

Section 7.—Wages and Hours of Labour

Subsection 1.—The Regulation of Wages and Hours of Labour

The regulation of wages and hours of persons in private employment in Canada is within provincial jurisdiction, and all the provinces, except Prince Edward Island, have legislation on the subject. The Nova Scotia *Male Minimum Wage Act, 1945*, has not been proclaimed in force.

In Nova Scotia the minimum wage law applies only to women, while in Ontario, though the Act applies to both sexes, the Orders apply only to women. In Manitoba and Alberta there are separate Orders for men and women and also in British Columbia but in the latter Province certain Orders cover both sexes. In Quebec and Saskatchewan, Orders apply to both sexes. The first two Orders under the *New Brunswick Minimum Wage Act, 1945*, applying to women workers in hotels and restaurants and in shops became effective in 1948. Under the *Newfoundland Labour (Minimum Wage) Act, 1947*, an Order governing bus-drivers in the city of St. John's was issued in September, 1949.

In Quebec, under the *Collective Agreement Act*, hours and wages, and also apprenticeship, vacations with pay and family allowances provisions established by a collective agreement voluntarily entered into by employers and trade unions or groups of employees may be made legally binding by Order in Council on all employers and employees in the industry in the district covered by the agreement, if the parties are sufficiently representative of the industry. At Mar. 31, 1947, 96 agreements had been generalized to apply either throughout the Province or to a certain district. These agreements covered 258,000 work people and 22,000 employers. The agreements in force throughout the Province apply to the following industries: building materials; the manufacture of women's cloaks and suits, dresses, millinery, men's and boys' clothing, men's and boys' hats and caps, fine gloves and work gloves, shoes, furniture, paints, corrugated and uncorrugated paper boxes; the tanning industry and the lithographing industry and elevator construction. Other agreements concern industries in particular cities or parts of the Province including all building trades and printing trades in the large urban centres and many rural districts. In 1948, eight new agreements were extended for the first time and eight affecting longshoremen and municipal employees were repealed.

The *Industrial Standards Acts of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Saskatchewan* and the *Alberta Labour Act* provide that wages and hours agreed upon at a conference of representatives of employers and employees called by the Minister of Labour or his representative may be made legally binding by Order in Council on the industry in the area concerned. The *Nova Scotia Act* applies only to construction work at Halifax, Dartmouth and Sydney.

In Nova Scotia, eight schedules for individual building trades, six in one zone which were renewals of previous schedules and two in another made for the first time in 1948, were in effect at the end of 1948. In New Brunswick, schedules made in 1948 for two building trades in one zone replaced earlier schedules.

In Ontario, there were 130 schedules in force at the end of 1948. Throughout the Province, schedules were in effect for brewery workers, cloakmakers, the men's and boys' clothing industry and the hard furniture industry. In the construction industry, one schedule covered several building trades in one city, and 53 schedules, each for a single trade in a single locality, covered one or more trades in 27 localities. In other industries also, schedules were in effect only for certain zones: for bakers in one zone, for soft furniture manufacturing in one, for coal hoisting in one, for the