

Some of the labour laws contained in these reports are enactments of the Dominion Parliament; others are provincial. This grows out of the division of legislative control between the Dominion and the provincial authorities. Under the British North America Act, the Dominion Parliament was given power to enact laws regarding the regulation of trade and commerce, census and statistics, navigation and shipping, naturalization and aliens and, generally, for the peace, order and good government of Canada in relation to all matters not coming within the classes of subjects assigned exclusively to the Legislatures of the provinces. In addition, the Dominion Parliament has jurisdiction over criminal law. To the provinces was given authority to legislate on matters affecting property and civil rights, municipal institutions, local works and undertakings other than such as are of an interprovincial nature and, generally, all matters of a merely local and private nature. Accordingly, laws governing factories, mines, shops and employment conditions generally, are of provincial origin, but laws definitely restricted to employment in undertakings carried on in connection with transportation and communication services and Dominion public works are enacted by the Dominion Parliament, as well as laws regarding immigration and the punishment of crime.

In certain classes of legislation which are within provincial jurisdiction, the Dominion Parliament has co-operated with the provinces in order to render a more effective service throughout the Dominion. Such legislation is found in the Technical Education Act, Employment Offices Co-ordination Act and Old Age Pensions Act. Co-operation by the provinces with the Dominion for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes through the machinery of the Dominion Industrial Disputes Investigation Act is achieved by provincial legislation declaring such disputes to be subject to the provisions of the Dominion Statute.

### Subsection 1.—Dominion Labour Legislation.

The welfare of persons employed in the construction of Dominion public works has been taken care of by Dominion legislation. The payment of "fair" wages, that is, wages in accordance with the rates prevailing in the district, is assured to these workers and to all employed in the carrying out of Government contracts by a resolution of the House of Commons to this effect and by Orders in Council as well.

The *Canada Shipping Act* fixes a minimum age for the employment of boys at sea, safeguards the hiring of seamen, provides for their health and safety and ensures the payment of wages.

The *Railways Act* contains provisions for the safety of persons employed on railways within the legislative jurisdiction of the Dominion, requires the payment of wages at least semi-monthly and prescribes penalties for the failure of employees to perform their duties.

The *Railways Act* requires the payment of "fair" wages to all employed in any railway construction aided by Parliament.

Sunday labour, except in works of necessity and mercy, is prohibited by the Dominion *Lord's Day Act*.

Persons employed in handling explosives are protected by Dominion legislation. The importation and manufacture of white phosphorus matches is forbidden. Such special classes as the employees on Dominion government railways and vessels are, of course, taken care of by Dominion laws.

The *Trade Unions Act* of 1872 exempted these organizations from liability to criminal prosecution on the ground of conspiracy in restraint of trade, and conferred