

Up to Mar. 1, 1947, the National Board had certified representatives in 278 cases, rejecting 61. The Provincial Boards had issued 3,625 certificates and rejected 574. Between Mar. 20, 1944, and Feb. 28, 1947, of 124 disputes in which Government conciliation services were used, 163 were settled by Conciliation Officers and 103 by Conciliation Boards. In 65 cases no agreement was reached following a Board's report. Other cases are still pending.

### **Subsection 2.—Provincial Labour Departments**

Labour legislation in Canada is, for the most part, a matter for the Provincial Legislatures since it usually governs, in some respect, the contracts of service between employer and employee or the contracts between members of a trade union which form the basis of the union, or it regulates conditions in local work-places. The right to contract is a civil right and the British North America Act, which distributes legislative powers between the Parliament of Canada and the Provincial Legislatures, grants to the provinces power to enact laws in relation to "civil rights" and, with certain exceptions, "local works and undertakings"

In each province, except Prince Edward Island, a special Department or Bureau is charged with the administration of labour laws. In Alberta the Board of Industrial Relations under the Minister of Trade and Industry administers statutes concerning wages, hours and labour welfare, and the Department of Public Works has charge of factory legislation. Other provinces have Departments of Labour. Legislation for the protection of miners is administered by Departments dealing with mines.

Factory legislation in eight provinces, and shops legislation in several provinces prohibit child labour, regulate the hours of women and young persons, and provide for safety and health. Other labour statutes in most provinces include minimum-wage legislation and maximum-hours laws, laws for the settlement of industrial disputes, legislation to ensure freedom of association and promote collective bargaining, and laws to provide for apprenticeship and the licensing of certain classes of workmen. The Industrial Standards Acts in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and the Fair Wage Act in Manitoba enable the wages and hours of work agreed upon by representatives of employers and employed to be made legal throughout the industry concerned. The Quebec Collective Agreement Act permits agreements between employers and trade unions to be made binding on all in the industry. Workmen's compensation laws in all provinces, except Prince Edward Island, are administered by independent boards.

For information regarding individual Provincial Departments of Labour, reference should be made to the annual reports of the Departments concerned or to the Deputy Ministers of Labour of the Provincial Governments.

### **Subsection 3.—Provincial Labour Legislation in 1946**

**Summary.**—During the Provincial Legislative Sessions of 1946, a number of important changes were made in existing legislation; also in New Brunswick a new Factories Act and in British Columbia a Holidays with Pay Act was passed.

The school-leaving age was raised to 16 for New Brunswick cities and towns, and in Nova Scotia the causes for exemption from school attendance were cut down and workmen's compensation benefits provided for a child up to the age of 18 for education. A minimum age of 14 was established for New Brunswick shops, hotels, restaurants and places of amusement, and in Saskatchewan the minimum for factories was raised to 16 years.