

The year 1923 was marked by the lowest figure for time loss in man-working-days since 1918, there being no strikes involving large numbers of employees for months, as was the case in 1922, 1919, 1917 and certain other years. The number of employees involved in strikes and lockouts was less than in 1922, but the number of disputes was slightly greater. The outstanding feature of the year was a strike of steel workers at Sydney, N.S., which caused sympathetic strikes of coal miners in Cape Breton island, in other parts of Nova Scotia, and for a short time, in a small area in Alberta. The sympathetic strikes resulted in a time loss of about 240,000 working days, nearly one-third of the total for the year.

An analysis of industrial disputes during 1923, by industries, is given in Table 11. In the mining group, the strikes of coal miners, in sympathy with the strike of workers in the iron, steel and products group, caused most of the time loss. In the printing group, the strike of job office compositors in about ten cities, which began in 1921 for the 44-hour week, was still on and caused considerable time loss. In the water transportation group, a strike of longshoremen in Vancouver caused most of the time loss.

11.—Strikes and Lockouts, by Industries, 1923.

Industries.	Disputes.		Number involved.	Time loss.	
	Number.	Per cent of total.	Em- ployees.	Working days.	Per cent of total.
Logging.....	3	3.3	525	10,473	1.4
Mining, non-ferrous smelting and quarrying.....	29	31.8	21,692	311,982	40.6
Manufacturing—					
Vegetable foods, drink and tobacco.....	2	2.2	187	1,788	0.2
Textiles.....	1	1.1	12	78	0.0
Clothing, knitted goods, garments, etc.....	6	6.6	332	10,068	1.3
Leather, fur and products.....	2	2.2	290	2,364	0.3
Pulp and paper.....	1	1.1	80	800	0.1
Printing and publishing.....	10	11.0	1,293	252,184	32.9
Saw and planing-mills.....	1	1.1	380	6,460	0.9
Wood products.....	1	1.1	220	1,287	0.1
Iron, steel and products.....	9	9.9	4,356	59,192	7.8
Stone industries.....	1	1.1	8	24	0.0
Construction—					
Buildings and structures.....	7	7.7	867	10,005	1.3
Railway construction.....	2	2.2	360	1,170	0.1
Miscellaneous construction.....	3	3.3	150	1,344	0.2
Transportation and public utilities—					
Street and electric railways.....	2	2.2	36	2,910	0.4
Water transportation.....	4	4.4	1,876	94,118	12.2
Storage and local transportation.....	2	2.2	107	753	0.1
Electric power plants.....	2	2.2	18	162	0.0
Service—					
Municipal.....	2	2.2	72	58	0.0
Personal.....	1	1.1	7	1,274	0.1
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>32,868</b>	<b>768,494</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The causes and results of the industrial disputes recorded during 1923 are given in Table 12. It is interesting to note that, apart from sympathetic strikes, the greatest number of working days was lost in strikes in the three categories including increased wages; about 49 p.c. of the total number of days lost was attributed to these causes. The number of employees affected (48 p.c. of the total) was also greatest in sympathetic strikes. Of the 91 strikes recorded during 1923, 21, involving 4,361 workers and a time loss of 20,263 working days, terminated in favour of the employees. Those settled in favour of the employers, 38 in number, affected 24,269 workers and involved a time loss of 459,550 working days, or 59.79 p.c. of the total number of days lost.