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GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH

THE
SEPTEMBER
EMPLOYMENT SITUATION
1924

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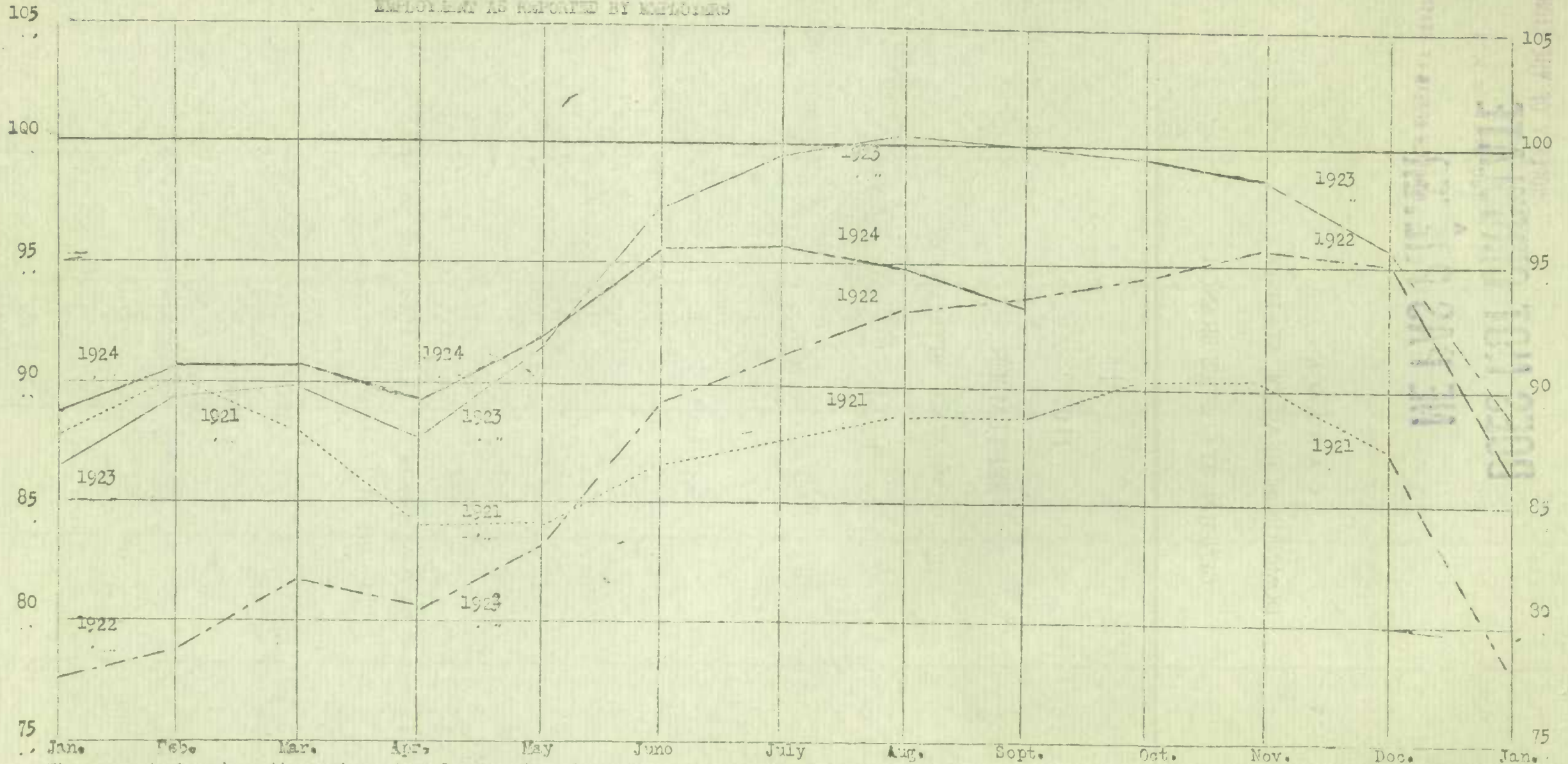
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OTTAWA

1924

EMPLOYMENT AS REPORTED BY MEMBERS



The curve is based on the number of employees at work on the first day of the month as indicated by the firms reporting, in comparison with the number of employees they reported in January, 1920.

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH
OTTAWA, CANADA.

Issued September 23, 1924.

THE AUGUST EMPLOYMENT SITUATION.

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

Employment showed a further decrease at the beginning of September, parallelling the movement indicated at the same time in 1923 and 1921. The declines in personnel recorded at this time of year are usually due, in part, to the farmers' demands for harvest workers. The decrease in the index number caused by the contraction recorded on September 1 is, however, larger than the average reduction on the same date of the last three or four years. The 5,942 firms reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics employed 767,204 persons, on September 1, or 14,374 less than on August 1. The index number declined from 94.7 on the latter date to 93.1 at the beginning of this month as compared with 100.0, 93.7 and 88.7 on September 1, 1923, 1922 and 1921, respectively. The course of employment since January 1, 1921, is shown in the chart on the opposite page.

The most pronounced contractions in employment at the beginning of this month were registered in iron and steel, nearly all branches of which showed severe curtailment; nickel mining, railway and highway construction and transportation also reported less activity. On the other hand, logging, building construction, coal mining, trade and some branches of manufacturing showed improvement.

Employment by Provinces.

The trend of employment in all provinces was downward. Firms in Ontario recorded the most extensive actual losses in payroll, although the percentage reduction in the Maritime Provinces was larger. Business activity in British Columbia showed the least falling off.

Maritime Provinces.- Rolling mills, construction and transportation registered pronounced contractions, but textiles and coal mines were busier, according to returns from 520 firms employing 64,610 persons. On August 1 they had an aggregate payroll of 67,449 workers.

Quebec.- The largest decreases in Quebec were shown in iron and steel, textiles, transportation and railway construction. Building and highway construction, trade and some manufactures, however, reported offsetting gains. Returns were received from 1,316 employers whose staffs aggregated 216,622 persons, or 2,280 less than in the preceding month.

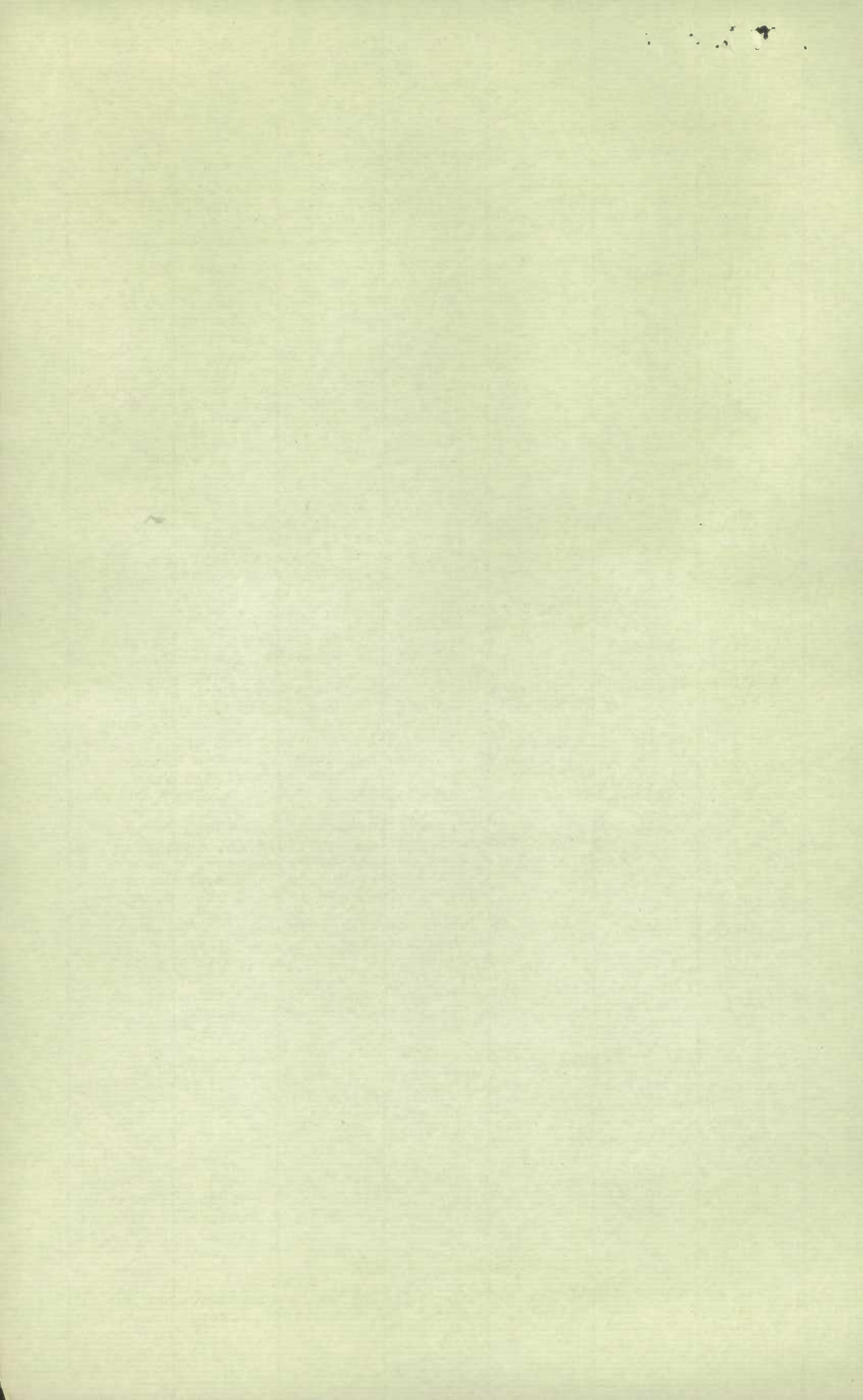
Ontario.- Declines in iron and steel principally caused the contraction in this province, although nickel-copper mining, rubber, railway transportation and construction afforded less employment. Logging camps, on the other hand, were decidedly busier, and textile, food, and some other classes of manufacturing showed improvement. The 2,714 firms making returns employed 315,208 persons as compared with 321,088 on August 1.

Prairie Provinces.- Reductions in railway construction and operation were responsible for most of the decrease of between 2 and 3 p.c. in this district, while coal mines and building contractors reported increased activity. Statements tabulated from 767 firms showed that they employed 99,632 persons; in the preceding month they had employed 102,546 workers.

British Columbia.- Manufacturing and logging showed improvement but highway and railway construction registered declines on a larger scale. The result was a decrease of 461 in the staffs of the 625 firms reporting. They employed 71,132 persons.

Employment by Cities.

Firms in Montreal, Ottawa, Hamilton and Quebec recorded reduced employment, while in Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver increased activity was noted.



Montreal.- Textile and iron and steel factories indicated considerable declines, as did also shipping and stevedoring. Building construction, on the other hand, showed marked improvement. According to the 719 reporting employers, their staffs declined from 109,273 on August 1 to 106,899 at the beginning of September.

Quebec.- A slightly downward tendency was noted in Quebec City, largely due to curtailment in leather factories. A combined working force of 8,538 persons was indicated by the 95 reporting firms; they had 8,631 persons working for them in the preceding month.

Toronto.- For the first time since the end of April, employment in Toronto showed a favourable trend. This was largely owing to improvement in manufacturing, mainly in textile works. Statements were received from 787 firms, employing 99,309 persons or 793 more than in the preceding month.

Ottawa.- A further slight decline was recorded in Ottawa; pulp and lumber mills showed the largest losses. A combined working force of 10,632 was reported by the 128 firms making returns, who employed 10,329 persons on the date of their last report.

Hamilton.- Employment in iron and steel showed a pronounced falling off, which was partly offset by substantial recovery in textiles. The changes in other industries were slight. Reports were compiled from 199 employers whose staffs aggregated 24,077, as compared with 24,476 on August 1.

Winnipeg.- Further improvement was recorded in Winnipeg; 290 firms reported 24,220 persons on pay-roll, or 276 more than in the preceding month. Building contractors, abattoirs and some other branches of manufacturing registered the gain.

Vancouver.- Employment in sawmills, food factories, construction and transportation increased moderately in Vancouver, where 468 workers were added to the paylists of the 226 firms making returns. They employed 23,488 persons at the beginning of September.

Employment by Industries.

Manufacturing.- Further contractions were indicated in manufacturing as a whole, chiefly on account of large declines in iron and steel and smaller losses in leather, garment, brick and non-ferrous metal factories. Food, pulp and paper, electric current and some other branches of manufacturing, on the other hand, afforded considerably more employment. Statements were received from 3,862 manufacturers, employing 426,440 persons as compared with 416,728 on August 1.

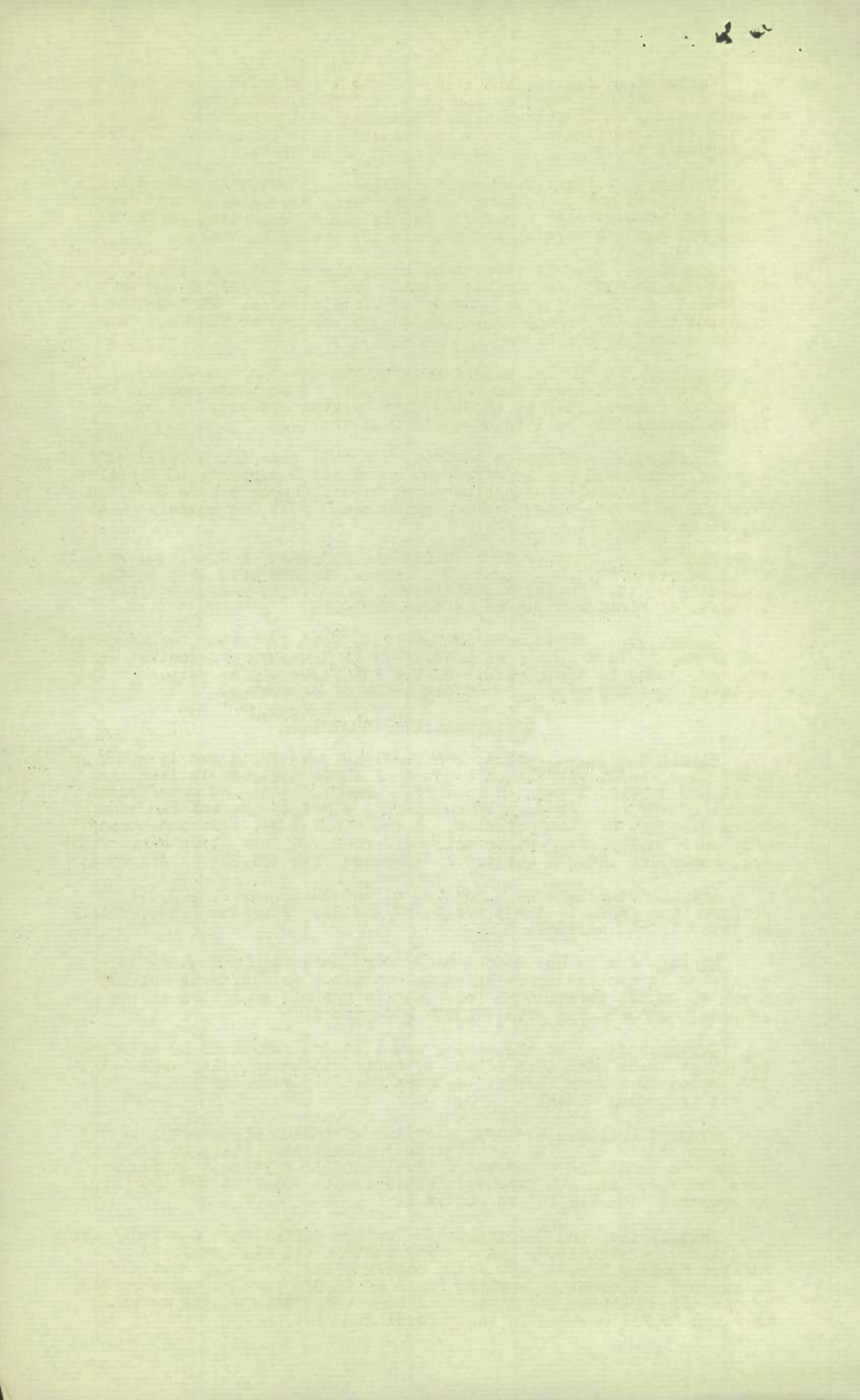
Logging camps showed a revival of seasonal activity; 3,841 persons were added to the payrolls of the 211 reporting firms, which employed 17,002 persons.

Mining. Increases in coal mines were more than offset by contractions in nickel-copper mines in Ontario. An aggregate working force of 46,032 persons was indicated by the 212 operators making returns, as compared with 46,392 on August 1.

Communication on the whole, was slacker; additions to staffs on telegraphs were more than offset by contractions on telephones. The 166 employers making returns reported 23,252 persons or 172 less than in the preceding month.

Transportation.- Employment in the operation departments of the railways and in shipping and stevedoring declined, while no general change was indicated on street railways and in cartage. Statements were compiled from 273 employers whose staffs totalled 109,168 persons as compared with 112,145 on August 1.

Construction and Maintenance.- Further curtailment was indicated in railway construction, and highway contractors also employed smaller working forces. Building construction, however, continued to improve. A combined working force of 85,074 persons was recorded by the 465 employers and divisional superintendents making returns; they had 89,213 workers in the preceding month.



Trade.- Moderate gains were indicated by the 579 retail and wholesale establishments reporting, whose staffs were increased from 54,632 on August 1 to 54,813 at the beginning of September.

The tables on pages 4, 5 and 6 show the index numbers of employment by districts, cities, industries and also by main industrial group in the five areas into which the country is divided in these statistics

Employment in Other Countries.

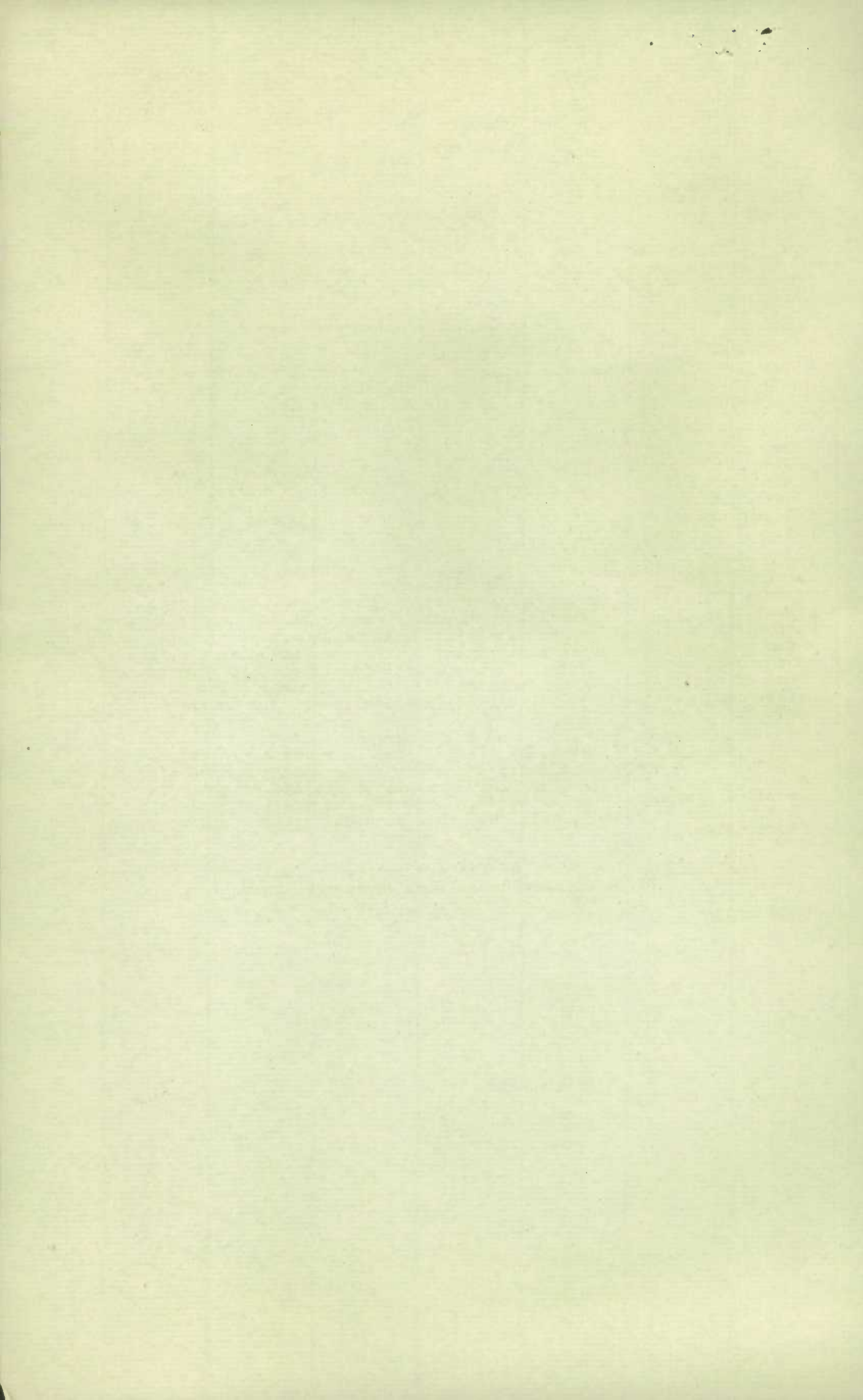
The following notes on employment in the United Kingdom are taken from the latest available issue of the "Ministry of Labour Gazette". The extracts respecting conditions in the United States are taken from the latest official report of the indicated state.

United Kingdom.- Employment, on the whole, showed a slight decline during July. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the percentage unemployed at 28th July, 1924 was 9.9, compared with 9.4 at 23rd June, 1924, and 11.5 at the end of July, 1923. Among members of reporting Trade Unions the percentage of unemployed was 7.4 at the end of July, 1924, compared with 7.2 at the end of June and with 11.1 at the end of July, 1923.

New York.- The recession in factory employment appears to have about touched bottom. Declines in some New York factories during August were offset by increases in others, so that employment went no lower than in July. Important decreases were noted in August in the manufacture of building materials; textile mills are still in the midst of a serious reduction, although improvement was shown in some cases. Shipyards, brass and copper mills reported contractions. The manufacture of wood and leather products employed larger payrolls and iron and steel mills, which have felt successive declines, held their own in August.

Illinois.- First signs of an impending revival of business in Illinois have begun to appear; in August the reporting manufacturers added 0.3 of 1 p.c. to their July payrolls, but this slight gain still leaves employment on a low level. Leather, drug, oil, automobile, agricultural implement, rail and other iron and steel works recorded improvement.

Wisconsin.- The trend of factory employment was downward in July. Canning showed seasonal improvement and gains were shown in leather, rubber and building material factories. Metals, wood, and textile works, however, were slacker.



Note: The number employed by the reporting firms in Jan. 1920 is taken as 100 in every case. The "relative weight" in Tables I, II and III shows the proportion of employees in the indicated district or industry to the total number of employees reported in all districts and industries on the date under review. In Table IV, it shows the relative importance of the indicated industry within the specified area.

TABLE I.- Index Numbers of Employment by Districts.

	Maritime		Quebec	Ontario	Prairie	British
	Canada	Provinces			Provinces	Columbia
Jan. 1, 1922	77.9	78.1	74.4	78.3	82.8	79.9
Feb. 1,	78.9	76.3	74.6	79.5	83.0	84.3
Mar. 1,	81.9	80.7	80.6	81.7	84.4	85.3
Apr. 1,	80.6	80.6	77.5	81.1	82.1	85.9
May 1,	83.3	83.0	81.2	82.4	85.4	91.3
June 1,	89.2	87.4	83.1	87.8	92.8	96.6
July 1,	91.1	92.6	80.0	89.2	99.7	99.2
Aug. 1,	93.1	94.0	90.3	90.8	101.5	99.8
Sept. 1,	93.7	90.3	91.6	91.9	101.2	102.0
Oct. 1,	94.6	91.8	92.0	93.6	101.9	100.1
Nov. 1,	95.8	91.7	92.7	94.9	105.0	100.2
Dec. 1,	95.1	92.1	93.9	94.4	101.5	95.6
Jan. 1, 1923	86.3	90.8	82.5	85.6	90.0	88.3
Feb. 1,	89.5	90.4	87.7	90.0	91.6	83.4
Mar. 1,	89.9	90.7	87.9	90.3	88.9	92.0
Apr. 1,	87.6	90.5	85.5	88.4	83.5	92.8
May 1,	91.4	90.0	90.3	91.6	90.4	97.5
June 1,	97.3	93.9	99.1	96.8	95.5	100.4
July 1,	99.5	101.0	100.5	97.2	101.4	103.9
Aug. 1,	100.2	97.8	101.9	97.1	104.3	107.2
Sept. 1,	100.0	101.4	100.1	98.1	101.1	106.6
Oct. 1,	99.5	97.0	104.0	96.0	100.7	104.2
Nov. 1,	98.8	95.2	103.2	96.0	99.2	102.8
Dec. 1,	95.7	91.2	98.5	93.4	99.3	97.8
Jan. 1, 1924	88.7	86.3	90.5	86.1	94.3	90.9
Feb. 1,	90.6	83.2	92.8	90.0	92.1	92.7
Mar. 1,	90.7	82.4	93.5	89.8	89.6	97.1
Apr. 1,	89.3	81.6	91.5	87.6	87.0	99.6
May 1,	91.8	88.1	94.1	89.8	89.4	102.9
June 1,	95.2	90.0	99.9	92.1	94.1	103.4
July 1,	95.9	90.6	100.6	91.4	99.1	105.8
Aug. 1,	94.7	90.2	98.7	90.3	96.4	107.1
Sept. 1,	93.1	86.6	97.8	88.9	93.9	106.0

Relative Weight of Employment by Districts as at September 1, 1924.

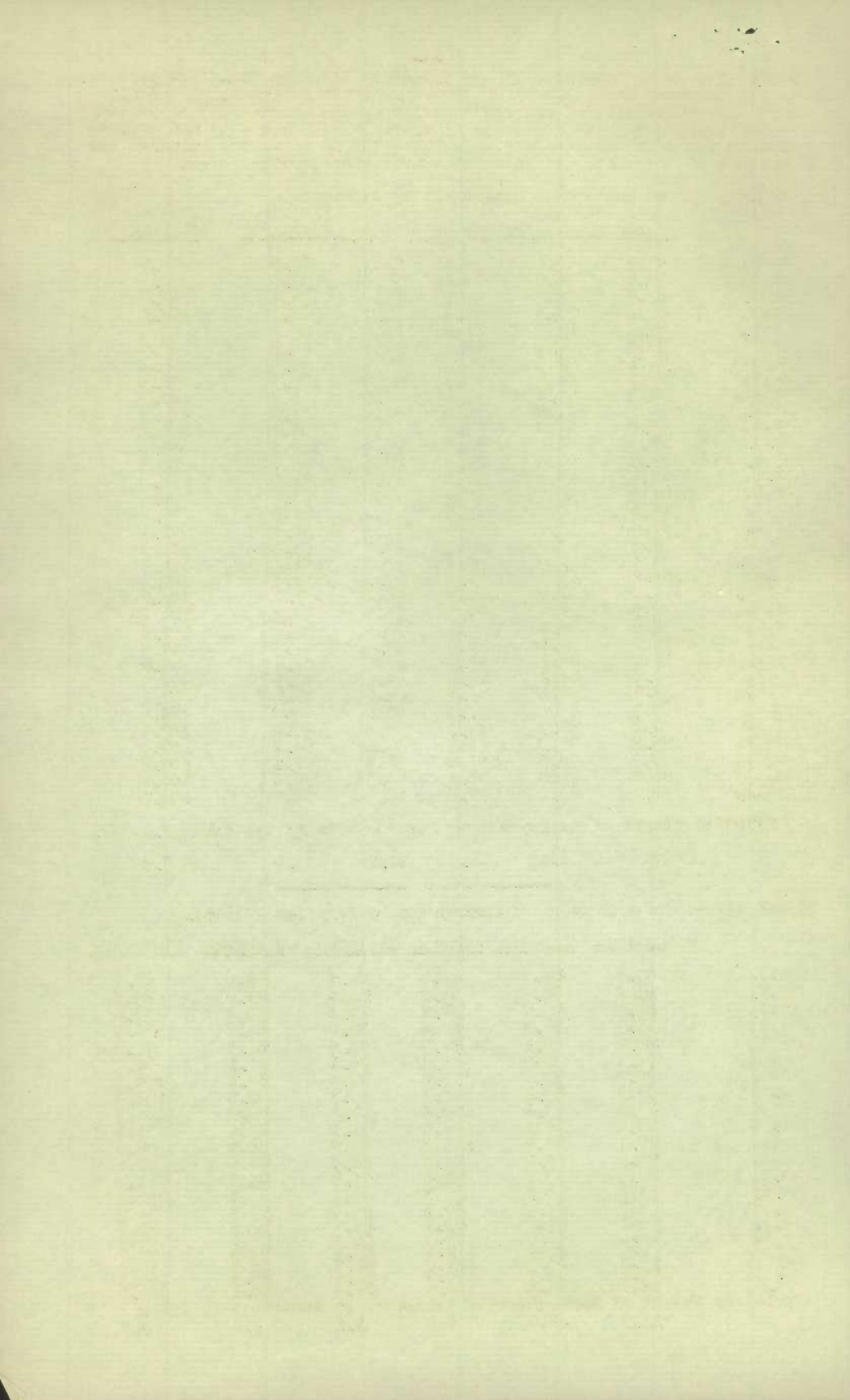
100.	8.4	28.2	41.1	13.0	9.3
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TABLE II. - Index Numbers of Employment by Principal Cities.

	Montreal	Toronto	Ottawa	Hamilton	Winnipeg	Vancouver
Jan. 1, 1923	79.8	84.7	94.4	81.5	92.6	87.7
Feb. 1,	86.2	88.5	95.7	86.0	89.0	85.8
Mar. 1,	85.9	85.7	92.2	89.2	86.4	90.4
Apr. 1,	83.3	86.7	90.6	88.4	85.7	86.9
May 1,	88.8	88.1	94.8	92.6	86.3	91.8
June 1,	95.4	89.9	109.6	94.6	87.1	94.7
July 1,	95.9	89.5	110.2	91.4	87.7	100.3
Aug. 1,	97.3	89.1	109.3	93.3	87.5	103.6
Sept. 1,	93.6	89.6	107.5	92.2	89.9	104.3
Oct. 1,	98.7	90.4	105.5	91.1	89.4	101.6
Nov. 1,	99.1	89.9	103.8	89.7	88.6	98.6
Dec. 1,	93.6	90.2	94.3	88.5	88.2	98.1
Jan. 1, 1924	86.3	85.6	91.0	79.0	85.3	91.1
Feb. 1,	87.1	84.7	89.7	84.3	84.7	91.1
Mar. 1,	87.7	84.5	89.3	83.0	83.8	94.2
Apr. 1,	90.1	88.0	90.9	85.2	83.3	99.0
May 1,	92.3	87.5	98.0	86.4	83.0	102.7
June 1,	96.2	88.2	101.6	88.1	83.0	99.7
July 1,	94.8	88.0	101.3	88.7	83.0	96.0
Aug. 1,	95.1	88.0	100.7	89.9	83.0	102.3
Sept. 1,	92.9	85.3	100.6	79.4	86.4	104.0

Relative Weight of Employment by Cities as at September 1, 1924.

13.9	12.0	1.4	3.1	3.2	2.9
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Industry	Relative Wgt.	Sept. 1924	Aug. 1924	Sept. 1923	Sept. 1922	Sept. 1921
Manufacturing.....	54.3	84.5	86.2	93.0	86.5	79.3
Animal products - edible...	2.0	100.2	98.4	94.1	95.4	93.5
Fur and products.....	.1	87.3	87.5	90.5	96.6	90.0
Leather and products.....	2.1	73.7	74.9	76.3	78.3	78.8
Lumber and products.....	7.3	110.5	111.0	119.7	114.8	95.4
Rough and dressed Lumber.	5.3	143.5	142.1	153.1	142.0	111.6
Lumber products.....	2.0	98.2	71.9	76.5	78.9	74.9
Musical instruments.....	.3	62.3	57.8	64.7	59.4	54.5
Plant products-edible.....	3.8	101.8	98.9	97.9	99.0	102.7
Pulp and paper products....	6.7	100.5	99.9	104.5	96.6	88.4
Pulp and paper.....	3.3	107.4	107.3	116.8	101.6	89.2
Paper products.....	.8	87.6	82.6	88.0	83.5	73.6
Printing and publishing..	2.6	96.6	97.0	95.5	95.0	91.9
Rubber products.....	1.2	67.3	68.1	70.8	71.7	55.9
Textile products.....	8.1	79.9	78.9	85.0	85.7	80.7
Thread, yarn and cloth...	2.8	84.7	85.4	91.6	100.6	90.3
Hosiery and knit goods...	1.5	82.3	78.6	93.0	86.0	71.9
Garments and personal furnishings.....	2.7	72.6	70.8	73.7	73.1	76.4
Others.....	1.1	86.2	87.0	92.2	86.6	81.2
Tobacco, distilled and malt liquors.....	1.5	99.3	98.6	88.2	99.9	101.8
Wood distillates and extracts	.1	165.8	107.6	111.1	69.4	79.7
Chemicals and allied products	.8	82.3	81.4	87.0	88.3	81.5
Clay, glass and stone pro- ducts.....	1.2	89.7	91.8	102.4	94.4	85.8
Electric current.....	1.6	133.2	132.0	125.3	123.0	108.6
Electrical apparatus.....	1.1	107.2	106.0	104.7	79.5	81.2
Iron and steel products....	13.2	65.7	72.5	86.0	72.3	66.4
Crude, rolled and forged products.....	1.2	42.2	56.8	78.4	60.9	61.1
Machinery other than vehicles.....	1.0	65.4	66.4	79.1	64.3	64.6
Agricultural implements..	.5	39.5	49.5	61.6	53.1	38.9
Land vehicles.....	6.4	82.3	92.0	105.9	87.3	74.3
Steel shipbuilding and re- pairing.....	.7	28.1	31.6	27.2	23.8	41.9
Heating appliances.....	.6	82.0	79.1	92.9	86.5	85.6
Iron and steel fabrication, n.o.p.....	.6	74.0	79.5	100.8	84.6	82.4
Foundry and machine shop products.....	.6	64.2	68.9	85.5	73.0	60.9
Others.....	1.9	67.1	67.2	76.8	71.7	67.8
Non-ferrous metal products..	1.4	78.0	80.2	91.0	78.5	65.0
Mineral products.....	1.3	108.0	108.1	103.5	94.4	85.5
Miscellaneous.....	.5	82.6	76.4	86.5	90.1	83.4
Logging.....	2.2	43.7	36.2	43.1	36.5	41.9
Mining.....	6.0	99.1	99.4	104.0	97.1	96.0
Coal.....	3.5	84.8	82.0	94.6	93.9	100.4
Metallic ores.....	1.7	148.1	159.2	132.7	102.2	87.9
Non-metallic minerals (other than coal).....	.8	99.9	95.2	108.8	105.5	83.6
Communication.....	3.0	113.1	113.9	106.4	103.4	106.8
Telegraphs.....	2.6	113.8	111.1	111.4	101.4	98.7
Telephones.....	2.4	112.9	114.7	105.1	104.0	108.3
Transportation.....	14.2	107.8	110.8	113.4	111.9	106.6
Street railways and cartage..	2.5	114.9	115.9	121.6	125.3	107.5
Steam Railways.....	9.9	98.5	100.8	107.0	97.8	98.0
Shipping and stevedoring...	1.8	195.6	211.6	163.9	255.2	217.5
Construction and maintenance.	11.1	165.3	173.1	180.9	164.3	141.6
Building.....	3.5	140.9	137.5	147.2	123.6	109.0
Highway.....	2.2	1945.6	1946.9	3667.2	3239.7	2669.0
Railway.....	5.4	132.0	144.6	163.2	149.1	137.3
Services.....	2.0	121.7	122.4	120.3	105.0	107.3
Hotel and restaurant.....	1.2	136.2	137.6	137.1	113.2	118.0
Professional.....	.2	101.0	110.4	111.4	94.3	81.5
Personal (chiefly laundries).	.6	105.3	104.3	100.7	95.9	98.8
Trade.....	7.2	82.7	91.7	92.0	96.8	92.1
Retail.....	4.6	89.7	89.4	89.8	87.1	86.4
Wholesale.....	2.6	96.6	96.1	96.1	97.3	99.1
All industries.....	100	93.1	94.7	100	93.7	88.7

For explanation of term "relative weight" see note on page 4.

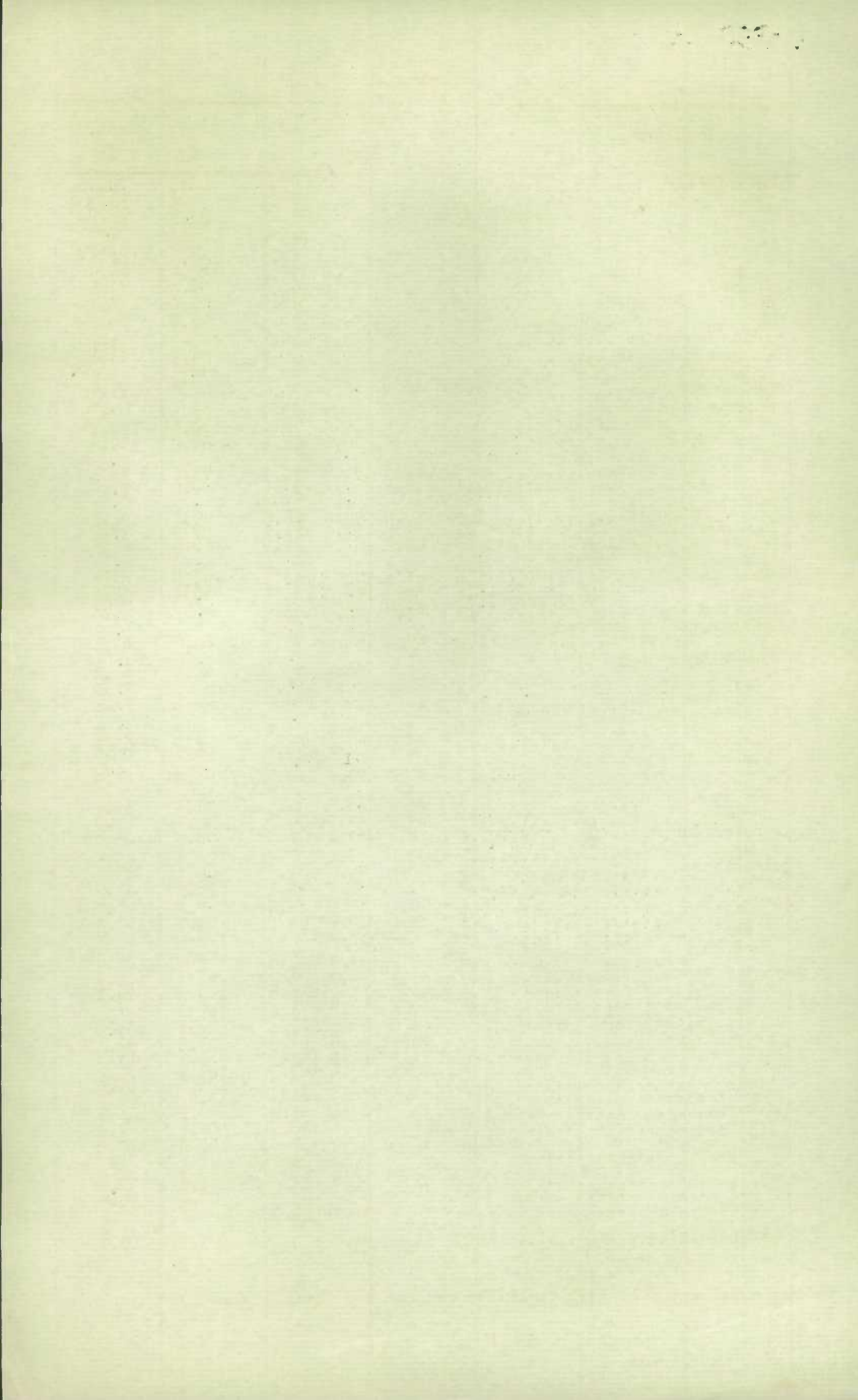


TABLE IV.- Index Numbers of Employment by Areas and Industries.

Industry	* Relative Weight	Sept. 1, 1924	Aug. 1, 1924	Sept. 1, 1923
<u>Maritime Provinces</u> -Manufacturing...	39.9	79.0	84.0	95.7
Lumber products...	10.4	137.7	138.8	149.4
Pulp and paper...	3.6	112.5	116.9	121.6
Textile products..	5.1	66.5	74.4	102.0
Iron and steel....	10.2	47.2	61.5	79.0
Other manufactures	10.6	86.2	86.3	82.9
Logging.....	.4	9.3	8.4	12.6
Mining.....	24.5	100.5	98.1	110.3
Communication.....	3.5	95.6	95.7	96.5
Transportation.....	13.8	59.3	72.7	75.7
Construction and maintenance.....	11.3	166.3	190.3	228.5
Services.....	.8	136.0	146.7	131.2
Trade.....	5.8	108.3	111.2	114.5
<u>Maritime Provinces</u> -All Industries..	100.7	86.6	90.2	101.4
<u>Quebec</u> - Manufacturing.....	61.0	87.8	89.1	92.8
Lumber products...	5.8	141.3	142.5	145.4
Pulp and paper....	8.8	102.5	100.3	108.2
Textile products..	12.1	82.4	85.3	84.4
Iron and steel....	12.9	71.2	75.8	87.1
Other manufactures	22.3	89.1	88.5	89.8
Logging.....	1.7	35.3	36.4	36.8
Mining.....	1.4	77.5	73.7	96.7
Communication.....	2.7	146.8	140.4	122.1
Transportation.....	15.2	136.1	141.0	132.4
Construction and maintenance.....	10.3	188.3	179.6	172.3
Services.....	1.9	143.6	146.6	142.5
Trade.....	4.9	94.4	92.9	93.9
<u>Quebec</u> - All Industries.....	100	97.8	98.7	100.1
<u>Ontario</u> Manufacturing.....	62.8	79.7	81.9	90.6
Lumber products...	7.4	105.0	105.8	111.6
Pulp and paper....	7.6	99.4	99.0	101.3
Textile products..	9.8	76.6	73.9	85.1
Iron and steel....	15.4	61.1	69.4	85.9
Other manufactures	22.6	86.7	86.2	90.7
Logging.....	1.9	39.5	22.6	27.7
Mining.....	3.1	134.6	148.8	129.5
Communication.....	2.8	111.4	114.6	105.1
Transportation.....	10.9	110.9	112.5	122.3
Construction and maintenance.....	10.3	177.7	180.4	206.4
Services.....	1.7	119.5	117.1	114.0
Trade.....	6.5	93.5	92.5	90.1
<u>Ontario</u> -All Industries.....	100	88.9	90.3	98.1
<u>Prairie Provinces</u> Manufacturing..	32.7	98.8	98.9	101.5
Lumber products...	2.4	79.8	82.5	87.3
Pulp and paper....	2.0	94.0	93.1	98.8
Textile products...	1.6	88.0	84.0	93.6
Iron and steel....	14.9	97.9	99.2	105.5
Other manufactures	10.0	109.2	108.5	101.8
Logging.....	.3	77.9	64.4	79.8
Mining.....	6.3	66.9	64.4	79.8
Communication.....	4.0	92.7	92.8	92.3
Transportation.....	23.4	95.8	98.8	102.2
Construction and maintenance.....	15.5	138.3	168.8	175.2
Services.....	2.6	115.3	117.1	117.9
Trade.....	14.7	86.2	86.6	83.6
<u>Prairie Provinces</u> -All Industries..	100	93.9	96.4	101.1
<u>British Columbia</u> Manufacturing...	37.4	98.7	97.7	102.7
Lumber products...	15.3	93.9	93.6	111.0
Pulp and paper....	4.6	86.0	88.0	100.4
Textile products..	1.0	100.4	102.0	118.0
Iron and steel....	4.6	52.6	50.9	48.5
Other manufactures	11.9	167.6	163.7	150.0
Logging.....	.1	100.0	94.6	117.0
Mining.....	15.0	112.7	111.6	102.2
Communication.....	3.1	127.1	124.8	123.4
Transportation.....	13.5	109.4	110.8	115.8
Construction and maintenance...	10.2	116.5	137.3	97.1
Services.....	3.5	102.9	104.2	104.4
Trade.....	7.4	115.0	114.1	113.3
<u>British Columbia</u> - All Industries	100	106.0	107.1	106.6

* For explanation of term "relative weight", see note on page 4.

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