

**Section 12.—Labour Legislation in Canada.**

A general summary of Dominion and provincial labour laws to the end of 1928 will be found at pp. 755-762 of the 1929 Year Book, together with a short note on the division of legislative jurisdiction as between the Dominion and the provinces. A summary of 1929 legislation was published in the 1930 Year Book at pp. 746-748.

Legislation affecting labour enacted by the Parliament of Canada and the legislatures of the several provinces during 1930 has been published in the Report on Labour Legislation in Canada 1930, issued by the Dominion Department of Labour. The more important changes are noted below.

**Dominion Labour Legislation.**—The Fair Wages and Eight Hour Day Act provides for the payment of current or fair and reasonable rates of wages, and for the eight-hour day for employees on Dominion public works. Exceptions in regard to hours may be made in special cases.

P.C. 670, dated Mar. 27, 1930, provides that except where the work is intermittent in character or the application of the rule is not deemed to be in the public interest, the hours of work of employees of the Dominion Government who have heretofore been required to work more than eight hours per day shall be reduced to eight, with a half holiday on Saturdays.

The Unemployment Relief Act (see p. 778) was passed at the Special Session of Parliament called to deal with unemployment. This Act appropriated the sum of \$20,000,000 to be expended in public works undertaken by the Dominion Government to relieve unemployment, in assisting the provinces with similar works, and in reimbursing the provinces and municipalities for expenditure in connection with unemployment.

**Provincial Labour Legislation.**—In Alberta the Mines Act was repealed and a new statute for the regulation of coal mines was enacted. No boy under 16 years of age may be employed in or about a mine. Formerly boys between 14 and 16 years might work above ground on certificates as to education. Operators of hoisting machinery must be at least 21 years of age and have certificates of mental and physical fitness from a competent medical practitioner, which must be renewed every six months. Among the new provisions is one authorizing agreements between employers and workmen for the payment of wages oftener than twice a month. New regulations were made as to mine equipment and numerous general rules were added.

In the revision of the Manitoba Mines Act the powers of the inspector in ordering the remedying of dangerous conditions were widened and more detailed statistical returns as to wages, etc., required.

Part VIII of the Ontario Mining Act dealing with the operation of mines was re-enacted with a number of changes. These included provision for the maintenance of mine rescue stations and for an eight-hour day for operators of hoisting engines.

The Saskatchewan One Day's Rest in Seven Act provides for a rest period of at least twenty-four consecutive hours in every seven days (on Sunday if