

7.—Fatal Industrial Accidents in Canada, by Industries, 1933-37.

Industry.	Numbers of Fatal Accidents.					Percentages of Fatal Accidents.				
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937. ¹	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937. ¹
Agriculture.....	111	151	124	127	154	13.7	15.1	12.3	11.5	12.7
Logging.....	91	114	116	133	145	11.3	11.4	11.5	12.0	12.0
Fishing and trapping.....	36	47	38	57	50	4.5	4.7	3.7	5.1	4.1
Mining, non-ferrous smelting and quarrying.....	112	144	175	181	198	13.9	14.4	17.4	16.3	16.4
Manufacturing.....	103	103	133	112	154	12.7	10.3	13.2	10.1	12.7
Construction.....	65	118	103	105	164	8.0	11.8	10.2	9.5	13.6
Electric light and power.....	15	20	25	14	22	1.9	2.0	2.5	1.3	1.8
Transportation and public utilities....	161	165	184	240	214	19.9	16.5	18.2	21.7	17.7
Trade.....	48	52	44	45	45	5.9	5.2	4.4	4.1	3.7
Service.....	63	86	66	89	62	7.8	8.6	6.5	8.0	5.2
Miscellaneous.....	3	Nil	1	4	1	0.4	-	0.1	0.4	0.1
Totals.....	808	1,000	1,009	1,197	1,299	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹Figures subject to revision.

Causes of Fatal Accidents.—The classification of fatal accidents in 1937, by causes, shows that the largest number, 385, came under the category “by moving trains, vehicles, etc”. This includes all accidents due to cars or engines, including mine and quarry cars, and to automobiles and other power vehicles and horse-drawn vehicles, as well as moving implements, water craft and aircraft.

“Falling objects” caused 223 fatalities. Next in order as a cause came “falls of persons”, including those (186 in number) who fell into pits, shafts, holds of vessels, harbours, rivers, etc. Fatalities numbering 148 were caused by dangerous substances, including electric current, explosives, hot and inflammable substances, gas fumes, boiler explosions, etc. Animals caused 33 fatalities, including 21 caused by horses. There were 28 fatalities caused by striking against or being struck by objects, 25 by prime movers, 25 by hoisting apparatus, 24 by working machines, 18 by the handling of heavy or sharp objects, and 11 by tools. The heading “other causes” includes 33 caused by lightning, frost, storms, and sunstroke, 31 due to industrial diseases, strain, etc., 18 to cave-ins, etc., 13 caused by shooting and violence, and 5 by drownings not otherwise specified.

Numbers of industrial accidents, fatal and non-fatal, dealt with by the various provincial Workmen’s Compensation Boards, are included in the following section on Workmen’s Compensation.

Section 7.—Workmen’s Compensation in Canada.

An account of the development of workmen’s compensation legislation in Canada from employers’ liability legislation was given at pp. 744-746 of the 1927-28 Year Book, while a summary of the legislation with regard to workmen’s compensation, including a statement of the current scale of compensation in each province, appears in the general sketch of labour legislation in Canada at pp. 787-796 of the current edition. Details regarding the operation of the various Workmen’s Compensation Boards of the provinces are given below.

Operations of the Workmen’s Compensation Boards.—*Nova Scotia.*—The Workmen’s Compensation Act was passed in 1915, but only became effective on Jan. 1, 1917. During the twenty-one years between that date and Dec. 31, 1937, 161,272 accidents were reported to the Board of which 143,413 were compensated as shown in Table 8. Prior to Jan. 1, 1920, medical aid was furnished only in special cases.