

## Section 6.—Industrial Accidents and Workmen's Compensation

## Subsection 1.—Fatal Industrial Accidents

Statistics of fatal industrial accidents have been compiled by the Federal Department of Labour since 1903. The data are now obtained from provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards, the Board of Transport Commissioners and other government authorities, from departmental correspondents and press reports.

## 26.—Fatal Industrial Accidents, by Industries, 1946-49

Industry	Numbers				Percentages of Total			
	1946	1947	1948	1949 <sup>P</sup>	1946	1947	1948	1949 <sup>P</sup>
Agriculture.....	119	117	94	118	8.6	7.9	6.8	8.8
Logging.....	145	192	171	141	10.5	13.0	12.3	10.5
Fishing and trapping.....	41	30	30	33	3.0	2.0	2.2	2.5
Mining, non-ferrous smelting and quarrying.....	174	190	194	184	12.6	12.9	14.0	13.7
Manufacturing.....	346	265	268	244	25.1	18.0	19.3	18.2
Construction.....	132	169	182	148	9.6	11.5	13.1	11.0
Electric light and power.....	22	40	45	42	1.6	2.7	3.2	3.1
Transportation and public utilities.....	237	289	248	254	17.2	19.6	17.9	18.9
Trade.....	53	57	45	43	3.9	3.9	3.3	3.1
Finance.....	3	8	3	2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.1
Service.....	99	110	106	130	7.2	7.5	7.6	9.7
Unclassified.....	7	8	1	5	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.4
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>1,378</b>	<b>1,475</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>1,344</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Causes of Fatal Accidents.**—Preliminary figures indicate that during 1949, 422 fatal accidents to gainfully employed persons were caused by moving trains, vehicles, etc. Falls of persons resulted in 204 fatalities and by falling objects 159. Other fatal accidents included 148 caused by dangerous substances, 57 by striking against or being struck by objects, 26 by working machines, 23 by hoisting apparatus, 19 by handling objects, 16 by prime movers, 16 by animals, and 3 by tools. Included in the category "other causes" were 251 fatalities of which 132 were due to industrial disease, strain, etc. The number of accidents, fatal and non-fatal, dealt with by the provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards are shown in Subsection 2.

## Subsection 2.—Workmen's Compensation\*

In all provinces legislation is in force providing for compensation for injury to a workman by accident arising out of and in the course of employment, or by a specified industrial disease, except where the workman is disabled for less than a stated number of days. The Acts of all provinces provide for a compulsory system of collective liability but the Newfoundland Act passed in 1950 has not yet been proclaimed in effect. To ensure payment of compensation, each provincial Act provides for an accident fund, administered by the province, to which employers are required to contribute at a rate determined by the Workmen's Compensation Board in accordance with the hazards of the industry. A workman to whom these provisions apply has no right of action against his employer for injury from an accident during employment. In Ontario and Quebec, public authorities, railway and shipping companies, and telephone and telegraph companies are individually liable for compensation as determined by the Board, and pay a proportion of the expenses of administration.

\* More detailed information is given in "Workmen's Compensation in Canada, A Comparison of Provincial Laws", issued by the Department of Labour.