

generally in a more favourable situation than in any other year on record. The accompanying tables give monthly index numbers of employment for the economic areas, leading cities and industries, since 1927, the indexes being calculated upon the averages for the calendar year 1926 as 100.

Almost uninterrupted advances in employment are shown from early in January until August 1, when the index, at 127·8, reached the maximum so far recorded, as compared with the 1928 high point of 119·3, also registered at the beginning of August. The general index for the year averaged 119·0; this was only slightly lower than the peak in the preceding year (119·3) and was over seven points higher than the 1928 average of 111·6.

Employment in Economic Areas.—Firms of the five economic areas generally reported greater activity in 1929 than in earlier years for which data are available. The index numbers were higher in the Prairie Provinces and Ontario than elsewhere, the greatest improvement over 1928 having been indicated in these provinces. The gains in employment between Jan. 1 and the month of highest activity ranged from 14 points in Ontario to 28 points in the Prairie Provinces, where employment showed its most pronounced variation. Table 17 is a record of employment in the five economic areas, by months, since 1927.

EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA AS REPORTED BY EMPLOYERS.

NOTE.—The curve is based on the number of employees at work on the first day of the month as indicated by the firms reporting, in comparison with the average number of employees they reported during the calendar year 1926 as 100.

