

more than 7 p.c. over the average for 1950 (168.0) and about 4 p.c. over the peak figure in that year (Dec. 1, 179.2). The month-to-month movements in the two years 1950-51 were similar, the index dropping slightly from Jan. 1 to Mar. 1, and rising steadily throughout the remainder of the year.

The 1951 index of employment in manufacturing, averaging 190.0, was at a post-war peak, 7 p.c. above the 1950 figure and 8 p.c. above that for 1949. At its wartime maximum in 1943, the index of factory employment was 196.1 declining to 194.6 in the following year; by 1946 it dropped to 160.0. Since then, the general movement has been upward except for an insignificant recession in 1949. Factories turning out durable manufactured goods in the year under review showed an average increase of 11.8 p.c. over 1950, and the gain in employment in non-durable goods was 2.9 p.c. Widespread improvement was indicated within the former category, most classes showing increased staffs. An exception was the heating and cooking apparatus group, in which the index of employment fell by 1.8 p.c. in 1951. There was particularly marked expansion as compared with 1950 in aircraft and parts, shipbuilding and repairing and aluminum products. In the non-durable goods division, the movements were not so uniform. Reduced employment was indicated in tobacco, soft drinks, leather products, woollen and fur goods, and some other classes. Firms in other branches of the non-durable goods group generally showed moderate improvement over 1950.

Employment in construction reached a new high level in 1951, the index rising by 7.6 p.c. The gain took place in the buildings and structures group, which showed an increase of 10.8 p.c. Within that category, the improvement was largely in industrial construction, due to a considerable extent to defence requirements. The trend in the other non-manufacturing industries for which data are available was also generally favourable in 1951, when new all-time peaks were recorded in many groups.

Employment indexes for the major industries are given in Table 3 and for the provinces in Table 4 by months for 1950 and 1951, with annual averages from 1941. Provincially, the greatest increases in industrial employment in 1951 as compared with a year earlier were recorded in Quebec, Alberta and Ontario, amounting to 8.7 p.c., 7.5 p.c., and 7.5 p.c., respectively. In the period since 1939, a particularly marked rise in employment was shown in Alberta; the 1951 index for that Province was 202.6 compared with 191.0 for Ontario, where improvement was next in magnitude. Development of the oil fields contributed materially to the favourable position of Alberta.

Table 5 gives index numbers of employment in eight cities of Canada. In most of these, a continuation of the upward movement shown in earlier years was noted in both 1950 and 1951. In Quebec and Vancouver, however, the indexes had dropped slightly in 1950 from the year before, but recovered in 1951; in the former, a post-war peak was reached in the year under review, while the Vancouver index was exceeded only by that in 1948. A new all-time high level of employment was recorded in 1951 at Toronto, where the index averaged 195.3, 6.4 p.c. above that of 1950, the previous maximum.