

have reduced the Service to offices permanently located at 66 centres (on Dec. 31, 1929), distributed by provinces as follows:—Nova Scotia, 3; New Brunswick, 3; Quebec, 7; Ontario, 25; Manitoba, 3; Saskatchewan, 9; Alberta, 5; and British Columbia, 11.

Employment Service Council of Canada.—An Order in Council, issued in 1918 in pursuance of the Act, provides for the formation of a body to be advisory to the Minister of Labour in the administration thereof. This body, known as the Employment Service Council of Canada, is composed of representatives of the Dominion Departments of Labour, and Pensions and National Health, the Provincial Governments, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Canadian Construction Association, 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 ten annual meetings of the Council, the most recent of which was held on May 30-31, 1929, various recommendations and suggestions relative to employment office administration were 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 15 shows the positions available, applications for work and placements effected by the Service in each year since 1920. During 1929, there were 550,726 applications for employment, 428,027 vacancies and 398,367 placements, as compared with 597,493 applications, 506,426 vacancies and 470,328 placements in 1928. During 1929 fewer placements were made than in 1928 which was a record year in placements for the Service. All provinces except Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Ontario showed a decline in the number of positions filled, practically the entire loss being attributable to reduced farm placements in the Prairie Provinces. Manufacturing, logging and services were the only industrial divisions to show gains in placements over 1928, services being the most noteworthy. It will be noted that the placements made in British Columbia exceeded the vacancies listed at the local offices, owing to the transfer of harvest workers to the Prairie Provinces.

The ratio of vacancies to applications was higher in 1929 than in 1928, as was also the ratio of placements to applications. For each 100 applicants registered during 1928 there were 84.8 vacancies and 78.7 placements, while there were 77.7 vacancies and 72.3 placements for each 100 applicants in 1929.

Reduced Railway Fares.—In order to facilitate the movement of labour in cases where there are 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 1928, 43,792 certificates were issued, 23,233 to persons proceeding to points within the same province as the despatching office, and 20,559 to workers going to points in other provinces. Of the certificates issued, 9,032 were issued in British Columbia to persons proceeding to the Prairie Provinces to engage in harvesting operations; these travelled at harvesters' rates, which were cheaper than the 2.7 cents per mile rate. During 1929, 30,896 certificates for special rates were granted, 17,230 to persons travelling to