

Workers employed by reason of an emergency requiring immediate action are now excluded from the *One Day's Rest in Seven Act* and the exemption formerly granted to any class of hotel and restaurant employees when there were only two of that class was cancelled.

Alberta.—Changes in the *Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act* enable disputes as to the bargaining agent to be referred to arbitration, extend from 14 to 21 days the time for the Board of Industrial Relations to report on a dispute, and provide for a vote to be taken on questions of employer-employee relations. A "slow-down" or other activity to restrict production is forbidden but this provision is not to limit a trade union's legal right to strike.

The *Hours of Work Act* was amended to limit hours of male employees to 8 per day and 48 per week instead of 9 and 54, and to delete, as unnecessary, the definition of "overtime" which is now defined in both the *Male and Female Minimum Wage Acts* to mean all time worked in excess of nine hours a day or of any fewer hours prescribed under the Hours of Work Act or time worked in excess of 48 hours a week or of any fewer hours prescribed under the Hours of Work Act. An action under the Male or Female Minimum Wage Act by an employee paid less than the minimum wage to recover the difference must be brought within twelve months after the cause of action accrued.

The *Coal Mines Regulation Act*, which repeals the Mines Act, is a revision of the latter statute with some changes. The minimum age for employment of men in charge of or operating an engine, windlass or gin, or machinery and tackle connected with it used for conveying persons has been lowered from 21 to 19 years but a hoisting engineer in charge of a hoisting shaft must be at least 21 years of age. There is only one class of miner's certificate, with qualifications similar to those of the former class A certificate, including the minimum age of 20 years. A number of safety provisions were added.

The *Billiard Room Act*, which forbade employment in a billiard room of persons under 18, was amended to provide that, during the War of 1939-45, boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 18 might be employed to set up pins in a bowling alley, provided they had the written consent of their parent or guardian.

British Columbia.—The *Fire Departments Hours of Labour Act* was amended to limit the hours on duty in any one week to 48 or an average of 48 hours when computed over a number of weeks. Where the *Fire Departments Two-Platoon Act* applies, however, it must be complied with. These changes will come into effect at the end of one year after the termination of the War, unless proclaimed in force earlier.

A section added to the *Small Debts Courts Act*, which provides for attachment of debts and exempts from attachment wages up to \$60 in the case of a person with dependents and \$30 in other cases, provides that debts liable to attachment shall include wages or salary due or payable within four days after the day on which an affidavit is sworn.

Yukon.—The *Ordinance to Regulate the Hours of Labour and the Minimum Wage to be Paid in Mining Operations* now applies to skilled or unskilled manual, clerical or technical workers, but not to those employed in a confidential capacity or those having authority to employ or discharge workers. As formerly, daily hours of work may not exceed eight, but the weekly maximum for a seven-day week has