

**British Columbia.**—Amendments in the *Workmen's Compensation Act* provide that where disability lasts more than six days (instead of 14, as formerly) compensation shall be paid from the first day; abolish workers' contributions to the cost of medical aid; authorize the Workmen's Compensation Board to provide for replacement and repair of dentures, eye-glasses, and artificial appliances, including artificial members, broken in the course of employment; and permit the Board to bring under the Act industries not previously covered. Additional medical aid not furnished under the Canada Shipping Act may be given to a master, mate, engineer, seaman, steward, fireman or person employed on a vessel where he is entitled under the Canada Shipping Act to certain medical aid from the Sick Mariners' Fund.

From July 1, 1946, the maximum weekly hours under the *Hours of Work Act*, are reduced from 48 to 44, except under special conditions. The Act applies to mines, factories, shipyards, lumbering, construction, road transport, shops, bakeries, hotels, restaurants and operation of elevators.

In industries to which the *Male Minimum Wage Act* applies, that is, all except agriculture and domestic service, the Board of Industrial Relations is given power to limit working hours of men, an authority it already had with regard to women, under the *Female Minimum Wage Act*. New provisions in both Minimum Wage Acts enable the Board, where it has granted permission for the working hours of any employee to exceed the ordinary statutory limit, to fix a minimum overtime rate.

The *Annual Holidays Act*, in effect since July 1, 1946, provides one week's holiday with pay for all employees who work 280 days or more in a year in any industry, trade or occupation, except agriculture and domestic service.

An amendment to the *Coal Mines Regulation Act*, to come into force on Proclamation, requires that in mines employing more than 15 workers below ground, washing facilities must be provided for all workers, together with accommodation for drying and changing clothes, and that bunk-houses, cook-houses, dining-rooms and wash-houses must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.

**Yukon and the Northwest Territories.**—In the Yukon, the Mining Safety Ordinance, which repeals the Miners' Protection Ordinance, is similar to a 1943 Ordinance of the Northwest Territories. The new law forbids employment of women except in clerical, professional, technical or domestic work, and the employment of boys under 16 years of age in or about a mine, or under 18 below ground. No person under 18 may operate an elevator or power-driven crane in metallurgical works or have charge of a hoisting engine in a mine. Where men are carried, the person in charge of the hoisting machinery must be 21 and experienced. Underground miners and hoist-operators have a maximum work-day of eight hours with provision for overtime in emergencies or to avoid Sunday work. Safety and health regulations similar to those in the provincial mining Acts are included, with special safeguards for persons exposed to silica dust or employed where radio-active minerals are mined, concentrated, or tested.

The Fair Wages Ordinance, in effect June 1, 1946, and applying to retail and wholesale establishments and places where services are sold, provides for fair wages and an eight-hour day and a 44-hour week. Wages must be fair and reasonable and not less than the pay received when the Ordinance was enacted.

An amendment in the Northwest Territories Sanitary Control Ordinance removes the limit of \$2.50 a day on the liability of employers operating labour camps of 50 men or more for medical, surgical, and hospital treatment of employees.