

During 1947, important gains in recorded employment were made in all provinces. The most pronounced expansion in industrial activity as compared with 1946 took place in British Columbia and Ontario. The employment indexes for these provinces increased by 9.8 p.c. and 8.9 p.c., respectively, from Dec. 1, 1946, to Dec. 1, 1947. Although there was improvement in all major industries in these areas, the upward movement in logging and construction was especially noteworthy in British Columbia, while construction and trade in Ontario showed substantial expansion.

In Quebec, the 1947 employment situation improved generally in all major industries; the gains indicated in construction were particularly marked. The Maritime area was the only region in which employment was curtailed in any of the major industrial groups although logging and construction showed extensive expansion there also.

The trend of recorded employment in the Prairie Provinces continued favourable throughout 1947, except for slight recessions at Feb. 1 and Oct. 1. It is interesting to note that in this area only about three persons in ten on the payrolls of the larger industrial firms in the eight leading industries were engaged in manufacturing, as compared with approximately six in ten in Ontario and Quebec. This difference in distribution largely accounts for the fact that the level of employment in the Prairie area was better maintained in the immediate post-war period than in those provinces where manufacturing provides work for greater proportions of the total working force. The trends in the Prairies therefore followed a more normal course during and after the War. Except for a minor decline in 1945, the index has shown annual increases since 1937.

In 1947, as in the past few years, there was a substantially greater rise in the annual indexes of aggregate payrolls in all areas than in those of employment. This was largely due to the fact that wage and salary adjustments were widespread and extensive. The annual average of the per capita weekly earnings in the major industrial divisions increased considerably over 1946, the advances ranging from 8.8 p.c. in the Maritime Provinces to 27.3 p.c. in British Columbia.

#### 4.—Index Numbers of Employment as Reported by Employers in Economic Areas, by Months, 1946 and 1947, with Yearly Averages 1924, 1929 and 1933-47

NOTE.—These indexes are calculated as at the first day of each month, on the base 1926=100. The relative weights show the proportion of employees reported in each economic area to the total reported by all employers making returns in Canada at Dec. 1, 1946 and Dec. 1, 1947. Averages for the years 1921-32 are given at pp. 613-614 of the 1947 Year Book.

Year and Month	Maritime Provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia	Canada
Averages, 1924.....	96.6	91.3	95.5	92.1	89.4	93.4
Averages, 1929.....	114.8	113.4	123.1	126.3	111.5	119.0
Averages, 1933.....	85.3	82.0	84.2	86.2	78.0	83.4
Averages, 1934.....	101.0	91.7	101.3	90.0	90.4	96.0
Averages, 1935.....	103.7	95.4	103.3	95.2	97.7	99.4
Averages, 1936.....	103.4	100.7	106.7	99.3	101.1	103.7
Averages, 1937.....	121.0	115.4	118.3	99.3	106.8	114.1
Averages, 1938.....	111.5	117.0	113.7	100.0	104.2	111.8
Averages, 1939.....	110.5	120.8	114.3	103.2	107.5	113.9
Averages, 1940.....	122.2	127.9	129.2	109.0	113.3	124.2
Averages, 1941.....	155.0	157.8	160.0	126.6	135.6	152.3
Averages, 1942.....	174.2	186.2	179.4	135.6	164.8	173.7
Averages, 1943.....	182.1	200.0	185.8	141.4	190.0	184.1
Averages, 1944.....	183.1	196.4	181.7	147.0	185.7	183.0
Averages, 1945.....	179.1	183.2	178.4	145.7	175.1	175.1