

The Department is in charge of a Minister of Labour, who has under him a Deputy Minister of Labour. The latter is empowered to collect and publish information and statistics affecting labour, and to administer such Acts as may be assigned to the Department by Order in Council. At present, labour bureaus in the province and the administration of the Factories Act have been assigned by Order in Council to the Department of Labour.

**The Quebec Department of Labour.**—This Department was formerly known as the Department of Public Works and Labour, each division having a separate Deputy Minister, but in 1931, the Legislature raised each division to a distinct Department.

The duties of the Department of Labour include the institution and control of inquiries into important industrial questions and those relating to manufactures, and it may collect useful facts and statistics relating thereto, to be transmitted to the Quebec Bureau of Statistics. The Department is charged with the administration of provincial Acts respecting industrial and commercial establishments, trade disputes, and the maintenance of fair wages clauses in Provincial Government contracts. The Women's Minimum Wage Commission is under its jurisdiction, together with the provincial Employment Service.

The Department is responsible for the licensing and qualification of electricians, moving picture machine operators, stationary enginemen and firemen, and pipe mechanics; it is also charged with the inspection of electrical installations, heating installations, steam, hot-water and hot-air furnaces, boilers registered under the Interprovincial Code, together with the registering of blue prints in connection with the construction of boilers. A special branch of the Department is entrusted with the inspection of public buildings and the approval of the plans of new buildings.

The Department, since the 1934 Session, is charged with the enforcement of the Collective Labour Agreements Extension Act; however, it has not the duty of leading employers and employees into the preparation of agreements. The Department has jurisdiction over the limitation of hours of work; since the coming into force of the Act giving it such authority, hours of labour, in the building trades, have been limited to forty per week throughout the province.

The Department also issues qualification certificates to workmen charged with the use and handling of explosives, and is responsible for the enforcement of the Scaffolding Inspection Act in towns where there is no municipal service providing for such duties.

**The Department of Labour of Ontario.**—The Department of Labour of Ontario was established in 1919 and placed under the direction of a Minister and a Deputy Minister of Labour. This Department had its origin in the Bureau of Industries formed in 1882 under the Department of Agriculture, to collect and publish statistics relating to the industries of the province and (later) to administer the first Factory Act of 1886. In 1900 a Bureau of Labour, attached to the Department of Public Works, was authorized to collect and publish information relating to employment, wages and hours, strikes, labour organizations and general 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