Sources of Data on Strikes

January 1893 - December 1900 "Annual Reports on Strikes and Lockouts" published as Command Papers by the Board of Trade, full title "Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lock-outs of 1893" (C. 7566), 1894 lxxxi Pt. 1 409; "of 1894" (C. 7901), 1895 xcii 211; "of 1895" (C. 8231), 1896 lxxx Pt. 1 441; "Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lock-outs of 1896 with Statistical Tables", (C. 8643), 1897 lxxxiv 239; "of 1897" (C. 9012), 1898 lxxxviii 423; "of 1898" (C. 9437), 1899 xcii 277; "of 1899" (Cd. 316), 1900 lxxxiii 383; "of 1900" (Cd. 689), 1901 lxxiii 591.
January 1901 - January 1902 monthly articles in the "Labour Gazette" published monthly by the Board of Trade (non-Parliamentary), full title "The Labour Gazette: The Journal of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade".
January 1903 - December 1940 "Record Books" held at the Public Record Office, Kew, London, Board of Trade, full title "Trade Disputes: Record Books, Strikes and Lock-outs in 1901", and subsequent volumes to 1916, PRO LAB 34/1-16, Ministry of Labour, "Trade Disputes: Record Books, Strikes and Lock-outs of 1917", and subsequent volumes, PRO LAB 34/17-.

Sources of Data on Collieries and Coal Companies

January 1921 - December 1940: "Lists of Mines" published annually by the Mines Department (non-Parliamentary publications), full title "List of Mines in the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man: 1920" and similarly until 1938.

The source records were compiled in the course of an administrative activity, namely the compilation of strike statistics by the Board of Trade Labour Department and the Ministry of Labour, and the regulation of the coal mining industry by the Mines Department. The compilation of the strike statistics was based on a postal questionnaire system; full details so far as they are known or can be inferred are given in Volume I of the documentation. The methods by which the Mines Inspectorate and the Mines Department gathered their data are unknown.

The "Record Books" which are the source for the bulk of the strikes are manuscript and later typescript ledgers giving information in a mixture of short phrases, numbers and alphanumeric codes. The textual information in the "Record Books" has been transformed into numeric codes, resulting in the loss of textual detail. However all significant information in the "Record Books" has been coded. The "List of Mines" is a printed listing of verbal and numerical information. Only information concerning struck collieries and companies is contained in the dataset deposited herewith. This

information, too, is recorded in the form of numeric codes in the dataset; the surviving textual information is in the Colliery Name and Company Name Codebooks contained in Volume II of the documentation. In general, the dataset deposited here consists of numeric codes for all but one variable. The data have also been cleaned, rendered consistent where possible, classified and reclassified in the case of some variables, and linked together. The data are a new compilation and coding of, rather than a transcription of, the source records.