

Section 2.—Wages and Hours of Labour under Provincial Minimum Wage Legislation.

All of the provinces in Canada except New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island have in effect legislation providing for minimum wages for female employees in certain industries and occupations through boards which establish and enforce the minimum rates, and there is also legislation for the restriction of hours of labour. (See Section 12 of Part I on Labour Legislation in 1936). In Nova Scotia the legislation is applicable to females only, but in the other provinces it applies to males in certain respects. In New Brunswick a statute was passed in 1930 to come into force on proclamation, but it has not yet been proclaimed. Hours of labour are regulated in some of the provinces by the minimum wage boards but in the others only under the factory acts, etc.

Minimum wage rates for males separately had been established prior to 1934 to a slight extent only in British Columbia since 1925 and in Manitoba since 1931, but in 1934 orders were issued or extended to apply to large numbers of male workers in these two provinces. Also in 1934 wage rates were established under the Collective Labour Agreements Extension Act in Quebec and under the Forestry Commission Acts in Quebec and New Brunswick. The Industrial Standard Acts of Ontario and Alberta in 1935, and that of Nova Scotia in 1936, provided for the establishment of wage scales in various industries for all employees. A supplement to the *Labour Gazette* for January, 1937, on Wages and Hours of Labour in Canada in 1929, 1935 and 1936 contains an appendix giving, in some detail, information as to hours and minimum wages for males as well as for females.

Information as to minimum wage rates for work under Dominion Government contracts for the manufacture and supply of equipment, stores, clothing, etc., appears in the paragraphs on Fair Wages in the section on the Dominion Department of Labour at pp. 734-735.

Subsection 1.—Minimum Wages for Females.

The accompanying table gives information as to minimum rates of wages and as to hours for which these rates are payable under the orders of the various provincial boards and commissions in effect at the end of 1936.

The information here given is intended to afford merely a statistical summary of the minimum wages with hours of labour in the provinces and industries affected, and while some of the more significant details have been given in footnotes, it has been found impossible to include the information in such form as to indicate any more than the general conditions under these provisions.

For complete information it is necessary to refer to the orders as issued by the various provincial boards. These have been given in some detail in the *Labour Gazette* from time to time as issued, and in summary form in the Wages and Hours Supplement to the *Labour Gazette*, January, 1937. In some provinces these orders include regulations as to employment conditions, sanitary conditions, etc. The boards have power to issue licences for lower rates of pay for handicapped workers and to meet special conditions in the nature of emergencies.