

considers necessary. Formerly, such aid was given for 30 days or longer if the Board considered it advisable. *Dermatitis venenata* due to handling irritants was made compensatable.

The *Blind Workmen's Compensation Act*, like similar Acts in Ontario and Quebec, authorizes the Province to reimburse the Workmen's Compensation Board for compensation in excess of \$50 paid to a blind workman, provided his employment was approved by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind or other organization designated for the purpose.

The *Apprenticeship Act* now applies to female as well as to male apprentices, provides for amending the list of trades within its scope, requires an apprentice to give 2,000 hours of productive labour and authorizes a levy on employers and employed to defray expenses. The *Engine Operators Act* provides for the examination and licensing of stationary engineers and firemen.

New Brunswick.—Provision is made for a Minister of Labour holding no other portfolio. Amendments in the *Workmen's Compensation Act* increase the maximum earnings on which compensation is based from \$1,500 to \$2,000 a year, raise compensation to a widow from \$30 to \$40 a month and allow \$125 where the body of the workman has to be transported for some distance. For permanent and temporary total disability, the compensation is $66\frac{2}{3}$ p.c. of average earnings for the duration of the disability with a minimum of \$8 a week, or average earnings, if less. Compensation for temporary partial disability is two-thirds of the diminution in earnings.

The *Apprenticeship Act* is generally similar to that of Prince Edward Island but gives to the Provincial Apprenticeship Committee power to designate appropriate trades.

Provision is made, in the sections of the *Labour and Industrial Relations Act* dealing with minimum wages, for the appointment of investigators, and for making general wage-orders or orders fixing different rates for different classes of workers or for different parts of the Province.

Quebec.—Two statutes were enacted to deal with industrial relations and disputes—the *Labour Relations Act*, a compulsory investigation measure applying generally but, during the War, not applying to war industries, and the *Public Service Employees' Disputes Act*, a compulsory arbitration measure which prohibits a stoppage of work due to a dispute in public services and provides for the settlement of the dispute.

The *Labour Relations Act* applies to all employees in the Province except representatives of the employer, members of the professions, domestic servants, farm workers and those employed by railway companies under Dominion jurisdiction. The Act requires employers or employers' associations to negotiate with the representatives of one or more associations of which at least 60 p.c. of their employees are members.

If negotiations fail to bring about an agreement, a conciliation officer must be appointed and, if he fails, a council of arbitration is to be established under the *Quebec Trade Disputes Act*. A strike or lockout is prohibited until these provisions have been complied with and until 14 days after an arbitration council has reported. A stoppage of work is also prohibited during the life of a collective agreement unless the dispute has been referred for settlement in accordance with