

reduced the Service to offices permanently located at 67 centres (on Dec. 31, 1930), distributed by provinces as follows:—Nova Scotia, 3; New Brunswick, 3; Quebec, 7; Ontario, 26; 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, provided 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 eleven annual meetings of the Council, the most recent of which was held on Aug. 21-22, 1930, 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 16 shows the positions available, applications for work and placements effected by the Service in each year since 1920. During 1930 there were 612,990 applications for employment, 386,034 vacancies and 368,679 placements recorded, as compared with 550,726 applications, 428,027 vacancies and 398,367 placements in 1929. During 1930, 7 p.c. fewer placements were made than in 1929. Nearly one-half of all placements were of a casual nature, largely as a result of short terms of employment given, to persons otherwise unemployed, by municipalities and Provincial Governments on various relief schemes provided during the latter part of the year. All provinces except Nova Scotia, Ontario and Alberta showed a decline in placements, the heaviest loss being in British Columbia, where a decline in the number of workers transferred for harvest work in the Prairie Provinces was the outstanding feature. Construction and maintenance was the only industrial division to show a gain in placements.

The ratio of vacancies to applications was higher in 1929 than in 1930, as was also the ratio of placements to applications. For each 100 applicants registered during 1929 there were 77.7 vacancies and 72.3 placements, while there were 63.0 vacancies and 60.1 placements for each 100 applicants in 1930.

**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 1929, 30,896 certificates were issued, 17,230 to persons proceeding to points within the same province as the despatching office, and 13,666 to workers going to points in other provinces. Of the certificates issued 3,408 were issued in British Columbia to persons proceeding to the Prairie Provinces to engage in harvesting operations; these travelled