

Main Groups.—The following paragraphs outline the main groups into which Canadian labour organizations now fall.

Trades and Labour Congress of Canada.—The Trades and Labour Congress is representative of the international trade union movement in the Dominion, the bulk of its membership being drawn from the international organizations which have local branches in Canada. The Congress reported an affiliated membership of 191,147. Of the 1,828 local unions reported to be in affiliation with the Congress, 1,622 made returns, showing a combined membership of 204,966. An audit was made of the membership of the Congress and revealed a paid-up membership of 145,966, as at Dec. 31, 1937. It is generally maintained that the percentage of membership in arrears usually runs to a considerable figure, in some instances as high as 25 p.c. This would appear to be borne out by the aforementioned audit.

All-Canadian Congress of Labour.—The All-Canadian Congress of Labour was organized in Montreal, Mar. 16, 1927, by representatives of national and independent organizations. As at Dec. 31, 1937, the Congress reported an affiliated membership of 28,048. Of the 267 local unions reported to be in affiliation with the Congress, 240 made returns, showing a combined membership of 22,542. The audit of the membership figures revealed a paid-up membership of 19,335.

Canadian Federation of Labour.—Following a disagreement among the executive of the All-Canadian Congress of Labour prior to the scheduled convention of that body in September, 1936, a new organization was formed under the name of Canadian Federation of Labour. (This was the name of a national organization formed in 1902 but merged with the All-Canadian Congress of Labour when that body was formed in 1927.) At the close of 1937, the Federation reported an affiliated membership of 52,622. Of the 72 local unions reported to be in affiliation with the Federation, 39 made returns showing a combined membership of 8,704. It is not possible to give audited figures of paid-up members for the Canadian Federation of Labour.

Federation of Catholic Workers of Canada.—In 1918 a conference of National Catholic Unions, which were first established in 1901, was held in Quebec city, followed by other meetings in Three Rivers in 1919 and in Chicoutimi in 1920. The delegates at the latter conference, numbering 225 and representing 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. For 1937, the Federation reported an affiliated membership of 52,000. Of the 285 local unions reported to be in affiliation with the Federation, 166 made returns showing a combined membership of 36,801. It is not possible to give audited figures of paid-up membership for the Federation of Catholic Workers of Canada.

International Trade Unions Operating in Canada.—Table 3 gives the names of the 96 international labour organizations which now carry on operations in Canada and also shows the number of branches which were in existence in the Dominion at the close of 1937 and the reported total membership in Canada of each organization. For details regarding affiliations the reader is referred to the Twenty-Seventh Annual Report on Labour Organization, compiled and published by the Dominion Department of Labour, which may be obtained from the King's Printer, Ottawa, at a price of 50 cents per copy.