

lected in the Department with regard to the provisions of the various labour laws in force in Canada and their administration. Notes or articles on these subjects are published from time to time in the Labour Gazette. In 1917 the Department undertook the publication of a series of reports containing the text of the labour laws of the Dominion and provinces of Canada. The year 1915 was chosen as a starting point and a compilation of the labour laws existing in Canada at the end of that year was made from the most recent Revised Statutes and the subsequent annual volumes of statutes up to 1915. A brief introduction explaining the plan followed in the selection and arrangement of material precedes the text of the laws, and an index completes the report. It is planned to print a volume of this nature every five years, and in the intervening period to issue annual reports covering the labour legislation for the year immediately preceding that of publication. The annual reports contain, in addition to the text of the laws, an introduction in which the legislation for the year is summarized under subject headings, and each report is fully indexed. The report on the laws of 1916 appeared in 1917 and that containing the legislation enacted in the latter year is in preparation.

Labour Organization.—The total trades union membership reported at the end of 1917 was 204,630, being comprised in 1,974 local branches of trade union organizations of all types. The membership reported at the close of 1916 was 160,407, comprised in 1,842 branches. There was, therefore, an increase of 44,223 members and 132 branches during the year. Of the total trades union membership for 1917, 164,896 were members of international organizations, which have 1,702 local branches in Canada. The remaining 39,734 were members of national and independent bodies. There was a gain of 35,773 in the membership of international organizations, a gain of 9,459 among national unions and a decrease of 1,009 in independent bodies. From the outbreak of the war to the end of the year, it was reported to the Department of Labour by 1,333 local trade union branches that 26,438 trade unionists in Canada had enlisted for the war and 692 reservists rejoined the colours, making a total of 27,130 members who had joined the army.

Industrial Disputes.—The number of strikes and lockouts in Canada reported to the Department of Labour during 1917 was 148, as compared with 75 in 1916. The 148 strikes of 1917 involved 714 employers and 48,329 workpeople, with resultant time losses to the latter estimated at 1,134,970 working days. There was an increase in 1917 over 1916 of 443 in the number of employers and 27,172 in the number of employees involved. The increase in time losses was 926,693 working days. The number of strikes which began in 1917 was 141, seven strikes having been carried over from 1916. The industry most affected by strikes during 1917 was metals, machinery and conveyances, 38 strikes being recorded, involving 6,409 employees, whose time losses were estimated at 64,301 working days. Twenty-two strikes affecting 8,258 workers, with time losses reckoned at 44,451 working days, were reported as affecting transportation. Twenty-one strikes involving the greatest number of workers (18,729)