

17.—Trade Unions Having 1,000 or More Members in Canada, Dec. 31, 1943 and 1944—
concluded

Organization	Reported or Estimated Membership	
	1943	1944
National Unions—concluded	No.	No.
Clothing Workers, National Federation of	1,400	1,623
Commerce and Finance, National Federation of Employees of	2,908	3,000
Customs and Excise Officers' Association	3,000	2,000
Engineers of Canada, National Union of Operating	2,741	2,701
Express Employees, Brotherhood of	1,940	2,147
Glove Workers of Canada, National Federation of	1,200	942
Hosiery Workers, National Federation of Full Fashioned and Circular	1,206	1,076
Letter Carriers, Federated Association of	2,050	2,140
Maritime Federation, National (formerly Canadian Brotherhood of Ships Employees)	8,227	8,625
One Big Union	4,080	5,380
Postal Employees, Canadian	2,250	3,645
Printing Trades of Canada, Catholic Federation of	1,650	2,400
Pulp and Paper Employees, National Catholic Federation of	4,904	8,000
Railway Employees and Other Transport Workers, Canadian Brotherhood of ..	21,000	26,000
Railwaymen, Canadian Association of	3,656	3,676
Railwaymen, National Union of	3,004	3,001
Seamen's Union, Canadian	3,900	7,225
Shoe and Leather Workers' Organizing Committee	750	1,132
Shoe Workers of Canada, National Federation of Leather and	4,800	4,632
Textile Workers, National Catholic Federation of	8,653	10,410
Textile Workers of Canada, United	4,550	5,956
Textile Workers' Organizing Committee	800	1,193
Wood Industry Workers, National Catholic Federation of	2,100	3,000

Canada and the International Labour Organization.—The International Labour Organization was established in association with the League of Nations in 1919 under the Treaties of Peace with the object of improving labour conditions throughout the world by international agreement and legislative action. An association of nations, financed by their Governments and controlled by representatives of those Governments and of their organized employers and workers, the Organization comprises: (1) the General Conference of representatives of the Member States; (2) the International Labour Office; and (3) the Governing Body of the Office.

The Conference in normal times meets at least once a year, and is composed of 4 delegates from each Member State, 2 representing the Government and 2 representing employers and workers, respectively. Decisions of the Conference are in the form of draft Conventions or of Recommendations. The former, when given legislative effect and ratified by Member States are legally binding on them and their enforcement within such countries is a matter for annual consideration by the Conference. In the case of federal countries where the national legislature has limited jurisdiction in the labour field, the Treaty provides that a draft Convention may be treated as a Recommendation. It requires, however, that every Convention must be brought before the competent authority or authorities for legislative or other action. In Canada the competent authorities in respect to most of the Conventions and Recommendations are the Provincial Legislatures.

The International Labour Office acts as the permanent secretariat of the Organization and as a centre of information and publishing house.

The Governing Body consists of 32 persons, 16 Government representatives, 8 employers' and 8 workers' representatives. All but the representatives of the 8 States of chief industrial importance, which hold permanent seats, are elected