

eral conditions of labour. Several investigations were made regarding such matters and the first free employment offices were opened by the Bureau of Labour. In 1916 this Bureau was in turn superseded by the Trades and Labour Branch, also under the Ministry of Public Works but administered by a Superintendent. The establishment of the Branch had been recommended by the Ontario Commission on Unemployment and the expansion of the work undertaken by the Branch and the increase in the demands made upon its resources led to the creation of a special Department of the Government by the Department of Labour Act, 1919. Following certain changes in the Ontario Cabinet in September, 1930, the Honourable J. D. Monteith became Minister of Public Works and Labour.

The Department of Labour administers the following Acts:—The Department of Labour Act; The Factory, Shop and Office Building Act; The Steam Boiler Act; The Stationary and Hoisting Engineers Act; The Building Trades Protection Act; The Employment Agencies Act; the Apprenticeship Act; The Regulations respecting the Protection of Persons working in Compressed Air; The Minimum Wage Act. 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 the labour laws of Ontario. The representatives of the Department of Labour 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 publishes annual reports which cover the work of the officers employed in the administration of the various Acts assigned to it and contain much statistical and other information pertaining to labour. The Minimum Wage Act is administered by a board of five persons, two representing employers and two representing employees, with an impartial chairman; two of the members are women. In September 1930 the Mothers' Allowances Commission and the Old Age Pensions Commission were transferred to the newly-formed Department of Public Welfare.

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' Licence 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; The One Day Rest in Seven Act.

Saskatchewan Department of Railways, Labour and Industries.—This was created as a separate Department by an Act passed in 1928. It is presided over by the Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries, assisted by a permanent Deputy Minister. The functions of the Department include the following:—Administration of the Factories Act and Elevator Regulations, the Steam Boilers Act, the Building Trades Protection Act, the Act protecting the payment