

Subsection 2.—Minimum Wages for Male Employees

The principal provisions for minimum-wage rates for male employees are given in the Canada Year Book, 1940, pp. 789-792. Subsequent changes in these provisions are outlined below. For information regarding rates fixed under legislation other than minimum-wage Acts refer to Subsection 3, pp. 703-704, and to material on labour legislation, pp. 654-656. A more detailed summary of all legislation fixing minimum wages for male workers may be found in the Wages and Hours of Labour Supplement to the *Labour Gazette*, April, 1941—Appendix D.

In New Brunswick, in 1940, Orders of the Fair Wage Board, other than those for individual establishments, were issued for the first time and set the following minimum rates: for dairy drivers and certain classes of plant workers at Saint John and two adjoining parishes, \$20 per week; for others (except office workers) \$14 per week; for garage employees at Saint John \$13.50-\$27 per week, at Fredericton and vicinity \$12.15-\$24.30; for workers loading lumber and pulpwood on boats in northeastern counties—45 cts. an hour.

In Quebec the Minimum Wage Act, 1940, (replacing the Fair Wage Act, 1937, and Forest Operations Act, 1937) re-established a Minimum Wage Commission, and Orders of the former Fair Wage Board in effect June 22, 1940, became Orders of the Commission. The general Order (No. 4) fixed minimum wages for males as well as females throughout the Province in all industrial and commercial establishments not covered by special Orders or by agreements under the Collective Agreement Act. Three Orders were issued in 1940, setting the following rates for logging: (1) river drivers \$3 per day, cooks \$58-\$90 per month, others \$50-\$60 per month; (2) pulpwood workers \$52 per month, on piece work \$35-\$58, maintenance and other skilled workers \$60, general labour \$55 per month; (3) firewood and sawlog workers, specified proportions of workers \$35-\$55, general labour \$48 per month.

In Ontario and Manitoba, no changes were made in 1940 (see pp. 789 and 792 of the 1940 Year Book for latest information).

In Saskatchewan, minimum-wage rates were set in 1940 under the Coal Mining Industry Act, 1935: deep seam mines—miners 42½-55 cts. per hour, helpers 40-45 cts.; strip pits—shovel operators 75 cts.-\$1 per hour, mechanics 75 cts., labourers 40 cts., other classes 42½-60 cts.; small mines—truck drivers and machine runners' helpers 40 cts. per hour; other classes, piece work.

In Alberta, the general Order under the Male Minimum Wage Act established minimum rates for males in all industries not otherwise covered (except farm work and domestic service) at 25-33½ cts. per hour for those over 17 employed for a week or longer, and 20 cts. for those under 17; for those employed for less than a week, 30-40 cts. for those over 17 years, and 25 cts. for those under 17. The rate for logging, sawmilling, woodworking, etc., outside the vicinity of cities, towns, etc., with board and lodging, was raised to \$35 per month for 9 hours per day and \$37.50 for 10 hours per day. A schedule for coal mining in the Edmonton district set minimum rates at 65 cts. for machine miners, 50 cts. for hand miners, etc., 55 cts. for power-house engineers, 45 cts. for helpers, etc., 40 cts. for labourers, etc., and 35 cts. for boys.

In British Columbia, a minimum rate of 75 cts. per hour was set for painters at Vancouver, New Westminster and vicinity. A rate of 50 cts. per hour was established for bus drivers on Vancouver Island and Saltspring Island.