19.—Index Numbers of Employment as Reported by Employers in Economic Areas, as at the First of each Month, January, 1937, to December, 1938, with Yearly Averages since 1927—concluded.

Year and Month.	Maritime Provinces.	Quebec.	Ontario.	Prairie Provinces.	British Columbia.	Canada,
1937.						
January 1	110·7 122·0 135·8 134·3 135·4 134·9 127·3	104·0 106·7 102·5 102·2 105·2 113·6 118·6 120·8 124·5 127·3 130·6	107-5 108-4 108-9 108-8 111-2 118-8 122-2 122-2 125-0 130-4 130-4	94.2 91.4 91.4 93.4 93.2 99.3 104.6 105.6 107.6 106.2 100.5	95-4 91-3 89-2 97-5 103-4 112-2 117-1 116-9 121-2 117-9 111-5 107-5	103 · 8 104 · 1 102 · 3 103 · 0 104 · 3 105 · 3 114 · 3 119 · 0 123 · 2 125 · 7 125 · 2 121 · 6
Averages, 1937	·	115-4	118-3	99-3	106.8	114-1
1938.					_ 	
January 1 February 1 March 1 April 1 May 1 June 1 July 1 August 1 September 1 October 1 November 1 December 1 Averages, 1938	112·3 108·3 103·6 107·3 110·9 116·7 112·6 113·2	119-7 114-5 110-1 107-4 112-6 120-4 119-9 117-8 118-1 121-6 119-7 121-7	117-5 116-2 113-7 109-6 109-9 112-5 114-0 111-2 115-0 115-8 115-0 114-4	96·2 91·7 92·2 89·4 91·5 97·0 99·8 104·9 112·2 113·2 108·1 100·6	97-8 96-4 96-2 100-2 102-8 105-1 108-0 107-1 112-0 111-3 107-5 105-8	113-4 110-4 107-8 107-0 107-4 111-9 113-5 112-1 115-1 116-7 114-6 114-0
Relative weights of employ- ment in economic areas, as at Dec. 1, 1938	7-4	30.8	41.3	12.2	8.3	100.0

Employment by Cities.—While improvement over 1937 was reported in Montreal and Quebec city, this was due in the main to an increased program of unemployment relief works; the activity connected with the Eucharistic Congress during the summer of 1938 also helped the situation in Quebec. The remaining six centres for which data are segregated—Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, Windsor, Winnipeg, and Vancouver—reported curtailment; the decline in the index ranged from 0.6 p.c. in Toronto to 5.5 p.c. in Windsor. If the figures for the two Quebec cities are eliminated from the city total, the percentage reduction in the other municipalities closely approximates that in the Dominion as a whole.

Despite the gains from 1937 in Montreal and Quebec city, the indexes in those centres, and in five of the others for which separate tabulations are made, were lower than the general index, Windsor being the exception.

Activity in the leading cities taken as a unit, which in the pre-depression years was at practically the same level as general industrial employment, has lagged since 1934. While the index for the eight cities continued below that for Canada as a whole, the discrepancy was rather less in 1938 than it had been in 1937, approximating that shown in 1936. The general index in 1937 had been lowered by the employment level in the cities, while in 1938 the reverse was the case, an index from which the city figures are eliminated showing a falling-off of 4·1 points as compared with that of 2·3 points in the general index.