

and Chicoutimi in 1920; the delegates at the later conference, numbering 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 105 National Catholic unions with a combined membership of 26,000.

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 the organization, which had 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 1928 had 47 units under charter, one of which was located in the United States, as well as two central labour councils (bodies similar to trades and labour councils), the combined reported membership being 20,167.

Total Reported Membership of Organized Labour in Canada.—At the close of 1928 the numerical strength of organized labour in Canada is given by the Department of Labour as follows:—international organizations, 1,926 local branches with an aggregate membership of 211,346; Canadian central labour bodies, 586 branches and 51,858 members; independent units, 36, with 11,398 members; National and Catholic unions, 105, with 26,000 members; grand total, 2,653 local branches and 300,602 members. As compared with 1927, this represents an increase of 49 branches and of 10,320 members.

Table 1 and the accompanying diagram show by years the membership of trade unions in Canada since 1911.

1.—Membership of Trade Unions in Canada, 1911-1928.

Years.	Members.	Years.	Members.
1911.....	133,132	1920.....	373,842
1912.....	160,120	1921.....	313,320
1913.....	175,799	1922.....	276,621
1914.....	166,163	1923.....	278,092
1915.....	143,343	1924.....	260,643
1916.....	160,407	1925.....	271,064
1917.....	204,630	1926.....	274,064
1918.....	248,887	1927.....	290,282
1919.....	378,047	1928.....	300,602