

operatives employed, but by an increase of 1.3 p.c. in the average wage paid. Employees on salaries declined by 2.6 p.c. and aggregate salaries by 2.2 p.c., while average salaries advanced by 0.4 p.c.

The proportion of female wage-earners per 1,000 was 229 and of male operatives 771 during 1924, while in each 1,000 salary earners 221 were women and 779 were men. The proportions among wage-earners were practically the same as in the preceding year, while in the salaried class the males and females in 1923 constituted 788 and 212 per 1,000, respectively. Although the number of male salary earners decreased by 3.7 p.c. in 1924 as compared with 1923, there was at the same time a gain of 1.3 p.c. in the number of women office help employed.

#### **Average Earnings, by Provinces, of Persons Employed in Manufactures.-**

Table 23 shows the number of salary and wage-earners and the average salary and wage paid in 1924 by manufacturers in the various provinces, also average earnings in 1923.

There were successive rises in average salaries from Prince Edward Island to Ontario; in the Prairie Provinces they were lower than in Ontario and Quebec, while in British Columbia and the Yukon the average, at \$1,928, was higher than elsewhere in Canada. In Ontario over 60 p.c. of the total female salary earners were employed, as compared with 53 p.c. of the total male salaried workers; in British Columbia, on the other hand, the proportion of women workers was lower than that of men.

As in 1923, there were steady increases in average wages from the eastern provinces through to Saskatchewan, where the mean for the year, \$1,209, was the highest in the Dominion, being \$237 greater than the general average. In that province, where the number employed in manufacturing was not large, there was an unusually small proportion of women workers, while many of the male employees were engaged in the better-paid wood and paper, electric light and power industries. In the four provinces situated to the east, average wages in manufacturing were lower than the mean for the Dominion, while from Ontario westward the opposite was the case.

The seasonal nature of some of the leading manufactures, notably fish-preserving and lumbering, tended to reduce the mean wage in the Maritime Provinces. Those industries, in which nearly 40 p.c. of the reported employees were engaged, worked on the average only 87 and 110 days respectively during 1924. Quebec, in which the mean wage was below the general average, reported the largest proportion of female workers in the Dominion, of whom a considerable number were employed in the textile, food and other industries. That province had 39.9 p.c. of the total number of women employed in manufacturing in the Dominion, as compared with 30.4 p.c. of the aggregate male operatives, but the 32.5 p.c. of the total wage-earners reported in Quebec received only 29.6 p.c. of the total wages. On the other hand, in Ontario, where the mean was higher than the general average, 49.5 p.c. of the total male and 46.4 p.c. of the total female or 48.8 p.c. of the general aggregate were paid 52.0 p.c. of the total wages disbursed. The fact that average wages in Alberta and British Columbia were lower than in Saskatchewan was partly a result of the seasonal nature of some of the industries in those provinces, especially fish and fruit preserving and saw-milling in British Columbia.