

## Section 2.—Occupations of the Gainfully Occupied Population

Detailed statistics on the occupations of the Canadian people in 1941 will be found in Vol. VII, Census of Canada, 1941. A special review of this subject, based on the 1941 Census figures, appears at pp. 1062-1073 of the 1943-44 Year Book, and further information at pp. 1168-1169 of the 1945 edition.

## Section 3.—Employment and Unemployment

### Subsection 1.—Employment and Unemployment Statistics of the Census

Detailed statistics of earnings, employment and unemployment as at June 1, 1941, will be found in Vol. VI, Census of Canada, 1941.

### Subsection 2.—Employment and Payrolls as Reported by Employers\*

Since 1921, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics has made monthly surveys of employment in major industries excluding agriculture, domestic and personal service, and government administration. The broad industrial groups covered by these surveys are: logging, mining, manufacturing, construction, transportation and storage, communications, trade, services (chiefly hotels, restaurants and laundries) and finance. From Apr. 1, 1941, the surveys of employment were extended to cover the current earnings of those in recorded employment and since late in 1944, monthly data on man-hours and hourly earnings have been collected. Enquiries into the sex distribution of the persons on the payrolls of reporting establishments were undertaken on a monthly basis commencing Feb. 1, 1946, replacing the annual and the semi-annual surveys of the past few years.

For practical reasons associated with problems of collection, the current enquiries are limited to firms and branches ordinarily employing 15 persons or over. The restriction results in the inclusion of industrial samples of varying size in the monthly surveys, the variation depending upon the organization of the industry in large or in small units; from the equally important geographical aspect, however, much greater uniformity exists in the provincial coverage of total employees. It is important to note that in all cases the coverage is large.

During 1945, the employment index (based on 1926 as 100) declined from a high of 180·4 in January to a low of 168·7 in October, followed by a contra-seasonal upswing at the end of the year. The downward trend in the earlier months was to be expected during the first stages of reconversion from war to peace; it was in this period that the greatest adjustment took place. In 1946, retooling was completed in many factories, and the majority of service men had been discharged from the Armed Forces. The backlog of demand for civilian goods and services replaced the demand for the articles of war. During 1946, seasonal fluctuations were largely wiped out as a result of post-war changes in the labour market, including conversion to a distribution of employees which was much more similar to that prevailing prior to the outbreak of war than in any immediately preceding year. On the other hand, major strikes in Canada and United States, with their resulting labour tie-ups and material shortages, seriously affected the situation during 1946. The index declined slightly from January to March, and then climbed, except for a slight recession in August, to reach a high point of 185·7 in December. It is interesting to note that it was then only 4·8 points below that reported at the date of highest employment, Dec. 1, 1943.

\* Revised under the direction of H. F. Greenway, Director, Labour and Prices Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, by Miss M. E. K. Roughsedge, Chief, Employment Statistics Division.