

In other words the decrease in employment in the United States for the period mentioned was nearly twice as great as in Canada.

Regarding employment, the Federal Reserve Bulletin for December, 1924, at page 919, has the following editorial comment:

As compared with previous years the general index of employment is 10 per cent lower than it was a year ago, and about on a level with that of September, 1922. The iron and steel and automobile indices are about one-sixth less than in October, 1923, but correspond rather closely to the level of two years ago. Textiles, owing largely to the small volume of employment in the clothing industry, appear to be still below all months since 1921. No group index is as high as in October of last year, 1923. . . . Earnings, however, were 13.3 per cent less than a year ago, and as in the case of employment were about on the same level as two years ago. . . . Wage rate decreases averaged 9.5 per cent and affected 20,000 employees.

These are accurate statistics with respect to the depression in the United States, and I venture to say that anyone who compares them with corresponding data in this country will find that conditions in the United States were relatively very much worse than they have been here.

I have in my hand a statistical table which, with the permission of the House, I should like to have inserted in Hansard without being obliged to read the details. It gives by a series of index numbers the position of employment in the manufacturing and transportation industries of both Canada and the United States for nearly every month during 1923 and 1924.

Index numbers of employment in manufacturing and steam railway operation in Canada and the United States, based upon the average index numbers reported by employers in 1923 as 100.

	Manufacturing		Transportation	
	Canada	United States	Canada	United States
Jan. 1923..	87.5	98	96.5	94.7
Feb..	95.2	100	93.5	94.7
Mar..	98.0	102	91.9	96.5
Apr..	95.9	102	92.3	98.2
May..	101.4	102	93.7	100.9
June..	104.7	102	100.4	102.6
July..	104.8	100	103.3	104.4
Aug..	104.7	100	104.4	105.2
Sept..	104.2	100	104.4	103.5
Oct..	102.8	99	107.0	103.5
Nov..	102.1	99	107.6	100
Dec..	98.8	97	104.8	95.6
Jan. 1924..	89.7	95	98.8	93.0
Feb..	95.1	97	95.5	93.0
Mar..	96.3	96	95.0	93.8
Apr..	96.9	95	95.5	95.6
May..	98.2	91	97.0	95.6
June..	99.0	88	101.4	94.7
July..	98.2	85	101.3	94.7
Aug..	96.5	85	102.0	95.6
Sept..	94.6	87	99.3	95.8
Oct..	96.0	88	100.4	

The significant feature of this table is that it shows that employment conditions are more

rapidly approaching normal in Canada than in the United States. The monthly statistics of employment in Canada, are reported by employers in all industries other than agriculture to the general statistics branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In the United States monthly statistics of factory employment are compiled by the Bureau of Labour Statistics, while those of employment on railways are compiled by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The results are published in the Survey of Current Business, which is published by the United States Department of Commerce. The United States figures for railway employment used in the tables which I have quoted will be found on page 152, those relating to factory employment on page 156 of the November 1924 issue of this publication. In order to facilitate comparison the average employment for 1923 has been taken as 100 in each of the series considered. As I have said, it will be seen from the tables that the latest figures show that both manufacturing and transportation more nearly approach the 1923 level in Canada than in the United States. As regards manufacturing, the latest comparative figures for October are 96 in Canada as against 88 in the United States, whilst as regards transportation, the September figure for Canada was 99.3 as compared with 95.8 in the United States.

My right hon. friend spoke this afternoon of commercial failures and referred to Dun's report. I should like to direct the attention of the House to the difference in the impression left by the remarks of my right hon. friend this afternoon and that created by remarks which he has been making since last session and which have been retold throughout the country from month to month, up to the present time. If I am not mistaken, when he addressed a meeting in Stratford and meetings in several other cities and towns during the summer, the right hon. leader of the opposition created in the public mind the impression that the number of factories that closed was something like 2,000. Now, I do not wish to do my right hon. friend an injustice. If that was not the impression which he sought to convey I would be glad to have him say so. I venture to say there is not an hon. member who did not gather from his statement, when he said that two thousand factories had been closed that he meant factories, and that he was trying to lead the public to believe that such had been the disastrous effect of the changes made in the tariff at the last session of this parliament. When this afternoon he was questioned as to the list of factories closed which he said he had—for he told the public that he