

new affiliates, as well as the growth in membership reported by a number of unions. Partially offsetting membership gains over the year were losses due to the withdrawal from Canadian operations of the Granite Cutters' Association and the Insurance Agents' Union, and membership decreases reported by some of the CLC affiliates.

Within the Canadian Labour Congress, the proportion of membership in affiliates that also belong to the AFL-CIO dropped by about two percentage points to some 78 per cent of the total. Among the unions that contributed to this shift were the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union of America and the Amalgamated Lithographers of America, both of which ceased to be affiliated with the AFL-CIO but remained in the CLC. On the other hand, the International Association of Siderographers, an AFL-CIO union, joined the CLC as well, and the Airlines Flight Attendants' Association, which had formerly been an independent union, became a CLC affiliate.

At the beginning of 1959 there were 459 locals in the Canadian and Catholic Confederation of Labour, an increase of 10 over the number recorded in 1958. The total membership of the CCCL amounting to over 97,000 was, however, some 7,000 short of the 1958 figure, even though membership gains ranging from 50 to 1,000 workers were reported by such affiliates as the Federation of Building Workers of Canada, the National Federation of Leather and Shoe Workers of Canada, and the National Catholic Federation of Services.

The number of Canadian workers belonging to unions affiliated solely with the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations remained much the same as in 1958, at over 18,000. This total when added to the 897,000 members of organizations affiliated with both the AFL-CIO and the CLC, brought to 916,000 the Canadian representation in the American congress.

Among labour organizations in Canada not belonging to any central congress, unaffiliated international unions continued to be the largest group. The total membership of the eight unions in this group was approximately 80,000 at the beginning of 1959, down nearly 10,000 from the total recorded a year earlier. Although some unions in this group had modest membership gains, these were more than offset by the decreases reported by coal mining districts of the United Mine Workers of America and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, which between them accounted for the bulk of the over-all loss.

Unaffiliated national or regional unions and independent local organizations - the other two groups not linked with any central congress - reported membership amounting to approximately 74,000 and 35,000, respectively. Although the coverage of the latter group was substantially enlarged with the addition of

many independent local organizations to the 1959 survey, it remained somewhat less comprehensive than the coverage of organizations that are broader in scope.

As in previous years, more than two-thirds of the organized labour force in Canada belonged to unions that operate on the international level. As of January 1959, 90 of the 110 international unions active in Canada were affiliates of the Canadian Labour Congress, and 84 of these were within the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations as well. Twelve of the remaining 20 international unions had no congress link in Canada, but were affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

National and regional unions in Canada at the beginning of the year totalled 51, with the number of CLC affiliates remaining at 20 and those of the CCCL at 13.

Taken together, international, national and regional unions had membership of more than 1,381,000, distributed among 161 organizations ranging in size from eight members to the 80,000 strong United Steelworkers of America. Despite a reported membership loss, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America has retained its position as the second largest union in Canada with nearly 70,000 members, and was followed by the 60,000 strong International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America. The Canadian Brotherhood of Railway, Transport and General Workers was the largest national union in Canada in 1958, but in 1959 was surpassed by the National Union of Public Employees, which reported an increase of over 7,500 members bringing its strength to nearly 43,000.

At the beginning of the year there were 11 unions in Canada with a membership of 30,000 or more, as compared to 10 in the previous year. This size group, consisting of nine international and two national unions, included for the first time in 1959 the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers whose 1,600 new members brought the total membership of this union past the 30,000 mark.

The grand total of 1,459,000 members reported by the labour organizations covered in the 1959 survey was equal to approximately 33 per cent of the estimated total number of non-agricultural paid workers in Canada.

* * * *

TO VISIT CANADA

The Prime Minister, Mr. John G. Diefenbaker, has announced that Mr. Antonio Segni, the Prime Minister of Italy, who will be accompanied by Mr. Giuseppe Pella, the Foreign Minister, has accepted the Canadian Government's invitation to come to Ottawa on February 29 and March 1 to pay an official visit originally planned for last September. Mr. Segni and Mr. Pella will spend March 2 in Montreal.