Section 10.—Strikes and Lockouts*

Since the end of World War II, increased wages and related demands have constituted the central issue in the majority of stoppages. Although the cost-of-living index, which had reached an all-time high at Jan. 1, 1952, commenced levelling off and was lower by the end of the year, the time lost in disputes over wage increases was greater than in 1951. In 1952, this issue was responsible for 64 p.c. of the stoppages, involved 86 p.c. of the workers and caused 94 p.c. of the total idleness, compared with an average for the six-year period, 1946-51, of 57 p.c. of the stoppages, 69 p.c. of the workers and 86 p.c. of the total loss. In 1952, causes affecting working conditions accounted for under 12 p.c. of the total stoppages; union questions, other than for increased wages, caused under 13 p.c. of the total; and discharge of workers, suspensions, refusal to reinstate and employment of particular persons, other than in connection with union questions, were responsible for about 11 p.c. of the total stoppages. Sympathy strikes have been few in number since 1948 and, in 1952, there was only one small stoppage for that reason. Pension plans were among the issues in five stoppages in 1952.

Settlement of 76 of the 222 stoppages in 1952 was brought about by direct negotiations; provincial conciliation affected settlement in 57 cases; civic mediation in two cases; 14 were referred to labour boards, commissioners and umpires; eight were settled by arbitration; 36 by return of workers and replacement, the latter being a factor in eight cases; and 22 were indefinite in result.

51.—Summary Statistics of Strikes and Lockouts, 1943-52

Strikes and Lockouts in Existence in all Industr	es during t
Tir	ne Loss

	Strikes Beginning During the Year	Strikes and Lockouts in Existence in all Industries during the Year						
Year			Em- ployers	Workers Involved	Time Loss			
		Strikes and Lockouts			In Man- Working Days	Average Days per Wage- and Salary- Earner ¹	Average Days per Worker Involved	Estimate of Working Time ¹
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	рc.
1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952	195 196 225 232 147 132 158 257	402 199 197 228 236 154 137 161 259 222	651 400 418 1,299 1,173 674 542 345 646 518	218, 404 75, 290 96, 068 139, 474 104, 120 42, 820 51, 437 192, 153 102, 870 120, 818	1,041,198 490,139 1,457,420 4,516,393 2,397,340 885,793 1,063,667 1,389,039 901,739 2,879,955	0.35 0.16 0.49 1.49 0.77 0.27 0.32 0.40 0.24 0.76	4.77 6.51 15.17 32.38 23.02 20.68 20.68 7.23 8.77 23.84	0·12 0·06 0·17 0·50 0·26 0·09 0·11 0·13 0·08

¹ Based on the number of non-agricultural wage- and salary-earners in Canada.

^{*} A complete review of strikes and lockouts during 1951 will be found in a supplement to the Labour Gazette for April 1952, and for the year 1952 in a special Department of Labour report.