

13.—Trade Union Central Organizations in Canada Having 500 or More Members, with Numbers of Branches in Canada and Reported Membership as at Dec. 31, 1940—concluded.

Organization	Branches in Canada	Membership Reported
	No.	No.
Shoe and Leather Workers' Organizing Committee.....	3	840
Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada, International Alliance of Theatrical.....	34	960
Steel Workers' Organizing Committee.....	18	11,816
Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, International Brotherhood of..	23	2,655
Typographical Union, International.....	49	4,291
Woodworkers of America, International.....	13	3,800
Totals.....	2,433	263,238

Canada and the International Labour Organization.*—The International Labour Organization of the League of Nations, set up in 1919 in accordance with Part XIII of the Treaties of Peace to promote the improvement of labour conditions by international agreement and legislative action, comprises the International Labour Conference, which meets annually and is composed of four representatives of each Member State, two of whom are government delegates, while two represent employers and workers, respectively, and the International Labour Office at Geneva, which functions as a secretariat for the Conference and also collects and publishes information. The Office is under the control of a Governing Body, consisting of 32 persons appointed by the Conference, of whom 16 represent governments, 8 represent employers and 8 represent workers.

As a consequence of the War, the International Labour Office by June, 1940, found itself so isolated from the great majority of the member countries that the work of the organization could not be carried on effectively from Geneva. Therefore, the Government of Canada, in August, 1940, indicated its willingness that the staff of the Office should be temporarily transferred to Canada. The Director of the Office selected Montreal as the most suitable location and McGill University provided the necessary accommodation.

Twenty-five sessions of the Conference were held between its inception in 1919 and the outbreak of war in 1939. A representative conference of the Organization was held at New York in October, 1941, and there were special meetings of the United States and Canadian representatives at Montreal in January and April, 1941, and at Montreal and New York in March, 1942. Sixty-seven draft conventions and 66 recommendations were adopted by the annual Conference. The subjects dealt with in these conventions and recommendations and the action of Canada in regard to them are indicated at p. 684 of the 1941 Year Book.

* On this subject see also the Year Book, 1921, pp. 607-609; 1922-23, pp. 704-707; and 1924, pp. 666-670.