

Supply—Labour—Annuities

unemployed in Canada from the years 1929 to 1931 inclusive. These are the aggregate figures concerning the eight industrial groups to which I have referred:

1929..	163,835
1930..	295,085
1931..	497,007

Then, the estimated percentages of all workers unemployed in Canada from the years 1929 to 1931 inclusive in these eight industrial groups, are as follows:

	Per cent
1929..	8.5
1930..	15.0
1931..	25.0

If desired it might be possible to place these tables on Hansard.

Mr. BENNETT: Not those tables.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: In view of these figures it does not seem unreasonable that we should ask ourselves whether or not there should be a wider distribution of work already available.

Mr. BENNETT: Mr. Chairman, I should like to say one or two words in this connection. The month of March, in the very trades mentioned by the hon. members, is in each year the month of seasonal unemployment. I have not had an opportunity to analyze the figures carefully, having seen them only recently, but if those figures are to be relied upon I am led to the following conclusion: If in March, 1929, 13.7 per cent of the logging employees were unemployed, and that percentage represents 5,676 people, and if 35.9 per cent were unemployed in March of this year, representing 22,946 people, then the number of employees has certainly kept pace with the unemployed, and there are many more people employed now than there were then. I trust the hon. member appreciates the effect of that statement, as he has just given it. He has said that in March, 1929, there were in the logging industry 5,676 unemployed, and he stated that that number constituted 13.7 per cent of those engaged in the industry. Therefore, roughly speaking, 100 per cent would be eight times the number he has given, or about 44,000 people employed in the industry in 1929. If 22,946 people were unemployed in 1932, and that number represented 35.9 per cent, it follows that over 60,000 people were employed in the industry. Therefore there was an increase of about 16,000 in the number of men who made logging their vocation or work in the year 1929; therefore the margin of unemployment was larger. It would mean that in designating their employment they indicated logging, otherwise

[Mr. Woodsworth.]

there is something vastly out of ratio with the figures. I do not know just what they mean. I saw them roughly, but I am not going to enter into a discussion, because they will be analyzed in due course. We all know the transportation industry at the moment is greatly disorganized on account of lack of traffic, and you could get a large number of people who would say at once they were at present unemployed, although they might get two days' work a week. As I saw the report it did not indicate whether or not allowance had been made for that fact.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I have not studied the figures either, having just received them. Possibly it would be of interest to the Prime Minister if I ran through the manufacturing industry for the month of June. According to this statement, in 1929 there were 6,907 unemployed; in 1930, 53,740; in 1931, 127,810.

Mr. MANION: What were the railway transportation figures for the month of March in the same years?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: For 1929, transportation, 22,994 unemployed; 1930, 29,176; 1931, 43,209; and for this year 64,099.

Mr. MANION: My recollection is that before the railway committee Sir Henry Thornton said that on the Canadian National Railways there were 20,000 fewer employees this year than in 1928. If that is so, the figure would be still lower for the Canadian Pacific. If my recollection is correct the total would be something under 40,000. Therefore the figures quoted by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre would seem to be about fifty per cent too high.

Mr. CHAPLIN: I would say the figures quoted for the logging industry are altogether astray; they are not worthy of any credence whatever.

Mr. MacINNIS: I believe these figures were prepared by the bureau of statistics.

Mr. STEVENS: No, no.

Mr. MacINNIS: Where are they from?

Mr. STEVENS: From a group of gentlemen—good estimable people no doubt—who discussed this question before the political science conference in Toronto. My information is that the bureau of statistics do not support the figures given here.

Mr. BENNETT: They certainly do not.

Mr. MacINNIS: I thought the member for Winnipeg North Centre was quoting from figures furnished him this afternoon by the Minister of Trade and Commerce.