

aspect, however, much greater uniformity exists in the provincial coverage of total employees and, in all cases, the coverage is large. It is estimated that the almost 24,000 firms co-operating in 1952 employed approximately 83 p.c. of the total wage-earners and salaried employees in the industries surveyed.

From 1951, the monthly records of employment, payrolls and man-hours have been grouped according to the Canadian Standard Industrial Classification. More recently the employment and payrolls indexes were recalculated on 1949 averages as 100 p.c. The tables in this Section incorporate classification changes, and all indexes refer to 1949 = 100.

The employment and payrolls indexes published monthly reflect general economic conditions in the country as a whole and also in specific areas, since workers are taken on staff or released by firms in response to demand for their products. As in each successive year since 1947, industrial employment in Canada reached a new all-time high level during 1952. Sustained consumer demand for goods and services, augmented by heavy defence expenditures occasioned by the continuation of hostilities in Korea and by Canada's commitments under NATO, were reflected in the high volume of employment during 1952. Commencement of a number of long-term industrial developments, such as the aluminum undertaking in British Columbia and the Quebec-Labrador iron-ore project, also contributed to the increase in employment during the year. The working time lost in labour disputes in 1952 was considerably higher than in the previous year although the total number of these disputes declined slightly. Work stoppages in the British Columbia logging and lumbering industry as well as in textiles and clothing and in construction contributed to the increase of over 300 p.c. in the number of man-working days lost.

Employment.—There was a moderate increase in employment during 1952, with the average index for the composite of nine non-agricultural industries (1949 = 100) climbing to a new peak of 111.6. The figure for Oct. 1, at 116.4, was the highest ever reached. The rate of increase over 1951, 2.6 p.c., was considerably lower than the rate of upward movement between 1950 and 1951, reflecting the stabilization of employment at a higher level following the accelerating effect of the Korean hostilities on defence expenditures. Month-to-month movements of the employment index during 1952 followed the seasonal pattern with slightly decreased employment between Jan. 1 and May 1, rising steadily thereafter, except for fractional declines in November and December.

Gain in employment were recorded in all major industrial groups with the exception of forestry (chiefly logging) where there was a decrease of 10.6 p.c. from the 1951 level. In manufacturing as a whole, employment rose by 1.3 p.c. over the preceding year, the average increase in durable goods, at 3.9 p.c., outweighing a decline of 1.3 p.c. in the staffs of factories turning out non-durable commodities. Advances in employment over the previous year within the durable goods group were particularly notable in the aircraft and parts industry, where there was an increase of nearly 68 p.c., in shipbuilding and repairing which gained 33 p.c., and in transportation equipment manufacturing which rose by 18 p.c. Recessions in employment were, however, recorded in a number of durable goods industries including heating and cooking appliances, glass and glass products, wood products, saw and planing mills, and furniture. In the non-durable goods division declines in employment were largely concentrated in the textiles group (excluding clothing) and in rubber products.