

A new *Blind Workmen's Compensation Act* was passed in 1957 providing special protection to employers of blind workmen. Under the Act, where total compensation to a blind workman exceeds \$50, the Workmen's Compensation Board is to be reimbursed from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the amount in excess of \$50.

**Regulation of Wages and Hours of Labour under Industrial Standards Legislation and the Quebec Collective Agreement Act.**—The Industrial Standards Acts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario and Saskatchewan and the Labour Act of Alberta provide that wages and hours agreed upon at a conference of representatives of employers and employees, called by the Minister of Labour or his representative, may be made legally binding by Order in Council on the industry in the area concerned. The Nova Scotia Act applies only to construction work at Halifax, Dartmouth and Sydney.

In *Nova Scotia*, 13 schedules of hours and wages for individual building trades were in force during the year ended Mar. 31, 1956, including 12 renewals of previous schedules.

In *New Brunswick*, four schedules for individual building trades were in force during the year ended Mar. 31, 1956.

In *Quebec*, under the Collective Agreement Act, hours and wages and also apprenticeship, vacations with pay and family allowances provisions, established by a collective agreement voluntarily entered into by employers and unions or groups of employees, may be made legally binding by Order in Council on all employers and employees in the industry in the district covered by the agreement, if the parties are sufficiently representative of the industry. At Mar. 31, 1956, 99 agreements covering 225,526 workers and 24,224 employers had been generalized to apply either throughout the Province or to a certain district. The agreements in force throughout the Province apply to the following industries: building materials, the manufacture of women's cloaks and suits, dresses, millinery ladies' handbags, men's and boys' clothing, men's and boys' hats and caps, men's and boys' shirts, fine gloves and work gloves, shoes, furniture, paint, corrugated and uncorrugated paper boxes, the tanning industry and the elevator construction industry. Other agreements concern industries in particular cities or parts of the Province including all building trades and printing trades in large urban centres and many rural districts.

In *Ontario*, there were 149 wages and hours schedules in force at Mar. 31, 1956. Throughout the Province, schedules were in effect for brewery workers, cloakmakers, the men's and boys' clothing industry, men's and boys' hats and caps, the millinery industry and the hard furniture industry. In the construction industry one schedule covered several building trades in one city, and 69 schedules, each for a single trade in a single locality, covered one or more trades in 30 localities. Schedules were in effect in other industries also but only for certain zones: bakers, soft furniture manufacturing, taxi drivers, coal hoisting, and the coal industry, each had schedules in one zone, retail gasoline service in four, taxi drivers in one, and barbers had schedules in 64 zones.

In *Manitoba*, Part II of the Fair Wage Act provides similar machinery for fixing wages and hours in any business, trade or undertaking except agriculture. Orders in Council under this legislation have been passed fixing wages and hours in the barbering and hairdressing trades.

In *Saskatchewan*, 19 schedules were in effect at Mar. 31, 1956. The schedule for barbers covered the whole Province; others applied to bakers and bakery salesmen, carpenters, electrical workers, painters, shoe repairers and beauty culture operators in one or more areas.

In *Alberta*, 26 schedules were in effect during 1956. These governed, in one or more areas, bakers and bakery salesmen, certain individual building trades, dairy employees, garage and service-station workers, radio service, laundry and dry-cleaning employees and barbers.