

Continued use was made of vocational shops in technical schools and additional training centres were opened early in the year. There was a decrease in the enrolment in pre-employment classes most of which were of comparatively short duration, i.e., from two weeks to two months. Several more-specialized types of training were also provided, such as laboratory technicians, industrial chemists, instrument-makers and draughtsmen.

There was no difficulty in finding work for trainees on the completion of their courses, but it became increasingly difficult to secure enough trainees to meet the demand. As the supply of trainees decreased sharply there was a corresponding decrease in the full-time pre-employment classes. This decrease became very marked in the last few months of the fiscal year and certain training centres were closed.

The gross enrolment in full-time pre-employment classes was 11,564 men and 5,959 women, of whom 7,898 men and 4,957 women are known to have been placed in jobs during the year.

TRAINING IN INDUSTRY

Men and women were given special training in industrial establishments, usually for occupations for which no suitable training could be given in the regular vocational schools. The Department of Labour helped draw up the syllabi and, in some cases provided instructors in technical subjects. It also reimbursed the employer for the salaries of instructors selected from the working force of the employer and for the usual subsistence allowances to trainees.

During the year 44 additional plant schools were approved with a gross enrolment of 8,587 men and 11,329 women, of whom 6,966 men and 9,345 women completed their training during the year and were transferred to productive work.

Part-time classes were continued for workers in war industries with a view to their upgrading and promotion. The bulk of the instruction given was classroom work in technical subjects. The enrolment in these was 14,926.

There was increasing interest in the training of foremen and supervisors. Through a series of five-day institutes, each covering three distinct courses, trainees were enabled to return to their industries as trainers of other foremen and supervisors. The courses were in job instruction, job relations and job methods. Through the courtesy of the Training within Industry Branch of the United States War Manpower Commission, material for these courses and the services of an instructor were made available to the Department for the first institute. Total enrolment in the three courses during the year was 27,391.

TRAINING FOR THE ARMED FORCES

Air Force.—During the year classes for the Royal Canadian Air Force (see p. 697 of the 1942 Year Book) were extended. Personnel referred to these classes were enlisted by the Air Force with full pay and allowances and the whole program was much more closely and officially linked with the R.C.A.F. The gross enrolment of R.C.A.F. personnel during the year was 32,152.

Pre-aircrew educational classes were held in a number of schools, the course lasting 12 weeks. Instruction was given in English, mathematics, science, aircraft recognition and in the progress of the War. In the technical trades, the course lasted from four to six months and included wireless operators (ground), wireless mechanics, radio mechanics, aero-engine mechanics, airframe mechanics, and clerks for the R.C.A.F. Women's Division.