

A review of the proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act from its enactment in March, 1907, to Mar. 31, 1941, shows that, during the 34 years, 1,058 applications were received for the establishment of boards of conciliation and investigation, as a result of which 635 boards were established. In all but 44 cases, strikes or lockouts were averted or ended.

Fair Wages Policy.—The Fair Wages Branch of the Department of Labour is charged with the preparation and enforcement of the labour conditions and schedules of minimum wage rates that are inserted in Dominion Government contracts for works of construction, remodelling, repair or demolition. The number of fair wages schedules prepared, from the time the Fair Wages Policy was adopted by the Dominion Government in 1900 up to the end of the fiscal year 1939-40, was 9,707. The number of fair wages schedules furnished during the fiscal year 1939-40 was 812.

The Department of Labour also co-operates closely with other departments of the Government in ensuring the observance of the fair wages conditions inserted in contracts for the manufacture of various classes of equipment and supplies for Government use, and is frequently consulted by other departments regarding the prevailing rates of wages to be observed on works carried out by day labour.

The Fair Wages Policy of the Government of Canada was originally based on a resolution adopted by the House of Commons in 1900. The policy was later expressed and developed in various Orders in Council, in the Fair Wages and Eight Hour Day Act, 1930, and in the Fair Wages and Hours of Labour Act, 1935. The provisions of these are set out in some detail at pp. 780 and 781 of the 1939 edition of the Canada Year Book.

In defence contracts that are being placed by the Dominion Government for the manufacture of war supplies, it is now the policy of the Government to insert schedules setting forth the minimum rates of wages and the maximum hours to be observed in the execution of the respective undertakings throughout the country. These schedules are drawn up in consultation between the Department of Labour and the other Government departments concerned; the Department of Labour co-operates closely with these departments in ensuring that the contract conditions are strictly enforced.

Labour Gazette.*—From its inception in 1900, the Labour Gazette has maintained a continuous record of industrial, social and economic conditions in Canada, as reflected in legislation, employment and unemployment, price trends, labour disputes, conventions and recommendations of labour organizations and industrial relations programs. One of the particular functions of the Department is the promotion of industrial harmony, and prominence is therefore given in the Labour Gazette to proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act and the Conciliation and Labour Act. Complete information is also given with respect to proceedings under other measures administered by the Department, including the Employment Offices Co-ordination Act, the Combines Investigation Act, the Technical Education Act, the Government Annuities Act, the unemployment relief legislation, the Fair Wages and Hours of Labour Act and the Youth Training Act.

* A charge of 20 cents per annum is made for this publication to subscribers in Canada, the United States of America and Mexico, and of \$1 per annum to subscribers in all other countries.