

Benefits first became payable on Jan. 27, 1942, and from that date to Mar. 31, 1951, total benefit payments amounted to \$343,150,001, leaving a balance of \$664,580,377 in the Fund. Reserves of the Fund are invested in Government of Canada bonds and, as at Mar. 31, 1951, the par value of bonds held amounted to \$652,847,500.

WEEKLY RATES OF CONTRIBUTION AND BENEFIT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

Earnings	Weekly Contributions ¹		Value of Weekly Stamp ²	Weekly Benefits ³	
	By Employee	By Employer		Single Person	Person With One or More Dependants
	cts.	cts.	cts.	\$	\$
Less than \$9.00.....	18	18	36	4.20	4.80
\$ 9.00 to \$14.99.....	24	24	48	6.00	7.50
\$15.00 to \$20.99.....	30	30	60	8.10	10.20
\$21.00 to \$26.99.....	36	36	72	10.20	12.90
\$27.00 to \$33.99.....	42	42	84	12.30	15.60
\$34.00 to \$47.99.....	48	48	96	14.40	18.30
\$48.00 or more.....	54	54	108	16.20	21.00

¹ The daily rates of contribution in respect of each class is one-sixth of the weekly rates. ² Unemployment insurance stamps combine both employer and employee contributions. ³ Rates calculated on the average daily contribution for the last 180 days in the two years preceding claim. The daily rate of benefit is one-sixth of the weekly benefit rate.

No benefit is payable during the first eight days of unemployment in a benefit year. After that time, the duration of benefit is related to the employment and contribution history of the employee, the number of days' benefit being equal to one-fifth the number of contribution days during the previous five years, less one-third the number of benefit days in the previous three years. Insurance benefit is paid as a right on fulfilment of the following statutory conditions:—

The payment of not less than 30 weekly (or 180 daily) contributions within two years, while in insured employment; and the payment of at least 60 daily contributions within the immediately preceding 12 months, or 45 daily contributions within the immediately preceding 6 months. (These periods of two years, 12 months and 6 months may be extended under certain circumstances.)

Disqualifications for benefit include: loss of work due to a labour dispute in which the contributor is participating or directly interested; unwillingness to accept suitable employment; being an inmate of any prison or an institution supported out of public funds; refusal to attend a course of instruction or training if directed to do so; residence outside Canada unless otherwise prescribed. Disqualification of a claimant for a period not exceeding six weeks may be made if an employee is discharged by reason of his own misconduct or leaves the employment voluntarily without just cause or refuses suitable employment.

Supplementary benefits at a slightly lower rate are payable to certain classes whose benefits have been exhausted or who are not entitled to ordinary benefit during the period Jan. 1 to Mar. 31 in each year.

Statistics of Unemployment Insurance.*—Benefits under the Unemployment Insurance Act first became payable late in January 1942, but no applications for benefit were received until early in February. Except for unusual periods such as the months following the cessation of hostilities in Europe in the spring of 1945,

* Statistics of unemployment insurance are compiled and published by the Unemployment Insurance Section, Labour and Prices Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, from material supplied by the Unemployment Insurance Commission. A more detailed analysis of these data, by province and sex, is available in D.B.S. publication, *Annual Report on Benefit Years Established and Terminated Under the Unemployment Insurance Act*.