

Saskatchewan.—Amendments to the *Workmen's Compensation Act* provide that where disability lasts longer than three days compensation is to be paid from the date of the accident; increase compensation for disability from 66½ p.c. to 75 p.c. of average earnings or, in the case of partial disability, of the diminution of average earnings, with a minimum in total disability cases of \$15 a week or average earnings, if less; and raise from \$2,000 to \$2,500 a year the amount of average earnings to be taken into account in computing compensation. The increase in benefits applies to all payments made after July 1, 1945, whether the accident occurred before or after that date. Compensation must be awarded on the basis of a workman's earnings at the time of the accident if those are higher than his average over the preceding twelve months. The Lieutenant-Governor in Council is to appoint at least once in four years, a committee of five or more members to report on the Act, the committee to represent employers and organized employees equally and to have on it one or more representatives of the Board.

Changes were also made in the *Workmen's Compensation Act, 1911*, under which the employer is individually liable and which applies to certain classes of workers, chiefly railway workers, who are not covered by the Workmen's Compensation (Accident Fund) Act. Any railway worker of a class excluded from the later statute is deemed to be under the 1911 Act, whether or not his remuneration exceeds \$3,500 a year. The employer is not liable for compensation if the workman is not disabled for at least three days. The time-limit for bringing an action under the Act was extended from six months to one year. The maximum compensation recoverable is either the equivalent of the estimated earnings of a workman in similar employment during the three years preceding the injury or the sum of \$2,500, whichever is greater, but in no case exceeding \$3,000.

The *Blind Workmen's Compensation Act*, which is similar to Acts in Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia, authorizes the Provincial Government to reimburse the Workmen's Compensation Board, or the employer if liable, for any compensation in excess of \$50 paid to a blind workman, provided his employment is approved by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind or other organization designated for the purpose.

Amendments to the *Minimum Wage Act* include a revision of the section dealing with orders of the Board. Such orders may: define classes of employment; subject to the Factories Act, determine the number of hours which shall constitute the normal work-week of workers in any class of employment; fix the minimum wage for the normal week and for overtime and short-time and the period in any day within which the hours of work shall be confined; and fix the minimum age for employment. Where an employer convicted of paying less than the minimum wage is ordered to pay the difference, he must pay it to the Deputy Minister of Labour for the employee instead of directly to the latter.

The *Attachment of Debts Act* was amended to exclude persons employed by the hour from the provisions of the section enabling the Provincial Government to be garnished with regard to moneys due or accruing to any member of the public service or any person temporarily employed under the Public Service Act. The amount of wages or salary exempt from garnishment was raised from \$75 to \$100 in the case of a married person or a person with dependents, and from \$40 to \$60 for persons without dependents and in cases where the garnishee order is issued under a judgment or order for alimony or a judgment founded upon a separation agreement.