

Plans are progressing to set up the system so required. Generally speaking, the Employment Service of Canada, hitherto operated by the provinces, and subsidized by the Dominion, will cease to operate when the new service is ready to function.

#### 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 1940 was in February, when the percentage was 11.7; the lowest in 1940 was 4.4 p.c. recorded in September. In 1939 the February figure of 16.4 p.c. constituted the maximum, and the minimum of 9.0 p.c. was reached in October. Employment among organized workers was greater on the average in 1940 than in 1939, the average of the monthly figures of unemployment for 1940 being 7.8 p.c., while for 1939 the corresponding figure was 12.2 p.c.

#### 5.—Percentages of Unemployment in Trade Unions, by Provinces, Half-Yearly, 1931-39, and by Months, 1940

NOTE.—For percentages of unemployment at June 30 and Dec. 31 from December, 1915, to December, 1930, see p. 827 of the 1934-35 edition of the Year Book. For data by months from 1921, see successive issues of the Year Book commencing with the 1922-23 edition.

Month	Year	Nova Scotia and P.E.I.	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Canada
June.....	1931	7.2	6.5	20.0	16.2	14.1	13.5	21.7	15.6	16.3
December.....	1931	13.8	9.6	29.0	20.3	16.5	19.5	16.9	21.2	21.1
June.....	1932	9.6	12.0	27.1	23.4	18.1	14.4	23.4	22.3	21.9
December.....	1932	8.4	16.5	30.9	28.5	20.9	20.8	22.8	26.0	25.5
June.....	1933	13.8	13.0	26.2	23.3	19.4	14.9	24.5	18.6	21.8
December.....	1933	11.2	11.5	23.2	24.9	20.3	17.2	17.6	19.8	21.0
June.....	1934	11.4	7.3	22.9	15.9	17.0	12.1	24.8	17.2	18.0
December.....	1934	4.7	7.2	24.5	18.7	16.1	13.1	9.0	24.6	18.0
June.....	1935	12.2	8.1	21.9	12.0	13.7	9.4	20.1	13.2	15.4
December.....	1935	7.8	7.5	20.6	13.4	13.1	11.6	9.6	15.9	14.6
June.....	1936	6.7	7.8	19.0	13.3	8.4	6.4	17.2	10.5	13.9
December.....	1936	6.8	6.2	20.9	13.8	10.9	12.8	6.4	12.7	14.3
June.....	1937	5.9	4.7	15.3	7.6	5.7	7.2	16.6	8.0	10.4
December.....	1937	3.3	4.6	16.5	12.9	16.8	10.6	6.7	15.8	13.0
June.....	1938	3.6	14.8	17.1	12.4	12.5	9.7	17.8	14.3	13.5
December.....	1938	8.4	9.8	21.2	14.5	21.4	11.8	9.5	17.3	16.2
June.....	1939	6.3	8.9	15.0	9.7	10.2	6.6	18.2	9.7	11.6
December.....	1939	5.3	4.3	16.1	9.7	12.0	10.2	4.9	12.4	11.4
January.....	1940	4.8	4.2	15.6	10.1	11.8	9.7	7.7	11.1	11.3
February.....	1940	6.4	4.5	15.9	10.3	11.9	13.0	7.7	10.7	11.7
March.....	1940	5.6	4.2	14.7	9.7	8.4	11.4	14.7	7.3	10.8
April.....	1940	4.0	4.1	12.3	8.2	8.3	8.3	16.5	8.8	9.6
May.....	1940	3.2	4.1	10.0	5.1	9.7	5.5	16.1	9.3	7.9
June.....	1940	2.4	3.7	12.2	4.9	3.9	3.4	14.6	7.7	7.6
July.....	1940	1.9	2.7	10.2	4.3	4.0	3.3	11.9	5.6	6.4
August.....	1940	2.2	3.5	7.6	3.7	4.9	3.7	7.9	4.8	5.2
September.....	1940	1.2	3.5	6.5	2.7	5.4	3.9	5.5	5.7	4.4
October.....	1940	1.1	4.2	6.9	3.8	6.8	5.9	4.8	4.9	5.0
November.....	1940	1.7	3.4	9.2	4.8	6.2	7.8	4.7	7.0	6.2
December.....	1940	2.6	2.3	11.1	5.9	6.6	6.7	4.8	9.0	7.4