mr Faulkner he's a very pleasant gentleman & puts the thing straight & square & business like. I answers 'im & says, says I, 'Mr Faulkner you may take my word for it — having 'ad a sample of the work in subject before me — says I, as I was saying, 'Mr Faulkner your

not

The Younger generation & the general character of bundlers & sorters.

Union work with Dock men.

Benefits.

Pensions

not paying more than the rest of trade.
"That's all I want to know says 'e. What'll you 'ave to smoke. & so the matter is settled."

What happens when all does not go so smooth he did not say.

He has been secretary of the Society for 30 years. Admitted to having some trouble with the younger members on occasion. "These young socialists who haven't 'ad hang experience they tries to nish one off one's legs every now & then."

But Bundlers & Sorters are steady lot, if you have a man from the Society you may be quite certain that he is an honest & respectable man. They pride themselves on it.

Union work with non union men.

Offer. Sick. 12/- per week.
Out of work. 1/6 per day.
Superannuation 5/- per week

Have a cash balance for yr. ending July 10. 1895. of £275. 14. 5.

The numbers of men & number of weeks they were on Out of work Sick & Superannuation pay during the quarter ending July 10. 95.

From the balance sheet (given) for quarter ending July 10. 1895 it appears that 23 men were on out of work pay for a total of 56 weeks two & ½ days. at a cost of £25.7.9
In the Soc. were 92 members so that exactly ¼ came on the books during the quarter year
5 men were on sick pay for a total of 18 wks & 3 days at a cost of £16/2/-
3 on Superannuation for 28 weeks for £7.0.0
General expenditure amounted to £12.9.11
So that the total expenditure for the quarter was £60. 19. 8. The income being £45. 12. 11 — a decrease of £15. 6. 9. which was made good from the reserve fund of of £291. 1. 2.
The total cash reserve was at the end 275.14.5. divided as follows

Out of work & sick fund	£225. 10. 9
Superannuation fund	50 3. 8.
	275.14.5

S.55. Agar Sorter

Dear Sir, Oct 2

Your letter Oct 24/95 a
"Life and Labour of the people
to hand, I thank you kindly. I
chapter 7. "Tobacco Workers." It app
well written and shows a goo
the Trade, you draw my notice
with respect to

S.55. Cigar Sorters & Bundlers

Dear Sir, Oct 29. 1895

Your letter Oct 24/95 and Volume 4 "Life and Labour of the people in London" to hand, I thank you kindly. I have read chapter 7. "Tobacco Workers." It appears to me to be well written and shows a good knowledge of the Trade, you draw my notice to pages 219 & 238. with respect to page 219. I see no objection. If you intend to draw my notice to the Cigar makers mutual association line 10 that is purely a question for the Secretary of that association and must respectfully decline to correct it.

I should like the chapter much better but for such statements as "the work is well adapted for female hands" page 224. line 19. and also "and seems to be eminently adapted for female labour" page 228 line 7. I think these statements tend to cause an influx in the Trade, which proves no benefit to the good masters, nor to the hands that are in the Trade, nor to the young girls that may enter it. but causes a glut in the labour market, which the writer's words show on page 227 line 7. on hard masters.

When you have finished your report of an association, before you make any use of it, you will not forget according to your promise to send me a copy for me to show to the members.

May I ask for an answer to these rough lines of mine.

I am dear Sir

respectfully yours

J Kerridge

113 Globe Rd

E

To Mr Duckworth.

Tobacco Strippers Mutual Association

Number & qualifications of members.

Date of foundation

Wages & hours.

Very few Non Union men.

Oct. 30th 95. G. H. D.

Interview with Thos. Bye. & President + 8 members at a meeting of the Tobacco Strippers mutual Association held at Prince of Hesse. Fieldgate St. Whitechapel

No members 90.
against 94 in 1894.
Any stripper (male) of good character who is a competent worker is eligible.
The following is the stamp of the Society

TOBACCO STRIPPERS' MUTUAL ASSOCIATION
HONESTY.
DILIGENCE.
UNITY.
ESTABLISHED 1851

founded 1851
to aid & assist each other while sick or out of employment.
Lowest wages is 27/- time work. usual hours ranging from 48 to 52. holidays paid for
8.30 AM – 6.
8 till 1 or 2 on Saturdays.
Any member committing an act of dishonesty is erased.
There are not many rough men in London there are

Womens work.

Seasons.

All time work.

They are the best judges of tobacco

under 20 of them in London.
Lower priced shops employ females but the best do not even tho these latter may employ cigar makers & bundlers.
There are in every shop one man or foreman over the stripper a liquorer to whose care the great bulk of the leaf is entrusted. he will get from 30/- 32/- to 36/- one gets 2/2/0.
Not till X mas busy.
Slack. Feb to April before budget is passed. in case there may be an alteration.
Women in shops of consequence dont strip leaf for outside wrapper.
Those who strip generally strip 'fillers' or branches only.
No piecework in London nor get in the country.
Work from Battersea to Mile End.
Majority of firms in East London.
Faulkners as far as they are concerned is a poor firm - turn out poor stuff with cheap labour.
Stripper must have a fine hot gentle hand or that nothing may be gone. They claim to be the best judges of tobacco for all that comes in must

Relations with employers good.

Very few boys in the trade.

The effect of a reduction of import duty on manufactured goods.

Pension scheme.

No noticeable changes since 1890.

pass thro' their hands both dry or wet.
Employers recognize to Soc. never have had a strike. All their advances have been obtained by memorial.
Training. no regular apprentice.
Not > 12 boys in trade altogether.
Are afraid that all tobacco will come in without stalks, Jam.
Tobacco that comes in now requires less handling.
The reduction in the duty in 1863 a Havana cigars left to the making up of cigars in Havana.
Nearly all men in Soc are past 50.
As a rule get an allowance of tobacco.
Are trying superannuation scheme of 1d. per wk for m. & after paying for 2 yrs a man is eligible if he lose a limb or becomes affected by age.
Smoking concerts supplement benefits.
No noticeable changes since 1890
No machinery will ever do stripping.
Please send proof to Society. for a Wednesday or Saturday evening.

Cigar makers Mutual Association

History of the Womens Society.

Amalgamation with men's Soc.

Men & female work.

November 1st G. H. D.

Bm. Cooper. LCC. Secy to Cigar makers mutual Association. Private address 60 Exmouth Street Stepney.

In 1890. There used to be a womens Union.

'Womens Cigar makers protective Union' reached 650. at end of 1894.

But in consequence of bad trade they cd not meet their own benefit with the result that altho' they levied themselves & were subsidised to the extent of several 100s of pounds on diffs occasions.

Men then considered it advisable to amalgam the womens with the mens association.

A vote was taken, it was carried unanimously by the women & by a small majority of the men.

Now men & women from the

'Cigar makers mutual association'.

The difficulty of the position is the difference in price pd to men & women for the same class of work. Undoubtedly the men do better work & the best part is in the hand of the

Mould work.

The Societies absorbed by the Mutual

Date of absorption.

Subscriptions & Benefits

men. Men do the hand work & women do the mould work. Some men do mould work but v few of them. A few women also make hand work. Mould work is the cheaper & inferior sort.

Cigar makers Provident Soc. men } now absorbed
Women cigars makers Assoc
by. Cigar makers Mutual.

The men's society was absorbed by the Mutual in 1890.
The women in the beginning of 1895.

Women contribute 6d per wk & get 6/- for 3 months out of work. & death & Strike.
Men pay 1/- & get 9/- for 3 mths & 6/- Strike
Emigration } to men only. 9/- for 13 wks
Sick
Strike. 15/- per wk for 13 wks. 6/- — . .
Death ~~to~~ 5/- for each 3 mths membership up to a maximum of £10.
½ amount for members wife.

The Trade Societies in the London Tobacco Industry.

Membership of the Mutual.

Training

System of piecework.

The other Societies in London are.

1. London Tobacco Strippers.
2. Cigar Sorters & Bundlers.
3. Tobacco Cutters.
4. Cigarette makers (a phantom he thinks)
5. Cigar makers mutual.

1895. Cigar makers mutual have 1200 men & 650 women.

Regular apprenticeship as described in the account in East London.

All work is piece work.

Certain quality of material, certain weight, certain shape, governs the minimum price. The rise on this follows on rise of quality in shape

Trade Localities

British cigars are as good often better than all except the ~~v~~ high priced Havana goods.

min £- lb. for ordinary shapes & prices range from 3d to 15d per 100 there for fancy shapes.

There is a recognized shape, quality & weight known as the 'ordinary' cigar.

The East round Whitechapel is the locality for the trade. Even those working in Stepney may leave here.

Within a stone's throw of Aldgate are 20 factories.

Hackney, Mile End. St Georges. Bethnal Green are main neighbourhoods.

A good British cigar is better than the inferior Havana cigar. As for the continental cigars they are not in it.

Reina Regenta of Morris' Halfmoon passage. 3d each.

In Havana they keep back the very best leaf the cigars costing 4/- to 18/- each are better than English ones ∴ they are made from better stuff.

Machinery for rolling has been tried but none have been

Machine v Hand.

More women are entering the trade than men.

Health.

Men recruited from the Continent.

Very few non-Unionists

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success. 'You cant put brains into a machine, that wat saved us long ago'. Machines wont work good stuff carefully enough.
Not many in the trade became Tobacconists.

Not a great many very young men.
The great bulk of the persons entering the trade are women.
Employers have not taken so much to boy apprentices lately.
The women are taking over the more inferior work the men are being left more for the very best only.
People look pale in the trade but is not really unhealthy
Large no. of foreigners (mostly Belgians) & German & Dutch.
To some extent the manual labour is therefore recruited from the continent. All foreigners join. There are not 50 men in the trade working in London who are outside the Association & most of these they would not accept.
A man in order to join the Society must get work

Condition of election to the Soc.

The Society House.

The range of wages is higher now than it used to be.

Hours.

Seasons.

Effect of Salman & Fluckstein on the trade.

& may then join the Soc. men must be in work when they join & getting the same price as his mates. Then the employers is the test of their quality. They find it works most satisfactorily.

To get new men they sometimes write to Soc-House.

Royal Oak. 220 Whitechapel Rd. but usual men go round in search of it or collector in each shop (who collects soc money) is ask to meet it at the meeting

Relations friendly with employers.

Range of wages to 50s instead of 40s owing to introduction of fancy shapes & slight increase in other classes of work also.

No special dress — only apron.

Will send copy of rules.

Salman & Fluckstein.

8-30 or 9 to 6 or 630. nightly 7.

Saturdays. 8-30 – 1

Busy. Oct to Xmas.

Slack. in the Spring. (anxiety about the budget: fears of readjustment of taxation).

Salman & Fluckstein have entered the trade as retailers as well as manufacturers. They do save the middleman's profit. They pay their men well & they have

Salman v Glücksteen

have no complaints against them: the retailers are very hard against them. ~~Their~~ Retailers Trade Protection Association waited on the Society to ask them to boycott S & G's. "What will you give us in return? will you promise to employ none but Union labour for the future?" was the answer. The retailers wd not promise so the Trade Union wd do nothing for them.

The retailers then went to the other manufacturers but S & G buys so largely of their wares that they cd not afford to offend them.

Comparative mortality of Tobacconists

Census returns.

Death chiefly from diseases of respiratory organs.

November 19. S. H. W.

The Comparative mortality figure for tobacconists as shewn by the Census returns for 1880-2 for the ages 25 to 65. in which 1000 is taken as representing the comparative mortality of all males, was exactly the mean ie the figure for tobacconists was 1000.

Vid. Dr. Arlidge. on the Hygiene diseases & mortality of occupations (ed. 1892). p. 157.
"The returns shew that 27.7% perish from phthisis, 13.47% die from other diseases of the respiratory ~~organs~~ system, & that diseases of the nervous & circulatory system stand severally at about 9.20%. The leading fact deducible is therefore that phthisis is unusually fatal among tobacconists. "They suffer very much at all the younger ages" was the conclusion of Dr Farr."
He goes on to say that this is difficult of explanation & is probably due to excessive smoking, but was

Caused by dust.

excessive drinking —

Ben Cooper admitted that tobacco ~~not~~ workers did look pale. Said it was due to the dust that ~~or~~ flew from the tobacco leaves. Snuff makers suffer especially in this way.

He did not think it led to any great mortality from chest diseases but there is certainly a tendency towards them.

H. Sutter. Tobacco Cutters Society.

Refuses Official information

Unofficial information.

Nov. 21. G. A. D.

H. Sutter. Secretary to the Tobacco Cutters trade Society. Held at the White Hart Inn Kingsland Road

Mr. Sutter had lately become a small tobacconist & had started on his own account. He was to give up his secretaryship next week & all the information he could give must not be taken as official. In fact he refused to allow any notes to be taken of it saying that the Society must give its own information that being in the delicate position he was in he w. rather have nothing taken down.

Society consists of 200 members
Offer out of work, Death & Travelling money
Relations with employers good.
Union & non union men work together

Not much shifting

Men most stay where they are; there is very little shifting from shop to shop

Cigarette making is very prosperous just now.

NB. The Society was applied to, to give information but refused.

According to promise the information given above was not put into print the printed proof: the membership about which we had estimates from other persons in the tobacco trade only being left in the paged proof.

Offer Out of work Death, and Travelling money. Relations good. Union and non-union men work together.

1/ from 1st proof of Tobacco

Cigarette makers Society

Dec. 20th. G. H.D

J. Kerrison writes telling of the existence of ~~the~~ a Cigarette makers Society.
Address.
Secretary
292 Nathaniel Buildings
Commercial St. E.
who has accordingly been this day written to.

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