

The accompanying table of index numbers (Table 1) shows the relative changes from year to year. A downward movement appeared in most of the groups in 1921 and 1922, after the peak had been reached in 1920. The index numbers for 1923 and 1924 showed on the whole a slightly upward trend, but while there were slight increases during 1925 in some groups, a substantial decline in coal miners' wages reduced the average. In 1926 slight increases took place in the wages paid by the building, metal and printing trades, electric railways and steam railways. In 1927 general increases took place in all the six groups included in the average, as well as in the other three groups; wage increases in the building trades and on the steam railways were the outstanding features of the year. In 1928, except steam railways which was stationary, and common factory labour which declined fractionally, all groups showed an upward movement, a substantial increase appearing in building trades. In 1929 all groups except coal-mining were higher, the building trades showing the greatest increase.

The rates of wages and hours of labour of employees on steam railways in Canada in recent years are given in Table 2, and comparable figures for earlier years will be found at p. 715 of the 1926 Year Book. Wages of employees in coal mines in Nova Scotia, Alberta and British Columbia are given in Table 3. Sample wages and hours of labour for miscellaneous factory trades and for unskilled factory labour in Canada in recent years will be found at pp. 717-719 of the 1926 Year Book. Rates of wages and hours of labour in 1929 in various trades in the largest cities of the five economic areas of Canada will be found in Table 4. Samples of wages and hours of labour of or common labour in various cities of Canada are given for various years since 1920 in Table 5. The attention of those specially interested in the subject of wages and hours is directed to the valuable detailed study, "Wages and Hours of Labour in Canada, 1920 to 1929", published by the Department of Labour as a supplement to the Labour Gazette, January, 1930.

1.—Index Numbers of Rates of Wages for Various Classes of Labour in Canada, 1901-1929.

(Rates of Wages in 1913=100.)

Years.	Average. ¹	Build- ing Trades.	Metal Trades.	Print- ing Trades.	Electric Rail- ways.	Steam Rail- ways.	Coal Mining.	Com- mon Factory Labour.	Miscel- laneous Factory Trades.	Logging and Saw- milling.
1901.....	67.4	60.3	68.6	60.0	64.0	68.8	82.8	-	-	-
1902.....	70.0	64.2	70.2	61.6	68.0	72.0	83.8	-	-	-
1903.....	72.5	67.4	73.3	62.6	71.1	75.1	85.3	-	-	-
1904.....	74.5	69.7	75.9	66.1	73.1	76.9	85.1	-	-	-
1905.....	75.7	73.0	78.6	68.5	73.5	74.5	86.3	-	-	-
1906.....	78.6	76.9	79.8	72.2	75.7	79.3	87.4	-	-	-
1907.....	82.8	80.2	82.4	78.4	81.4	81.0	93.6	-	-	-
1908.....	84.9	81.5	84.7	80.5	81.8	86.1	94.8	-	-	-
1909.....	85.9	83.1	86.2	83.4	81.1	86.3	95.1	-	-	-
1910.....	88.9	86.9	88.8	87.8	85.7	90.1	94.2	-	-	-
1911.....	92.3	90.2	91.0	91.6	88.1	95.7	97.5	94.9	95.4	93.3
1912.....	96.0	96.0	95.3	96.0	92.3	97.9	98.3	98.1	97.1	98.8
1913.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1914.....	101.3	100.8	100.5	102.4	101.0	101.4	101.9	101.0	103.2	94.7
1915.....	101.4	101.5	101.5	103.6	97.8	101.7	102.3	101.0	106.2	89.1
1916.....	105.8	102.4	106.9	105.8	102.2	105.9	111.7	110.4	115.1	109.5
1917.....	119.9	109.9	128.0	111.3	114.6	124.6	130.8	129.2	128.0	130.2
1918.....	143.6	125.9	155.2	123.7	142.9	158.0	157.8	152.3	146.8	150.5
1919.....	165.3	148.2	180.1	145.9	163.3	183.9	170.5	180.2	180.2	169.8
1920.....	197.8	180.9	209.4	184.0	194.2	221.0	197.7	215.3	216.8	202.7