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THE

JANUARY

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

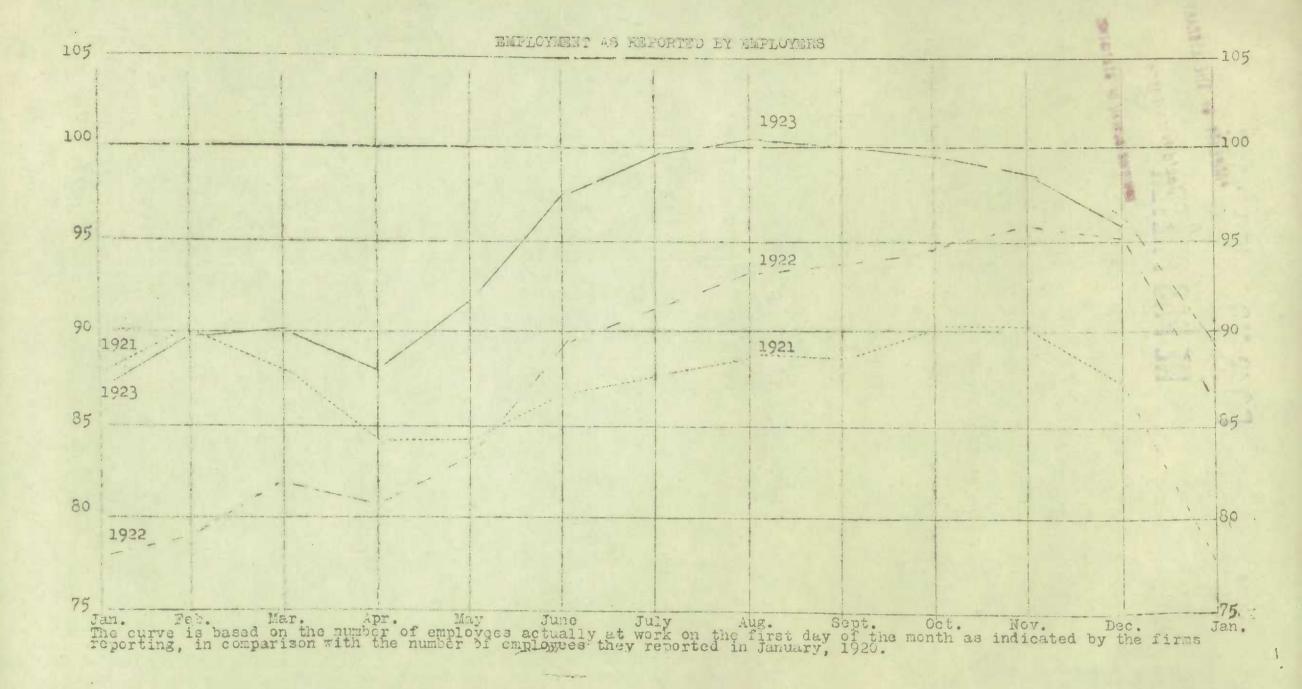
1924

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DOMINION PUREAU OF STATISTICS GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH OTTAVA, CANADA.

Issued January 21,1924.

THE JANUARY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S., F.R.S.S. Chief, General Statistics: S. A. Cudmore, M.A., F.S.S.

Employment at the beginning of January, 1924, showed the large contraction always indicated at this time of year, although the declines were considerably less than at the beginning of January, 1923. According to returns tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, there was a decrease of 57,581 persons or 7.3 per cent in the employment afforded by the reporting firms. The losses recorded at the same period of last year had affected over 72,000 persons or 9 per cent of the payroll. The reduction recorded during the period under review caused the curve of employment in the chart on the opposite page to follow very much the course it pursued last year. It was, however, somewhat higher than at the beginning of 1923 and considerably above the level indicated on January 1,1922.

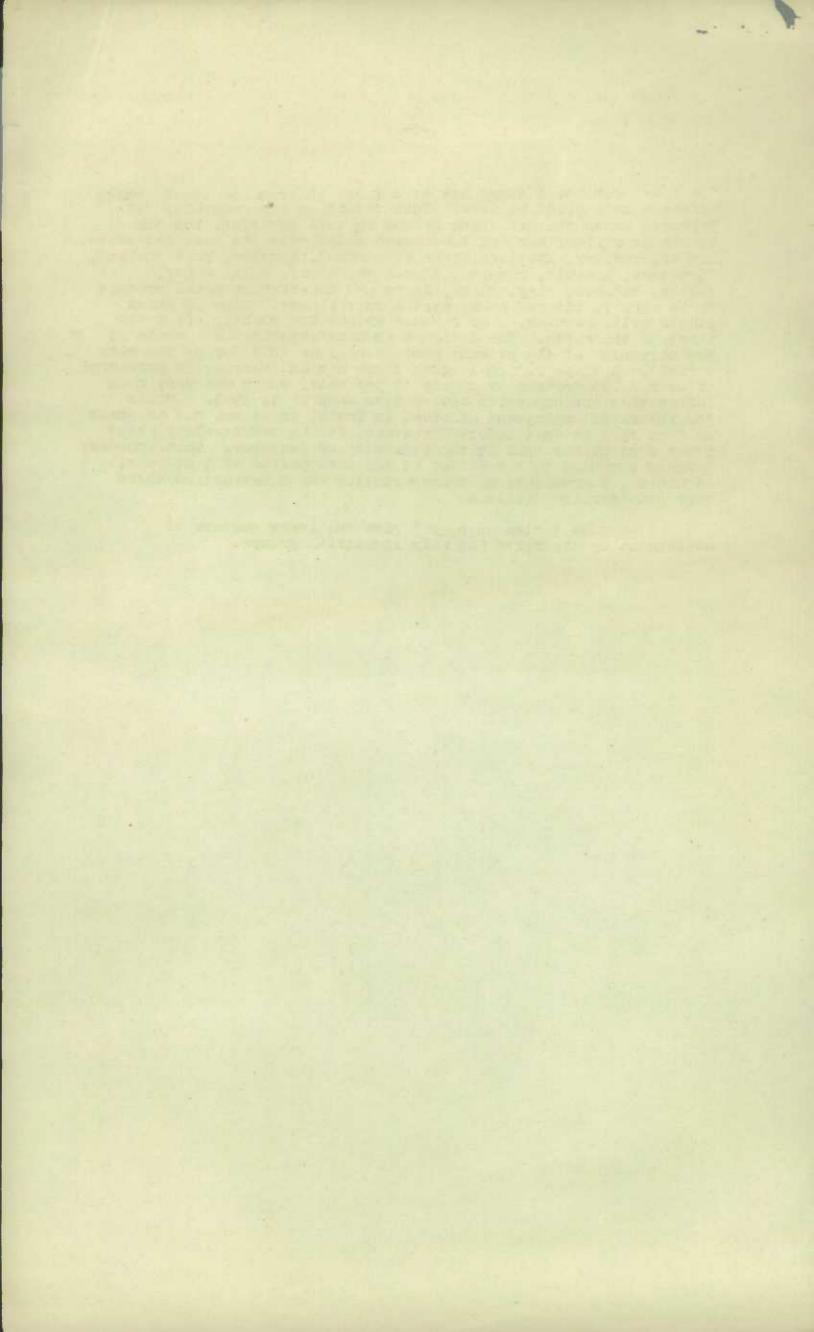
The 5,768 firms making returns for the beginning of this month employed 729,950 persons as compared with 787,531 on December 1, 1923. The index number declined from 95.7 in the preceding month to 88.7 for the period under review; at the beginning of January, 1923, it had stood at 86.3, in 1922 at 77.9 and in 1921 at 87.7. The tendency in all industries except logging and retail trade, in which there were seasonal gains, was downward. The heaviest reductions were reported in ranufacturing, largely owing to temporary shutdowns over the holidays and for inventories.

While shrinkage was reported in all provinces, the losses in Ontario and Quebec were the largest; those in the former affected some 25,900 workers and in the latter, approximately 17,900. The Maritime District, on account of seasonal gains in logging and transportation, was least affected by the general curtailment of operations.

Reductions in employment were recorded in all of the six cities for which separate tabulations are made. They were very extensive in Montreal, where pronounced contractions due to the closing of railway car, tobacco, textile and many other manufacturing plants were supplemented by large losses in shipping and stevedoring and in building construction. The payrolls of the firms reporting in this city were over 7 per cent less than at the beginning of pecember. In Toronto there was a large increase in retail trade, but textile, confectionery, iron and steel and many other factories reported substantial curtailment; the street railways afforded less employment and there were considerable declines in building construction. There was a reduction in employment in this city of between 4 and 5 per cent. Sawmills and building construction again suffered the heaviest losses in Ottawa, where there was a decrease of more than 3 per cent in the employment afforded by the reporting firms. Very large losses in locomotive, wire and other iron and steel works, in textile and other manufacturing establishments in At milton caused the index number to decline by about 10 per cent. In Winnipeg there were general but rather small reductions in a number of groups, the result being a contraction of 3 per cent. Continued curtailment of operations in sawmills was reported in Vancouver; there were also declines in shipping and stevedoring and some other industries, employment falling off by 7 per cent.

Without exception, the trend of employment in manufacturing was downward. Over 39,000 workers were released by the nanufacturers reporting; this represented a decline of 9 per cent. The most pronounced decreases were those in iron and steel, which affected over 9,600 persons. This reduction was generally distributed among the different groups in this division, but the losses in railway car and locomotive shops were the most extensive. Lumber, hosiery, knitting, fabric, garment, leather, meat packing, furniture, biscuit, canning, chocolate, sugar, pulp, paper, rubber, tobacco, clay, glass, stone and non-ferrous metal product works also registered substantial curtailment. Many of these plants will, however, have resumed operations shortly after the first of the month. The declines in manufacturing as a whole at the beginning of the present month were loss than during the same period of last year. In logging there was an increase in personnel of over 3,700 workers or nearly 12 per cent, which was very much larger than the expansion recorded on January 1, 1923. While the volume of employment afforded in retail trade was not as great on January 1 as just before Christmas, it was nevertheless about 5 per cent higher than at the beginning of December. This increase largely exceeded that recorded at the same period of last year. In mining, communication, transportation and construction there were considerable declines.

The tables on page 3 give the index numbers of employment by districts and main industrial groups.



Note: The number employed on January 17, 1920, is taken as 100 in every case.

The "relative weight" shows the proportion of employees in the indicated district or industry to the total number of employees reported in all districts and industries for the period under review.

TABLE I - Index Numbers of Employment in Canada by Menths.

	1924	1.923	1922	1921
January 1 February 1 March 1 April 1 May 1 June 1 July 1 August 1 September 1 October 1 November 1 becember 1		86.3 89.5 89.6 91.4 97.3 99.2 100.0 98.8 95.7	77.9 78.9 81.9 80.6 83.3 89.2 91.1 93.7 94.6 95.8	87.7 90.1 88.0 84.1 84.1 86.6 87.5 88.9 90.2
Tracination of the second of the second		77.1	95.1	87.2

TABLE II - Index Numbers of Employment by Provinces.

District	Relative			Jan.1 1922	Jan. 1921
Maritime Provinces Quebec Ontario Prairie Provinces British Columbia CANADA	8.8 27.3 41.9 13.7 8.3 100.	86.3 90.5 86.1 94.3 90.9 88.7	 90.8 83.5 85.6 90.0 88.3 86.3	78.3 82.8 79.9	88.3

TABLE III - Index Numbers of Employment by Cities.

City	Relative Weight		Dec.1 1923	Jan.1 1923	Jan. 1 1922
Montreal	13.6 12.8 1.3 3.3 3.3	86.3 85.6 91.0 79.0 85.3 91.1	93.6 90.2 94.3 88.5 88.2 98.1	79.8 84.7 94.4 81.5 92.6 87.7	73.2 85.1 85.2 79.9

TAPLE IV - Index Numbers of Employment by Industries.

	Relative Weight	Jan.1 1924	Dec.1 1923	Jan.1 1923	Jan.1 Jan.1 1922 1921
Manufacturing Lumber products Pulp and paper Textile products Iron and steel Other manufacturing industries Logging Mining	54.2 5.1 6.9 8.8 15.3 18.1 4.9 6.4	80.1 74.8 98.4 80.9 72.6 82.8 92.1	88.2 88.6 102.1 88.7 79.2 92.0 62.2 105.9	78.1 80.1 95.4 84.6 64.7 81.7 87.0 100.8	68.7 78.4 62.7 67.0 85.9 101.8 80.1 69.2 49.6 81.9 78.3 75.7 59.5 88.6 93.0 100.3
Communication Transportation Construction and maintenance Services Trade All Industries	2.9	104.2 107.3 98.8 106.6 99.4 88.7	106.1 113.3 125.2 106.2 96.8 95.7	97.4 104.8 96.0 92.8 98.2 86.3	101.1 105.4 99.2 103.0 92.4 102.9 92.9 94.5 96.9 100.4 77.9 87.7

