

### 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 1932 about 7,900 of these employers reported an average working force of 801,356 persons, varying from 835,960 on Jan. 1 to 765,441 at the beginning of December. In Canada, as in other parts of the world, industrial employment continued slack during 1932, activity generally being at a lower level than in any other year since 1922. An important factor in this connection was the substitution of a policy of direct relief for the unemployed for the former one of large public works, the extent to which this has effected the index number being indicated by the fact that the number of man-days worked on state-aided projects was 11,135,334 in 1931 and 7,630,109 in 1932. These figures apply to those projects where the work was carried out on a wage basis; in addition, there were a large number of man-days worked where the work was on a subsistence basis.

The trend was generally downward from the opening of 1932 to the close of the year, the slight gains recorded on June 1 and Oct. 1 being immediately followed by sharp recessions. The following chart illustrates the trend of employment generally over the latest seven years.



**Employment by Economic Areas.**—The five economic areas reported curtailment in employment during 1932. The index, based upon the 1926 average as 100, was maintained at a higher level in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces than elsewhere, but even in those areas the falling-off from 1931 and earlier years of the record was considerable. Firms in Ontario, on the other hand, reported a