Subsection 3.—Employment as Reported by Employers.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulates monthly reports of the numbers employed by firms having 15 or more persons on their staffs; the returns are representative of practically every industry except agriculture and the more specialized business and professional callings. During 1930, some 7,260 of these employers reported an average working force of 993,845 persons, varying from 941,427 on Jan. 1 to 1,043,232 at the beginning of July. In Canada, as in other parts of the world, there was a general slackening in industrial activity during 1930, resulting in a lower level of employment than in 1929, and also than in some months of 1928. With these exceptions, however, the general index was higher than in previous years of the record. The accompanying tables give monthly index numbers of employment for 1929 and 1930 in the economic areas, leading cities and industries, with yearly averages for periods of seven to eight years. The indexes are calculated upon the averages for the calendar year 1926 as 100.

Employment showed partial recovery at the beginning of February from the year-end losses, but in the next two months the trend was downward. From May 1 until July 1, steady improvement was recorded and the situation on Aug. 1 showed little change; from the beginning of September, however, curtailment was again indicated, and on Dec. 1 the index was nearly three points lower than on Jan. 1, although it was higher than the average for the years 1921-1927.

Employment by Economic Areas.—In all except the Maritime Provinces, employment was in smaller volume than in 1929. The index numbers were higher in the Maritime Provinces than elsewhere; this was largely due to the execution of an important program of road construction and improvement work undertaken during the summer. Table **18** is a record of employment in the five economic areas, by months, since 1929, and the following graph illustrates the trend of employment generally over the latest five years.

THE TREND OF EMPLOYMENT
(Conditions in 1926 = 100)