

Wages, above \$2,000, were paid in ten industries, in all of which the proportion of skilled workers is high and the proportion of female workers is low. The pulp and paper industry with \$2,443 was the highest in this group, followed by automobiles with \$2,337, non-ferrous metal smelting and refining \$2,218, petroleum products \$2,159, primary iron and steel \$2,149, shipbuilding and repairs \$2,149, railway rolling-stock \$2,114, aircraft \$2,100, iron castings \$2,026 and breweries \$2,023. In seventeen other industries average wages ranged between \$1,500 and \$2,000, while in the remaining thirteen they were below \$1,500. This latter group includes industries made up of a large number of small establishments in which the proportion of female workers is high.

Average Annual, Weekly and Hourly Earnings.—In comparing earnings by provinces or groups, consideration should be given to the type of industries in each case since the distribution of industries has a very definite regional significance. In some industries a labour force possessing deftness and speed or the ability to exercise muscular strength is necessary, in others the labour force must exercise craftsmanship or possess a high degree of technical knowledge. Workers in the latter industries naturally command relatively higher wages than those employed in industries whose employees are routine workers.

The ranking of provinces and industries as regards annual earnings is in many cases different to that of weekly or hourly earnings since the factors of number of weeks worked per year and number of hours worked per week enter into the picture. So that, while in general the same observations apply, a close study of the differences between the averages shown in Tables 20 and 21 will be of value.

The figures for the years 1939 to 1947 given in Table 22 are based on an analysis of a pay-list covering one week in the month of highest employment. For this reason the figures do not refer to any particular month, since the month of highest employment might be May for one firm and October for another; they represent the summation of the different months of highest employment as reported by all the firms. For a particular industry, however, the month of highest employment is more significant as in such case it coincides for a great number of firms engaged in the same industry. The figures for 1946 and 1947 are based on returns received from establishments employing 15 hands or over and refer to the last week in the month of November.

Average weekly earnings of male wage-earners for manufacturing as a whole amounted to \$41.35 in 1947, an increase of \$19.12 or 86.0 p.c. as compared with 1939. Average hourly earnings advanced from 46.2 cents in 1939 to 92.1 cents in 1947, an increase of 99.4 p.c. Annual earnings at \$1,909 were 77.4 p.c. higher.

Female wage-earners received on an average \$23.11 per week in 1947, an increase of \$10.33 or 80.8 p.c. over 1939. Hourly earnings in 1947 at 58.2 cents were 105.6 p.c. higher, while annual earnings at \$1,067 were 72.4 p.c. higher compared with 1939.