

British Columbia, with an average wage of \$958, was the highest in the Dominion in 1934, being \$121 higher than the general average. In the western provinces average wages are usually higher, this being due to an unusually small proportion of women workers, while many of the male employees were engaged in the better-paid wood and paper, electric light and power industries. In the four provinces situated to the east, average wages in manufacturing were lower than the mean for the Dominion, while from Ontario westward the opposite was the case. The seasonal nature of some of the leading industries, notably fish preserving and lumbering, tends to reduce the mean wage in the Maritime Provinces and Quebec, while, in addition to this, Quebec also has a larger proportion of female wage-earners, employed chiefly in the textile, food and tobacco industries, than any other province, except Prince Edward Island.

The highest average salary, *viz.*, \$1,874, was reported by the non-ferrous metal products group, while the animal products group, with an average salary of \$1,350 in 1934 was the lowest. In wages paid, central electric stations came first with an average of \$1,312, there being no female wage-earners in this industry. The textile industries, on the other hand, had the lowest average wage of \$682, this being due to the fact that in this group more than 55 p.c. of the wage-earners were females. As was stated elsewhere in this report, of all the female wage-earners employed in the manufacturing industries of Canada, nearly 48 p.c. found employment in the textile industries.

**Average Earnings in the Forty Leading Industries.**—Table 24 shows employees by sex and the average salaries and wages paid in the forty leading industries during 1934, together with average salaries and wages paid in 1933. The rank of each industry is based on the aggregate salaries and wages paid.

In only seven industries did the average salaries exceed \$2,000; in fourteen they ranged from \$1,700 to \$2,000; in eleven they ranged from \$1,500 to \$1,700, while in the remaining eight they were below \$1,500. None of the six industries paying the highest salaries—sugar refining \$2,745, leather tanneries \$2,315, pulp and paper \$2,252, breweries \$2,189, non-ferrous metal smelting and refining \$2,170 and primary iron and steel \$2,166—reported a proportion of female salaried employees equal to the general percentage of the forty leading industries. The lowest salaries were reported by the sawmilling, bread and other bakery products, and the butter and cheese industries.

The highest wages, or those above \$1,000, were paid in ten industries—central electric stations \$1,312, printing and publishing \$1,254, non-ferrous metal smelting and refining \$1,237, coke and gas products \$1,194, automobiles \$1,190, petroleum products \$1,174, primary iron and steel \$1,136, sugar refining \$1,124, pulp and paper \$1,098 and breweries \$1,047—in all of which the proportion of skilled workers is probably high. In six other industries average wages ranged from \$900 to \$1,000. These were: slaughtering and meat packing \$978, automobile supplies \$963, paints, pigments and varnishes \$944, machinery \$943, printing and bookbinding \$936 and railway rolling-stock \$935. In most of these industries the proportion of women workers is low. In the remaining twenty-four industries the average was below \$900. This last group includes seasonal industries, such as fruit and vegetable canning, fish curing and packing, and industries which contain a large number of small units in which the work is intermittent, such as feed mills. Other industries with low average wages were: textiles, tobacco, and boots and shoes, in which the proportion of female wage-earners is high, the number in several of these industries male.