

The Canada Labour Relations Board administers provisions concerning the certification of bargaining agents, the writing of a procedure into a collective agreement for the final settlement of disputes concerning the meaning or violation of such agreement, and the investigation of complaints made to the Minister that a party has failed to bargain collectively.

Detailed statistics concerning activities under the Act may be found in the Annual Report of the Department of Labour. In brief, the Canada Labour Relations Board has received 180 applications for certification since Sept. 1, 1948, 87 being granted, 36 rejected, 31 withdrawn and 26 pending as of Sept. 30, 1950.

Of the 71 industrial disputes dealt with under the conciliation provisions of the Act, 43 were settled by conciliation officers and conciliation boards, 14 were not settled, 8 lapsed and 6 were pending at Sept. 30, 1950.

Subsection 2.—Provincial Labour Departments

Labour legislation in Canada is, for the most part, a matter for the Provincial Legislatures since it usually governs, in some respects, the contract of service between employer and employee or the contract between members of a trade union which forms the basis of the union, or it regulates conditions in local work-places. The right to contract is a civil right and the British North America Act, which distributes legislative powers between the Parliament of Canada and the Provincial Legislatures, grants to the provinces power to enact laws in relation to "civil rights" and, with certain exceptions, "local works and undertakings"

In each province, except Prince Edward Island, a special Department or Bureau is charged with the administration of labour laws. In Alberta, the Board of Industrial Relations under the Minister of Industries and Labour administers statutes concerning wages, hours and labour welfare, and the Department of Public Works has charge of factory legislation. Other provinces have Departments of Labour. Legislation for the protection of miners is administered by Departments dealing with mines.

Factory legislation in eight provinces and shops legislation in several provinces prohibit child labour, regulate the hours of women and young persons, and provide for safety and health. Other labour statutes in most provinces include minimum-wage legislation and maximum-hours laws, laws for the settlement of industrial disputes, legislation to ensure freedom of association and promote collective bargaining, and laws to provide for apprenticeship and the licensing of certain classes of workmen. The Industrial Standards Acts in Saskatchewan, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the Alberta Labour Act and the Fair Wage Act in Manitoba enable the wages and hours of work agreed upon by representatives of employers and employed in designated trades to be made legal throughout the trade concerned. The Quebec Collective Agreement Act permits agreements between employers and trade unions to be made binding on all in the industry. Workmen's compensation laws in all provinces are administered by independent boards except in Newfoundland where claims for compensation are settled in the Courts. A new Act in Newfoundland similar to those in all other provinces, and providing for a Workmen's Compensation Board, has not been proclaimed.

For information regarding individual Provincial Departments of Labour, reference should be made to the annual reports of the Departments concerned or to the Deputy Ministers of Labour of the Provincial Governments.