

Statistics of Unemployment Insurance.*—The number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act (Table 6) was assumed to be those working in insurable employment as at Apr. 1. All those for whom an insurance book was exchanged or to whom a new book was issued for the first time during April, were included. The term "insured person" is susceptible of a variety of interpretations: the figures presented here are especially useful as an indication of employment in insurable employment at a given time.

Table 7 presents information on the persons for whom current benefit years were in existence during 1943. A benefit year is established under the Unemployment Insurance Act when an insured person, upon becoming unemployed, submits a claim and proves that at least 180 daily contributions have been made in his behalf during the preceding two years. Because of other statutory provisions or because he may regain employment before he actually receives benefit, the setting up of a benefit year does not necessarily result in the receipt of benefit payments. When a benefit year is established it means merely that the claimant's *right* to receive benefit at a certain rate at any time during the succeeding twelve months is determined. Thus, although 33,558 persons held benefit years current in 1943, only 16,592 actually drew benefit in that year.

In almost all cases (i.e., excluding death, etc.) a benefit year remains in existence either until the authorized benefit rights are exhausted or until twelve months have passed since the date of its establishment, whichever occurs first. Some benefit years established in 1942 were carried over into 1943, so that, although 19,588 persons established benefit years in 1943, a total of 33,558 persons held benefit years currently available in 1943.

The amount of benefit paid, as presented in Table 7, is secured by multiplying each daily rate of benefit by the number of days paid at that rate on the cards representing benefit years upon which benefit was drawn in 1943. Errors and omissions resulting in adjustment of payments are, therefore, not included so that this does not represent the exact amount paid out of the unemployment insurance fund. It is presented here, nevertheless, as the comparable figure to the number of days paid and persons drawing benefit.

In Table 8 the persons with current benefit years in 1943 are classified according to the number of benefit days paid. Table 9 classifies those who drew benefit by the daily rate at which they were paid. The daily rate of benefit is determined by the amount of the daily average contribution paid on behalf of the claimant during the past two years and upon whether or not he has a dependant within the meaning of the Act.

The persons who established benefit years in 1943; those whose benefit years terminated in 1943; and those whose benefit years terminated by exhaustion of rights are classified by age groups in Table 10. In Table 11 the persons who established benefit years in 1943 and the benefit days paid on those benefit years are presented by industrial group and age. The industrial groups used here are identical with those used to classify the insured population in Table 6.

A more detailed analysis of these data, by sex and province, is available in the publication "Annual Report on Current Benefit Years Under the Unemployment Insurance Act" issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

* Statistics of Unemployment Insurance are compiled and published by the Social Analysis Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from material supplied by the Unemployment Insurance Commission.