

225 from 120 unions, decided to establish a permanent central body to co-ordinate the work of the scattered units. Accordingly, at the 1921 conference held in Hull, at which approximately 200 delegates representing 89 unions were present, a constitution to govern the new body was approved. The name selected was Federation of Catholic Workers of Canada, and permanent officers were elected, the constitution and by-laws becoming effective on Jan. 1, 1922. From information at hand, there are 99 National and Catholic unions with a combined membership of 25,000.

**One Big Union.**—A number of delegates from Western Canada to the Quebec convention of 1918, dissatisfied with the alleged reactionary policy of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, held a caucus, at which it was decided to concentrate their energies towards having the Trades Congress legislate in accordance with their views. Some months later a meeting of delegates was called by the British Columbia Federation of Labour, to assemble immediately following the annual convention of that body, which, for the first time in its history, met outside of the province under its jurisdiction, in Calgary. The Conference assembled on Mar. 13, 1919, with 239 delegates present; the outcome of the meeting was the formation of an industrial organization, the "One Big Union". On June 11, 1919, a conference of the advocates of the new body was held in Calgary to further the plans of organization. The next meeting, termed the first semi-annual convention, was held in Winnipeg in January, 1920. The O.B.U. had made much progress during its short existence, having a membership of 41,150 at the close of 1919. From the outset, the O.B.U. met with much opposition from the old-established labour unions, represented by the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, which was opposed to the substitution of industrial unionism for the existing system of craft unions. According to information supplied the Department by the general secretary, the O.B.U. at the close of 1925 had 56 units under charter, three of which are located in United States cities, as well as three central labour councils (bodies similar to trades and labour councils), the combined reported membership being 17,856.

**Total Reported Membership of Organized Labour in Canada.**—At the close of 1925, the numerical strength of organized labour in Canada is given by the Department of Labour as follows:—international organizations, 2,044 local branches, with an aggregate membership of 199,829; non-international organizations, 311 branches and 34,070 members; independent units, 40, with 12,165 members; and National and Catholic unions, 99, with 25,000 members; grand total, 2,494 local branches and 271,064 members. As compared with 1924, this represents an increase of 65 branches and of 10,421 members.

Table 2 shows by years the membership of trade unions in Canada since 1911. (See also diagram on p. 712 of the 1922-23 Year Book).

2.—Membership of Trade Unions in Canada, 1911-1925.

Years.	Members.	Years.	Members.
1911.....	133,132	1918.....	248,887
1912.....	160,120	1919.....	378,047
1913.....	175,799	1920.....	373,842
1914.....	166,163	1921.....	313,320
1915.....	143,343	1922.....	276,621
1916.....	160,407	1923.....	278,092
1917.....	204,630	1924.....	260,643
		1925.....	271,064