

MOTHERS' ALLOWANCES IN CANADA, PROVINCIAL FISCAL YEARS ENDED 1933.

Province.	Number Assisted.		Benefits Paid.
	Families.	Children.	
	No.	No.	\$
Alberta (year ended Mar. 31).....	1,675	4,000 ²	438,570
British Columbia (year ended Mar. 31).....	1,514	3,274	779,639
Manitoba (year ended April 30).....	1,078	3,374	352,053
Nova Scotia (year ended Sept. 30).....	1,138	3,487	341,929
Ontario (year ended Oct. 31).....	7,653	19,359	2,801,872
Saskatchewan (year ended April 30).....	2,511 ¹	6,733 ¹	403,915

¹ Approximately. ² As of April 30, 1933.

PART II.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Section 1.—Wage Rates.*

Statistics of rates of wages and hours of labour have been collected for recent years by the Dominion Department of Labour, and are published in a series of bulletins supplementary to the *Labour Gazette*. Report No. 1 of this series was issued in March, 1921. The records upon which the statistics are based begin in most cases with the year 1901. Index numbers have been calculated to show the general movement of wage rates; the series covers six groups of occupations back to 1901, and common factory labour, miscellaneous factory trades and lumbering back to 1911. The index numbers are based upon wage rates in 1913 as 100.

The accompanying table of index numbers (Table 1) shows the relative changes from year to year. A downward movement appeared in most of the groups in 1921 and 1922, after the peak had been reached in 1920. The index numbers for 1923 and 1924 showed on the whole a slightly upward trend, but while there were slight increases during 1925 in some groups, a substantial decline in coal miners' wages reduced the average. In 1926 slight increases took place in the wages paid by the building, metal and printing trades, electric railways and factory trades. In 1927 general increases took place in all the six groups included in the average, as well as in the other three groups; wage increases in the building trades and on the steam railways were the outstanding features of the year. In 1928, except steam railways which was stationary and common factory labour which declined fractionally, all groups showed an upward movement, a substantial increase appearing in building trades. In 1929 all groups except coal mining were higher, the building trades showing the greatest increase. In 1930 building trades showed a substantial increase, lumbering a decrease and other groups fractional increases. In 1931 all groups

*See pp. 774-783 of the 1927-28 Year Book for an article on the "Wages Statistics of the Census of 1921" and pp. 797-799 of the 1933 Year Book for "Earnings in the Census Year 1931".