

men. The proportion of females among wage-earners was slightly less, while that among salaried employees was greater than in the preceding year. The number of male salary earners increased by 3.8 p.c. in 1927 as compared with 1926, while there was a gain of 7.0 p.c. in the number of women office help employed. The percentages of increase among wage-earners were 7.4 for the males and 4.6 for the females.

Average Earnings, by Provinces, of Persons Employed in Manufactures.—Table 22 shows the number of salary and wage-earners and the average salary and wage paid in 1927 by manufacturers in the various provinces, also average earnings in 1926.

There were successive rises in average salaries from Prince Edward Island to Quebec, which showed the highest average of all the provinces except British Columbia, while the mean in Ontario was slightly lower than in Quebec. In the Prairie Provinces, the averages were also smaller, especially in Saskatchewan, where salaries were, on the whole, below those in New Brunswick. In British Columbia and the Yukon the average was \$1,983. Over 60 p.c. of the total female salary earners were employed in Ontario, as compared with only 52 p.c. of the total male salaried workers; in Quebec and British Columbia, on the other hand, the proportion of women workers was lower than that of men.

As in previous years, there were steady increases in average wages from the eastern provinces through to Saskatchewan, where the mean for the year, \$1,142, was the highest in the Dominion, being \$145 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. These industries, in which 40.8 p.c. of the reported wage-earners in these provinces were engaged, worked on the average only 101 and 96 days respectively during 1927. Quebec, where the mean wage was below the general average, reported a larger proportion of female workers than the other provinces; of these a considerable number were employed in the textile, food and other industries. That province had 39.1 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 32.3 p.c. of the total wage-earners reported in Quebec received only 29.7 p.c. of the total wages. On the other hand, in Ontario, where the mean was higher than the general average, 47.4 p.c. of the total males and 45.1 p.c. of the total females, or 46.9 p.c. of the general aggregate, were paid 50.4 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 these provinces, especially fish and fruit-preserving and sawmilling in British Columbia.