

*British Columbia.*—The Workmen's Compensation Act, effective Jan. 1, 1917, provides compulsory accident insurance in almost every industrial occupation carried on in the Province. Insurance rates levied against employers are graded according to the hazard of the industry. All employers under the Act are required, in addition, to deduct one cent per day or part thereof from the wages of each employee and to remit this money to the Board to the credit of the medical aid fund. This fund provides all necessary medical, surgical and hospital expenses for injured employees.

## 20.—Operations of the British Columbia Workmen's Compensation Board, 1930-39

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1917-29 are given at p. 762 of the 1938 Year Book.

Year	Benefits Awarded			Claims (gross)
	Compensation	Medical Aid	Total	
	\$	\$	\$	No.
1930.....	3,403,743	773,397	4,177,140	33,285
1931.....	2,572,254	568,289	3,140,543	25,877
1932.....	1,860,021	447,423	2,307,445	19,011
1933.....	1,501,700	368,482	1,870,183	18,274
1934.....	1,590,817	410,126	2,000,943	22,354
1935.....	2,092,389	506,741	2,599,130	26,280
1936.....	2,536,166	595,894	3,132,060	29,677
1937.....	2,966,110	684,115	3,650,225	35,005
1938.....	3,182,762	701,953	3,884,715	31,505
1939.....	3,404,434	720,265	4,124,699	33,173

## Section 7.—Strikes and Lockouts

Statistics of strikes and lockouts in Canada have been collected by the Dominion Department of Labour since its establishment in 1900.

The items in the columns headed "Time Loss in Man-Working Days" in Tables 21-23, are calculated by multiplying the number of persons directly involved in strikes and lockouts by the number of working days they are so affected during the time the disputes are in existence.

Summary tables of the figures with details as to strikes and lockouts during 1940 will be found in the *Labour Gazette* for March, 1941, pp. 242-265.

**Industrial Disputes in Recent Years.**—From 1931 to 1937 the average number of strikes and lockouts, employees involved, and time loss were substantially greater than from 1926 to 1930. The averages for the latter period, however, were much lower than the figures for the years prior to 1926 when coal-mining strikes involved large numbers of employees and resulted in great time loss. In 1938 figures were about the same as the average for the period 1926-30 but in 1939, even with fewer strikes than in 1938, twice as many workers were involved with a corresponding increase in time loss. In 1940 the number of strikes increased by one-third over 1939 with nearly the same increase in time loss, but the number of workers affected was greater by one-half. Since 1931 most of the important disputes have been in textile and clothing manufacturing, logging, sawmilling, and wood-working industries, with a substantial number in coal mining. In 1940 nearly one-half of the time loss was caused by strikes in the textile and clothing industries. The most important disputes of the year involved silk-factory workers at Drummondville, Que., cotton-factory workers at Milltown, N.B., dressmakers at Montreal, Que., salmon fishermen on the British Columbia coast, and seamen on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River.