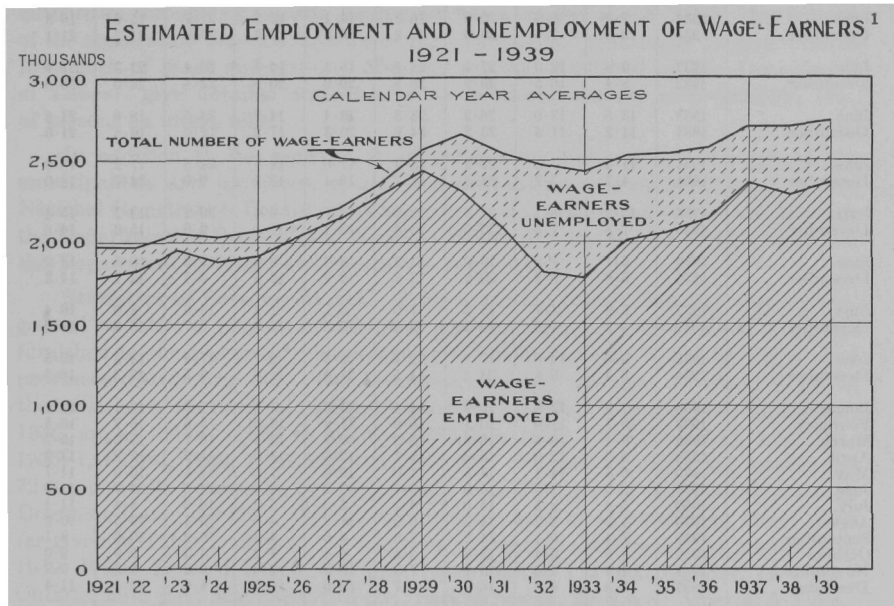


Canadian Air Force who are willing to re-engage with the Royal Canadian Air Force as tradesmen. The number of ex-members of the Air Forces who had registered for this employment to Feb. 29, 1940, was 1,085.

As a matter of policy, the Department of National Defence has instructed its officers responsible for projects involving civilian personnel on construction and building maintenance to secure the necessary labour from the Employment Service of Canada. Already some requests of this character have been filled by the Employment Service.



<sup>1</sup> For figures on which this chart is based, see Table 1, p. 751.

#### Subsection 4.—Unemployment as Reported by Trade Unions.

Monthly statistics on unemployment are compiled and published by the Employment Service Branch of the Dominion Department of Labour, based on returns received from about 1,900 local trade unions, having an aggregate membership of approximately 250,000 workers. "Unemployment" as here used means involuntary idleness due to economic causes. Persons engaged in work other than their own trades, or idle because of illness, are not considered as unemployed, while unions involved in industrial disputes are excluded from the tabulations. As the number of unions making returns varies from month to month, with consequent variation in the membership upon which the percentages of unemployment are based, it should be understood that the figures for each month have reference only to the reporting organizations. The maximum of unemployment in 1939 was in February, when the percentage stood at 16.4; the 1939 low was 9.0 p.c. recorded in October. In 1938 the December figure of 16.2 p.c. constituted the maximum, and the minimum of 10.4 p.c. was reached in September. Employment among organized workers was greater on the average in 1939 than in 1938, the average of the monthly figures of unemployment for 1939 being 12.2 p.c., while for 1938 the corresponding figure was 13.1 p.c.