

The proportion of female wage-earners per 1,000 was 222 and of male operatives 778 during 1928, while in each 1,000 salary earners 234 were women and 766 were 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 6.0 p.c. in 1928 as compared with 1927, while there was a gain of 9.1 p.c. in the number of women office help employed. The percentages of increase among wage-earners were 6.6 for the males and 4.9 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 1928 by manufacturers in the various provinces, also average earnings in 1927.

There were successive rises in average salaries from Prince Edward Island to Quebec, which showed the highest average of all the provinces, while the mean in British Columbia and Ontario was slightly lower than in Quebec. In the Prairie Provinces, the averages were also smaller, especially in Saskatchewan and Alberta, where salaries were, on the whole, below those in New Brunswick. In British Columbia and the Yukon the average was \$1,955. 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.

There were general increases in average wages from the eastern provinces through to Manitoba, where the mean for the year, \$1,182, was the highest in the Dominion, being \$158 greater than the general average. In the western provinces 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 37 p.c. of the reported wage-earners in these provinces were engaged, worked on the average only 102 and 91 days respectively during 1928. 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 38.6 p.c. of the total number of women employed in manufacturing in the Dominion, as compared with 29.8 p.c. of the aggregate male operatives, but the 31.7 p.c. of the total wage-earners reported in Quebec received only 29.0 p.c. of the total wages. On the other hand, in Ontario, where the mean was higher than the general average, 48.4 p.c. of the total males and 46.0 p.c. of the total females, or 47.9 p.c. of the general aggregate, were paid 51.2 p.c. of the total wages disbursed. The fact that average wages in Alberta and British Columbia were lower than in Manitoba and Saskatchewan was partly a result of the seasonal nature of some of the industries in the former provinces, especially fish and fruit-preserving and sawmilling in British Columbia.