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THE
FEBRUARY

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

1925

(AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYERS HAVING 15 OR MORE EMPLOYEES.)

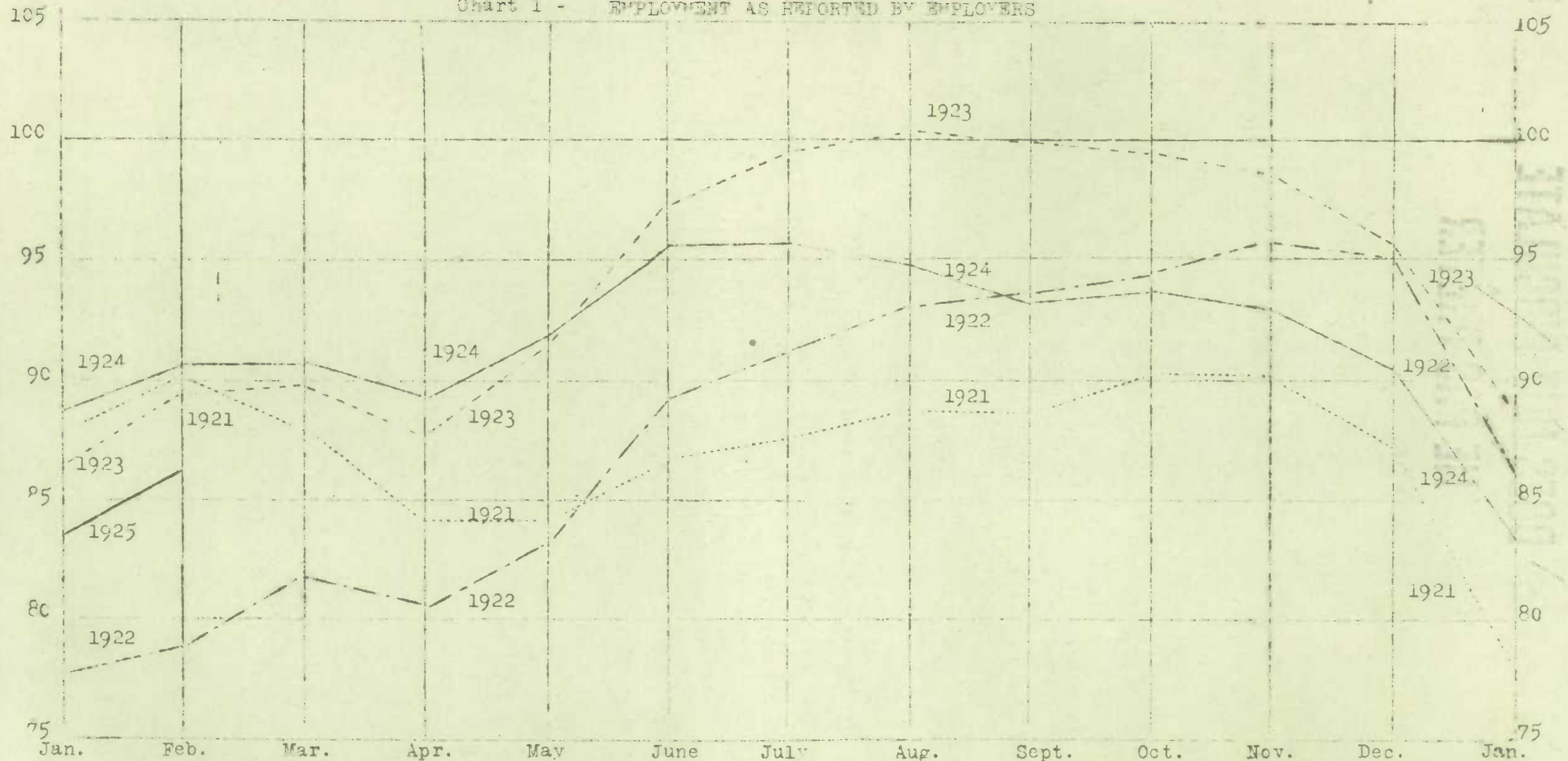
Note:- Statements relating to unemployment as reported by trade unions, and to the operations of the Employment Service of Canada, together with the statistics of the present bulletin, are published in the Labour Gazette, the official journal of the Department of Labour, Canada.

Published by Authority of the Hon. Thos. A. Low. M. P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

OTTAWA

1925

Chart 1 - EMPLOYMENT AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYERS



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.

Issued February 24th, 1925.

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH

OTTAWA - CANADA

THE FEBRUARY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Dominion Statistician: R.H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon) F.R.S. C.
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Considerable recovery from the losses at the beginning of January was indicated by employers on February 1, the additions to staff slightly exceeding those registered on the same date in 1924. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulated reports from 5,332 firms employing 709,878 persons, or 16,821 more than on January 1, 1925. This increase, which practically coincides with the average gain at the beginning of February in the past four years, caused the index number of employment to stand at 86.1 as compared with 83.9 on January 1, 1925, and with 80.6, 89.5, 78.9 and 90.1 on February 1, 1924, 1923, 1922 and 1921, respectively.

The improvement in manufacturing was most pronounced, while logging and construction also afforded largely increased employment. Mining and trade, however, showed contractions. In other industries, the changes were slight.

Employment by Provinces

Activity in all except the Prairie Provinces increased considerably; the revival in Quebec was most marked.

Maritime Provinces.- Statements were tabulated from 502 employers in the Maritime Provinces, whose staffs increased from 58,638 persons on January 1 to 58,927 on the date under review. Manufacturing, especially of iron and steel, textile and lumber products, showed improvement and transportation also recorded further seasonal gains. Offsetting losses were, however, indicated in logging, mining, construction and trade, those in mining being extensive. Marked shrinkage was noted on February 1, 1924.

Quebec.- Manufacturing, logging, mining and construction registered increased activity: within these divisions, textile, iron and steel and tobacco works and railroad construction showed the greatest gains. Trade and transportation, on the other hand, employed smaller payrolls. An aggregate working force of 195,318 persons, or 9,022 more than on January 1, was reported by the 1,348 firms whose returns were tabulated.

Ontario.- Iron and steel, textiles, lumber, rubber, leather and pulp and paper recorded large gains, while edible plant product, chemical and electrical appliance factories showed decreases. Logging, mining, railway construction and wholesale trade also reported improvement, but reductions took place in transportation, highway and building construction and trade. Returns were received from 2,705 firms whose payrolls stood at 297,368, as compared with 290,126 on January 1.

Prairie Provinces.- Employment declined in the Prairie Provinces, in spite of gains in manufacturing, (mainly in textiles, iron and steel), and in logging, railway operation and construction. The contraction was largely due to losses in coal mines and trade, and was very much less extensive than on February 1, 1924. The payroll of the 781 firms making returns totalled 94,555, as against 95,289 in the preceding month.

British Columbia.- Manufacturing, logging, mining and highway construction registered increased activity, while transportation and trade were slacker. Statements were received from 536 firms whose staffs increased from 62,448 persons on January 1 to 63,842 at the beginning of February.

The chart on the back of page 5 illustrates the course of employment during the past fourteen months in the five economic areas into which the country is divided, while index numbers by provinces are given in Tables I and IV.

Employment by Cities

Recovery was indicated in Montreal, Quebec, Toronto and Hamilton, while in Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver there were contractions in employment.

Montreal.- Activity increased in iron and steel, tobacco, sugar, and confectionery works, while trade, construction and electric current plants registered declines. A combined working force of 96,973 persons was employed by the 686 firms making returns, compared with 93,539 on January 1.

Quebec.- Boot and shoe factories and construction showed increased activity in Quebec, according to 94 employers, whose staffs rose from 8,255 in the preceding month to 8,908 at the beginning of February.

Toronto.- A gain of nearly 1 p.c. was indicated in Toronto, where 789 firms increased their payrolls by 899 persons to 89,812 on the date under review. Manufacturing generally, especially of iron and steel and textile products, showed improvement, but offsetting curtailment was recorded in trade and construction.

Ottawa.- Pulp and paper works reported considerable gains; reductions in trade, iron and steel and some other divisions, however, caused the balance of employment to be unfavourable. Statements were received from 130 firms employing 9,171 persons, as compared with 9,282 on January 1.

Hamilton.- Manufacturing showed moderate recovery, especially in the iron and steel and clay, glass and stone divisions; electrical apparatus works, however, registered smaller payrolls. The 201 firms reporting had 23,546 persons in their employ, or 123 more than on January 1.

Winnipeg.- Activity in printing and publishing establishments and in trade declined, while improvement was indicated in textiles and in local transportation. Reports were compiled from 298 employers, whose staffs aggregated 23,909, compared with 24,050 in the preceding month.

Vancouver.- There were gains in manufacturing and road construction but employment in shipping and stevedoring and trade declined. The result was a loss of 154 persons in the staffs of the 233 firms making returns; they employed 21,457 workers on February 1.

Employment by Industries.

Manufacturing.- The recovery in iron and steel, textiles, lumber and tobacco was most pronounced, but there were also increases on a smaller scale in leather, rubber, pulp and paper, non-ferrous metal and chemical factories. On the other hand food, fur, electric current, electrical apparatus, brick and cement works showed further, though moderate curtailment. Statements were received from 3,792 manufacturers who reinstated 18,044 persons, bringing their staffs up to 390,393.

Logging.- There was expansion in logging everywhere but in the Maritime Provinces, according to reports from 229 firms employing 34,618 workers, as compared with 33,393 in the preceding month.

Mining.- Coal mines in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces afforded less employment and non-metallic mineral mines were also slacker while metallic ore mines showed improvement. An aggregate working force of 43,139 persons was reported by the 302 employers making returns; on January 1 they had 45,035 employees.

Communication.- Telegraph and telephone operation registered decreases, 299 persons having been released by the 168 firms reporting, who employed 22,230 workers on February 1.

Transportation.- Steam railway operation employed a slightly larger number of workers, while reductions were noted in local and water transportation. The payroll of the 271 reporting employers declined from 100,186 persons on January 1 to 99,713 on the date under review.

Construction.- Construction on highways and railroads increased; the gains in the former division were partly in the nature of relief work in British Columbia. Building construction, however, continued to show seasonal dullness. Returns were compiled from 404 firms in this group, whose staffs aggregated 50,171, or 2,418 more than in the preceding month.

Trade.- Further seasonal contractions were indicated in employment in retail stores, while wholesalers recorded a minor increase. A combined sales force of 56,533 persons was reported by the 536 establishments reporting; on January 1, they had 56,726 employees.

The table on page 7 gives index numbers of employment by industries.

Employment in Other Countries

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

United Kingdom.- Employment showed little general change during the first three weeks of December. After Christmas there was a seasonal decline and the general holiday stoppages were extended in many cases. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the percentage of unemployed on December 22, 1924, was 10.9, as compared with 11.0 on November 24, 1924, and 10.7 in December, 1923. Among members of reporting trade unions the percentage of unemployed was 9.2 at the end of December, 1924, compared with 8.6 in November, 1924, and 9.7 in December, 1923.

United States.- Employment in manufactures in the United States increased 0.9 p.c. in January over December, while aggregate earnings of employees decreased 3.5 p.c. Leather, iron and steel, vehicle, miscellaneous, textile and chemical groups show increased employment. These data taken from "Bradstreet's" for February 21, 1925 are compiled by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics.

New York.- The total volume of factory employment in New York State was slightly lower in January than in December. Railroad equipment, and building material factories recorded heavy declines, while the metal industries as a whole had about the same number of employees as in December. Textiles showed a slight gain, as did also the boot and shoe works.

Massachusetts.- The number of persons reported on the January payrolls of the 928 representative establishments making returns was 227,440, as compared with 224,267 in December. The index number, based upon the average number employed in 1922 was 100, was 91.7 in January, 1925, as compared with 96.4 in January, 1924. The greatest increase in January of this year was in boots, shoes and rubber, while stove and woollen factories showed declines.

Illinois.- A favourable condition was indicated in reports to the Illinois Department of Labour in January; the reporting manufacturers showed an increase of 6.9 p.c. The most notable gain was in the iron and steel class; railroad car works and some other branches of the industry indicated moderate recovery. Boot and shoe, chemical, printing, paper box, textile and some other industries also reported additions to payrolls. In building material, tobacco, canning, bakery, beverage and furniture works and trade there were declines.

Wisconsin.- From November 15 to December 15, industrial employment in Wisconsin showed slight improvement. Employment in logging, mining and manufacturing increased but stone crushing and quarrying, food factories and construction reported reductions.

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 Number of Employment by Districts.

	Canada	Maritime Provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia
Feb. 1, 1921	80.1	86.3	90.4	88.1	93.7	87.2
Feb. 1, 1922	78.9	76.3	74.6	79.5	83.0	84.3
Jan. 1, 1923	86.3	90.3	83.5	85.6	90.0	83.3
Feb. 1	89.5	90.4	87.7	90.0	91.6	82.4
Mar. 1	89.9	90.7	87.9	90.8	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	105.2	96.0	99.2	102.8
Dec. 1	95.7	91.2	98.5	93.4	99.3	97.8
Jan. 1 1924	83.7	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	84.6	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
Oct. 1	93.9	88.3	97.6	91.6	91.4	104.0
Nov. 1	93.0	83.7	97.1	90.4	94.1	102.1
Dec. 1	90.8	79.3	95.3	88.4	91.8	100.0
Jan. 1 1925	83.9	78.5	85.0	81.4	88.1	92.9
Feb. 1	86.1	79.1	89.1	83.4	88.4	95.1
Relative Weight of Employment by Districts as at February 1, 1925.	100.	8.3	27.5	41.9	13.3	9.0

TABLE II.- Index Numbers of Employment by Principal Cities

	Montreal	Quebec	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		83.1	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		90.1	105.5	91.1	89.4	101.6
Nov. 1	99.1		89.9	105.8	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		84.8	90.9	85.2	82.3	99.8
May 1	92.3		85.6	98.3	86.4	83.0	102.2
June 1	96.2		85.2	101.6	83.1	83.6	99.7
July 1	94.8		83.9	101.3	81.7	85.6	99.0
Aug. 1	95.1	96.9	83.9	100.8	80.9	85.5	102.3
Sept. 1	92.9	96.4	85.3	100.6	79.4	86.4	104.0
Oct. 1	93.7	98.8	86.4	100.8	80.4	86.1	104.0
Nov. 1	92.4	100.3	87.0	94.5	79.6	84.2	103.4
Dec. 1	93.1	98.5	87.4	92.3	77.3	83.5	104.0
Jan. 1 1925	82.5	93.1	82.2	87.1	77.0	81.4	98.3
Feb. 1	85.3	101.3	83.0	86.8	77.3	84.2	97.4
Relative Weight of Employment by Cities as at February 1, 1925.	13.7	1.3	12.7	1.3	3.3	3.4	3.0

Table III - Index Numbers of Employment by Industries.

I N D U S T R Y	* Relative Weight	Feb. 1	Jan. 1	Feb. 1	Feb. 1	Feb. 1	Feb. 1
		1925	1925	1924	1933	1922	1921
Manufacturing	55.0	79.3	75.5	84.9	85.0	73.0	84.8
Animal products—edible	1.6	84.7	87.2	81.1	80.1	78.5	83.0
Fur and products	.1	73.1	80.3	92.7	83.4	91.0	76.3
Leather and products	2.3	74.8	71.0	80.5	84.7	85.8	66.1
Lumber and products	5.4	75.5	70.4	79.7	83.2	68.6	69.2
Rough and dressed lumber	3.2	79.0	76.1	85.5	85.8	67.6	69.5
Lumber products	2.2	71.1	63.1	72.5	79.9	69.9	68.7
Musical instruments	.4	57.7	59.1	63.9	74.7	65.6	62.4
Plant products—edible	3.4	86.3	86.6	87.4	85.8	84.6	91.4
Pulp and paper products	7.0	96.7	95.6	99.7	96.5	87.7	98.1
Pulp and paper	3.3	98.1	95.3	103.1	97.4	84.3	100.7
Paper products	.8	86.3	83.3	88.8	89.0	80.3	84.2
Printing and publishing	2.9	98.4	98.8	99.4	98.0	95.0	99.1
Rubber products	1.5	76.6	70.7	71.6	77.1	72.1	67.8
Textile products	9.3	85.8	80.1	86.6	89.5	86.2	79.4
Thread, yarn and cloth	3.3	89.3	94.6	94.6	103.5	97.8	85.4
Hosiery and knit goods	1.8	86.7	81.9	90.3	92.5	85.9	81.2
Garments and personal furnishings	2.9	70.6	62.7	75.7	75.6	76.5	73.1
Others	1.3	98.0	92.3	95.4	90.8	88.6	83.1
Tobacco, distilled and malt liquors	1.5	93.8	75.5	100.3	90.5	93.0	88.5
Wood distillates and extracts	.1	150.3	138.3	113.2	98.5	94.4	77.1
Chemicals and allied products	.9	78.9	76.2	85.0	86.4	81.3	81.6
Clay, glass and stone products	.9	66.5	68.5	81.5	82.3	68.4	93.7
Electric current	1.6	125.0	123.6	116.9	110.9	105.6	100.1
Electrical apparatus	1.3	116.5	120.0	112.0	92.4	69.5	99.1
Iron and steel products	14.2	65.2	60.0	78.5	78.7	55.4	90.9
Crude, rolled and forged products	1.3	44.7	38.4	62.0	56.4	53.7	76.3
Machinery (other than vehicles)	1.1	65.3	62.6	73.9	69.0	58.5	84.5
Agricultural implements	.7	46.1	40.4	59.3	57.7	49.3	103.2
Land vehicles	6.9	81.9	74.9	98.4	100.7	58.4	100.6
Steel ship building and repairing	.4	25.3	20.1	33.3	36.9	17.3	69.0
Heating appliances	.6	67.0	67.2	77.5	79.1	73.7	85.6
Iron and steel fabrication, n.e.s.	.6	70.1	59.1	82.3	84.0	68.9	101.9
Foundry and machine shop products	.6	68.6	72.2	97.7	73.8	61.7	94.3
Others	2.0	64.9	62.1	73.3	72.2	60.0	85.6
Non-ferrous metal products	1.5	78.1	73.3	81.7	79.8	60.8	74.8
Mineral products	1.3	96.0	95.8	92.9	90.1	85.9	95.9
Miscellaneous	.5	80.7	72.5	88.3	87.9	84.1	85.3
Logging	4.9	86.8	83.4	97.0	95.1	81.5	94.3
Mining	6.1	93.1	97.1	104.0	101.3	89.7	95.8
Coal	3.6	81.5	87.6	96.6	103.1	93.7	100.5
Metallic ores	1.9	148.2	145.7	142.1	109.1	87.5	81.1
Non-metallic minerals (other than coal)	.6	72.2	75.5	85.4	80.6	71.2	96.0
Communication	3.1	107.6	108.9	104.0	96.5	95.7	104.6
Telegraphs	.8	97.3	102.6	100.4	94.1	83.7	102.3
Telephones	2.3	110.3	110.6	105.0	97.1	92.5	105.1
Transportation	14.0	98.4	99.0	103.7	101.5	97.0	101.3
Street railways and cartage	2.5	107.5	108.2	111.6	110.9	109.6	106.7
Steam railways	10.3	94.0	93.8	99.3	95.5	91.2	98.9
Shipping and stevedoring	1.2	124.9	135.1	135.6	148.9	140.3	125.5
Construction and maintenance	7.1	98.3	93.3	94.2	86.0	79.8	100.1
Building	2.4	89.1	91.3	89.6	66.7	59.0	75.6
Highway	.9	826.8	701.4	405.4	911.3	866.5	1662.0
Railway	3.8	86.2	78.3	89.7	90.9	83.6	95.5
Services	1.8	106.8	107.1	106.3	92.4	91.7	94.2
Hotel and restaurant	1.0	109.0	109.9	110.2	90.4	90.8	93.7
Professional	.2	111.9	114.8	114.5	92.8	81.2	76.6
Personal (chiefly laundries)	.6	102.0	100.7	98.7	93.3	93.4	96.4
Trade	8.0	94.2	96.3	91.2	93.7	90.3	92.5
Retail	5.2	93.6	97.0	89.6	94.4	88.2	82.8
Wholesale	2.8	95.3	94.9	94.0	92.3	94.3	98.8
All Industries	100.	86.1	83.9	90.6	89.5	78.9	90.1

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

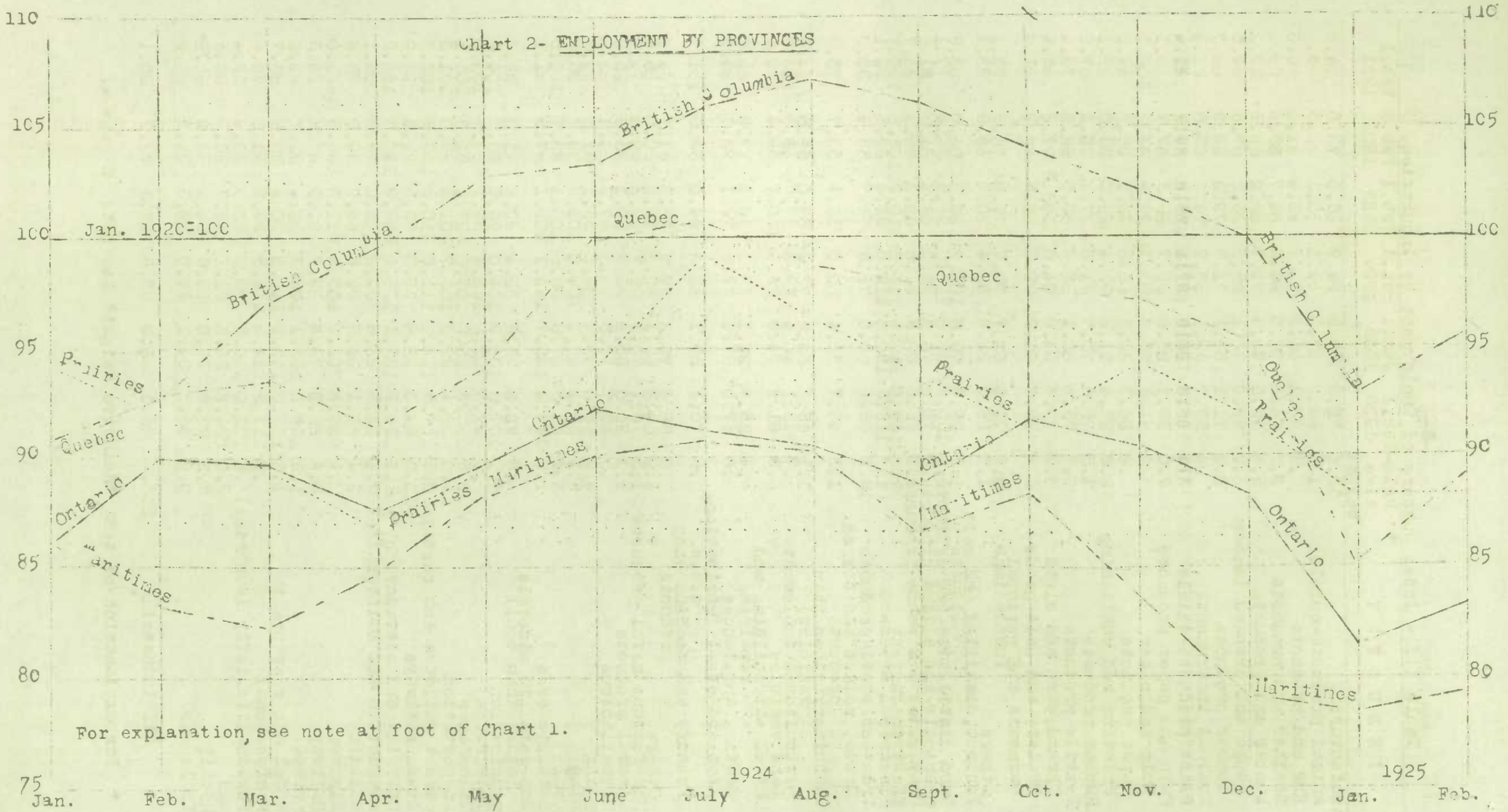


TABLE IV - Index Number of Employment by Areas and Industries.

I N D U S T R Y		* Relative Weight	Feb. 1 1925	Jan. 1 1925	Feb. 1 1924
Maritime Provinces-Manufacturing		35.5	64.7	59.6	69.7
	Lumber	5.4	67.7	59.7	61.8
	Pulp and paper	3.6	102.6	96.8	115.2
	Textile products	5.9	92.6	78.8	94.6
	Iron and steel	11.0	46.7	41.9	55.3
	Other manufactures	9.6	71.5	71.9	75.7
	Logging	1.8	35.7	48.8	85.7
	Mining	23.3	37.8	94.5	93.2
	Communication	3.4	86.6	88.9	83.8
	Transportation	22.5	102.6	98.6	94.9
	Construction	6.2	83.6	83.7	67.7
	Services	.7	90.9	90.2	88.0
	Trade	6.6	112.0	116.9	113.6
Maritime provinces - All industries		100.	79.1	78.5	83.2
<u>Quebec</u> Manufacturing		64.4	83.5	78.7	87.2
	Lumber products	3.7	81.8	78.0	94.1
	Pulp and paper	8.9	93.4	92.3	98.0
	Textile products	14.2	92.5	87.7	88.1
	Iron and steel	14.2	70.8	62.9	79.2
	Other manufactures	23.4	84.7	80.3	87.6
	Logging	3.7	67.7	63.5	75.4
	Mining	1.4	68.8	63.1	76.2
	Communication	3.1	141.5	143.2	120.6
	Transportation	12.3	99.2	101.6	111.4
	Construction	8.0	133.9	115.6	130.7
	Services	1.8	129.5	131.8	126.6
	Trade	5.3	89.1	98.3	99.1
Quebec - All industries		100.	89.1	85.0	92.8
<u>Ontario</u> Manufacturing		63.7	75.9	72.5	84.2
	Lumber products	5.5	73.3	68.3	77.7
	Pulp and Paper	8.0	98.8	97.2	101.1
	Textile products	10.9	80.0	74.3	84.1
	Iron and steel	16.3	60.6	56.0	80.3
	Other manufactures	23.0	82.6	81.9	84.9
	Logging	5.9	107.2	103.8	112.5
	Mining	3.1	126.8	125.5	137.3
	Communication	2.8	105.7	108.1	104.0
	Transportation	10.2	97.8	99.1	105.0
	Construction	5.7	93.8	95.5	93.7
	Services	1.6	112.2	110.5	112.0
	Trade	7.0	94.3	98.8	90.0
Ontario - All industries		100.	83.4	81.4	90.0
Prairie Provinces- Manufacturing		33.5	95.4	94.0	95.8
	Lumber products	2.1	64.5	62.6	70.7
	Pulp and paper	3.1	95.2	103.1	96.6
	Textile products	1.6	86.7	74.4	91.8
	Iron and steel	15.8	98.5	94.8	99.0
	Other manufactures	10.9	101.9	103.1	98.7
	Logging	2.6	71.9	59.5	71.5
	Mining	7.6	70.9	98.5	79.3
	Communication	3.8	82.4	84.6	85.9
	Transportation	24.6	95.4	94.2	99.0
	Construction	9.2	82.6	80.3	86.8
	Services	2.1	87.7	84.6	88.3
	Trade	16.6	84.0	80.2	83.1
Prairie Provinces - All industries		100.	86.4	83.1	92.1
British Columbia - Manufacturing		35.7	84.3	81.6	83.9
	Lumber products	14.5	81.0	78.9	82.9
	Pulp and paper	5.4	96.8	94.6	93.3
	Textile products	1.1	92.7	79.5	107.0
	Iron and steel	4.9	50.0	49.3	52.0
	Other manufactures	9.8	122.6	118.7	115.3
	Logging	10.1	98.9	93.6	107.1
	Mining	16.1	109.6	102.7	105.8
	Communication	3.3	123.6	124.6	114.8
	Transportation	14.0	100.1	105.4	104.5
	Construction	8.4	82.1	74.5	60.3
	Services	3.5	92.4	95.5	91.2
	Trade	8.9	123.0	128.9	111.7
British Columbia - All industries		100.	95.1	92.9	92.7

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

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