

073359

In a country with such diversified resources and such efficient labor as Canada possesses, industrial expansion should at least keep pace with increased population until the importations of what can be home produced are much below the present figure.

The "Canada Year Book" gives Canada's population as of June 1st, as follows:

1919	8,478,546
1920	8,631,475
1921	8,788,483
1922	8,940,150
1923	9,082,840
1924	9,226,740
1925	9,364,200

or an increase in the six year period of over 10%.

In 1919 the Labor Department commenced receiving reports from employers as to the number of employees engaged month by month. These statistics covered roughly 6,000 of the larger employers and give a fairly clear indication of employment conditions. The longer the collection continues the more accurate it is likely to be. The increase in numbers, however, will be brought about to an extent by the increased efficiency in collecting the statistics rather than in an improvement of employment conditions. Notwithstanding this increased efficiency in collecting the figures, industrial conditions as shown by the statistics are not bright, the numbers reported by employers as of June 1st being as follows:

June 1, 1920	736,425
June 1, 1921	614,873
June 1, 1922	738,462
June 1, 1923	800,605
June 1, 1924	785,714
June 1, 1925	778,951.

The industrial census is taken yearly, but the only figures as yet available are for the year 1923, with the exception of the Automobile Industry, in connection with which for reasons of their own the Government exercised great speed and have published figures not only for the year 1924 but likewise for the year 1925. Until the present Budget there has been no tinkering with duties on automobiles with the result that the number of employees according to the Government statistics shows the following gratifying increase:

1922	7,344
1923	9,305
1924	9,277
1925	10,301.

No such gratifying increase is shown in the number of employees in manufacturing establishments generally, the Government statistics being as follows:

1919	611,008
1920	609,586
1921	456,076
1922	474,430
1923	525,267

Owing to the fact that we have not yet available either the 1924 or 1925 industrial census, it is impossible to show, although it is well known to be so, that Canadian production has suffered as a result of tariff reductions.

Government statistics of importations are, however, available to February 27, 1926, and figures of importations show clearly that where there have been tariff reductions the importations have increased. When importations show a large increase it is reasonable to presume that home production has dwindled accordingly. The following are samples of tariff reductions and importation expansions: