

5.—Employment.

The total number of persons engaged in those manufacturing industries of Canada for which statistics were obtained in 1923 was in that year 525,267, as compared with 474,430 in the same industries in 1922 and 456,076 in 1921.¹ The 1923 employees included 78,273 salaried employees, this figure being obtained from the manufacturers at the end of each year, and 446,994 wage-earners, the average number employed as derived from the manufacturers' records of numbers on the pay-rolls on the 15th of each of the twelve months.

The number of salaried employees and of wage-earners, as thus ascertained, is given for each of the years since 1917, the year of the first annual census of manufacturing production, in Table 16. Then, taking the percentage of those employed in each year to those employed in 1917, and dividing it into the volume of manufacturing production in each year (see Table 3 for method used in obtaining this figure), the quotient gives a tentative conclusion regarding the efficiency of production per person employed in years subsequent to 1917, as compared with that year. How far the increased efficiency may be due to the use of improved appliances of production, how far to increased efficiency in the employees and how far to improvements in methods of organization, is a problem which cannot be solved for the country as a whole with our present information. It may, however, be possible for those having intimate knowledge of the business of individual firms to solve this problem with approximate accuracy for their own particular plants. The table here published may be considered as supplying satisfactory evidence of the general gain in volume of production per person employed. In this connection it should be remembered, however, that in 1917, owing to the large numbers overseas, a considerable number of persons of low efficiency was being employed, their inefficiency being at the time concealed by the prevailing inflation of prices.

16.—Salaried and Wage-earning Employees in the Manufacturing Industries of Canada, with Volume of Manufacturing Production and Comparative Efficiency of Production, 1917-1923.

Years.	Salaried Employees.	Wage Earners.	Total Employees.	Percentage of Number of Employees relative to 1917.	Index Number of Volume of Mf'd Products.	Efficiency of Production.
	No.	No.	No.	p.c.		
1917.....	68,726	552,968	621,694	100·0	100·0	100·0
1918.....	70,706	547,599	618,305	99·5	102·1	102·6
1919.....	81,681	529,327	611,008	98·3	98·3	100·0
1920.....	83,015	526,571	609,586	98·1	95·2	97·0
1921.....	74,873	381,203	456,076	73·4	87·4	119·1
1922.....	76,040	398,390	474,430	76·3	97·8	128·2
1923.....	78,273	446,994	525,267	84·5	106·8	126·4

Distribution of Employees by Sex, Provinces and Industrial Groups.— In Table 17 is shown the distribution of employees in manufacturing establishments by sex, by province and by industrial groups. Particularly notable is the fact that more than half of the employees in manufactures are in Ontario, where also is paid more than half of the total wage and salary bill. Quebec came second with

¹ For statistics showing the trend of employment in manufacturing industries in 1924 and 1925, see in the index, "Employment as reported by employers."