

and it may collect useful facts and statistics relating thereto, to be transmitted to the Quebec Bureau of Statistics. The Department is charged with the administration of provincial Acts respecting trade disputes, factory inspection, maintenance of fair wage clauses in provincial government contracts, superintendence of licensed registry offices for domestic workers, inspection of boilers and foundries, prevention of fires, establishment and maintenance of provincial employment offices and the issue of educational certificates to wage-earners under 16 years of age. The Department's functions also include the qualifications of electricians and contractors in that line of business and the qualification of stationary engineers and firemen and the inspection of boilers registered under the Interprovincial Code, together with the registering of blue prints in connection with the construction of boilers. The Department publishes annual reports outlining the work performed.

Ontario Department of Labour.—Under the Ontario Department of Agriculture a Bureau of Industries was established in 1882, to take charge of factory inspection and publish statistics relating to industries in the province. In 1900 a Bureau of Labour was created under the Ministry of Public Works, and was authorized to collect and release general information respecting labour conditions and industry. In 1916 this Bureau was superseded by the Trades and Labour Branch, still connected with the Department of Public Works, but administered by a superintendent. Three years later, the duties vested in this Branch were transferred in their entirety to a newly-formed Department of Labour, in charge of a Minister and Deputy Minister.

The Department of Labour in Ontario administers the Bureau of Labour Act, the Stationary and Hoisting Engineers Act, the Building Trades Protection Act, the Factory, Shop and Office Building Act, the Steam Boiler Act, the Employment Agencies Act and the regulations respecting the protection of persons working in compressed air. The Department is required to maintain employment offices, to collect information respecting employment, sanitary and other conditions in work-places, wages and hours of work, and to study labour legislation in other parts of the British Empire and in foreign countries, as well as any suggested changes in Ontario labour laws. The representatives of the Labour Department have right of access to offices, factories and other work-places at any reasonable hour, and may be authorized to hold inquiries under the Public Inquiries Act. The Department prepares annual reports which cover the workings of the various Acts administered by it and contain much statistical and other information pertaining to labour. The Minimum Wage Act is administered by a Board of five persons, two of whom are women, and employers and employees are equally represented, with an impartial chairman. The Mothers' Allowances Act provides for the payment of allowances to widows with two or more children and is administered by a Commission of five persons, two of whom are women.

Manitoba Bureau of Labour.—The Act of 1915, establishing the Manitoba Bureau of Labour, provided that it be attached to the Department of Public Works; an amendment of 1922, however, stated it may be attached to that or any other Department, as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may determine.

The Bureau is established to co-operate with employers, trade unions and others; it is charged with the enforcement of the following Acts:—The Manitoba Factories Act; The Bake Shops Act; The Building Trades Protection Act; The Fair Wage Act; The Electricians License Act; The Elevator and Hoist Act; The Shops Regulation Act; The Public Buildings Act; The Minimum Wage Act; The Steam Boiler Act; the licensing of cinematograph projectionists under The Public Amusements Act; The Fires Prevention Act.