

The Employment Service Council of Canada, is composed of representatives of the Dominion Departments of Labour and Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, the Provincial Governments, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Association of Canadian Building and Construction Industries, the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, the Railway Association of Canada, the Railway Brotherhoods, the Canadian Lumbermen's Association, the Canadian Council of Agriculture and the returned soldiers. At the seven annual meetings of the Council, the most recent of which was held on Sept. 9-10, 1925, various recommendations and suggestions relative to employment office administration have been brought forward and presented to the Minister.

Operations of Employment Offices.—Statistics covering the work of the local offices are collected and tabulated by the Employment Service Branch of the Department of Labour. Table 12 shows the positions available, applications for work and placements effected by the Service each year since March, 1919. During the first nine months of 1925 there were 433,363 applications for employment, 355,805 vacancies and 327,127 placements, as compared with 391,128 applications, 325,087 vacancies and 285,901 placements in the same months of 1924.

Gains in placements in the first nine months of 1925 over the corresponding months of 1924 were reported from British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec, but Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ontario recorded decreases. The gains in the Prairie Provinces were due to the substantial increase in the demand for farm workers. It will be noticed that the placements in British Columbia exceeded the vacancies listed at the local offices; this is accounted for by the transfer of harvest workers to Saskatchewan and Alberta in order to fill vacancies listed in those provinces.

The ratio of vacancies to applications was slightly lower from January to September, 1925, than during the corresponding months of 1924, but the ratio of placements to applications was somewhat higher. For each 100 applicants registered during the first nine months of 1924 there were 83 vacancies and 73 placements, as compared with 82 vacancies and 75 placements for each 100 applications during the corresponding months of 1925.

Reduced Railway Fares.—In order to facilitate the movement of labour in cases where there were not enough workers in any one locality to fill the available vacancies, the Employment Service, by special arrangement with nearly all the members of the Canadian Passenger Association, has been granted the privilege of issuing certificates which entitle the bearers to purchase railway fares at the reduced rate of 2.7 cents per mile. This rate is for a second class ticket, and is applicable only to fares of not less than \$4. During the calendar year 1923, certificates were issued to 47,310 persons, of whom 28,942 proceeded to points within the same province as the despatching office and 18,368 to points in other provinces. During 1924, 32,357 certificates were issued, 17,698 provincial and 14,659 interprovincial. From January to September, 1925, 28,667 certificates for special rates were granted, 12,982 to workers travelling to employment within the same province as the despatching office and 15,685 to persons for whom employment had been secured in other provinces.