

Nova Scotia.—The *Vacation Pay Act* which came into force on Jan. 1, 1959, provides, for the first time, for an annual vacation with pay of one week for all employees in the province, except independent contractors, domestic servants and persons employed in farming, lumbering and commercial fishing. A vacation stamp system is provided for workers in the construction industry who are not employed regularly by one employer. The vacation pay to be granted is 2 p.c. of the employee's earnings.

New Brunswick.—The *Vacation Pay Act*, passed in 1954 to provide for an annual vacation with pay of one week for workers in the mining and construction industry, was extended effective from June 30, 1958, to cover fish, fruit and vegetable packers.

An amendment to the *Workmen's Compensation Act* increased the rate of compensation for disability from 70 to 75 p.c. of earnings. The Legislature also authorized the Workmen's Compensation Board to spend an increased amount for rehabilitation—\$50,000 a year instead of \$15,000. All widows' pensions being paid according to the lower scales of benefits were raised to the current level of \$50 a month, effective from June 1, 1958.

An amendment to the *Trades Examination Act*, which provides for the examination and certification of tradesmen in certain building trades on a voluntary basis, added the motor vehicle repair (mechanical) trade to the trades covered by the Act.

Ontario.—The *Labour Relations Act* was amended to provide that where a collective agreement is for a term of not more than two years, application for a change in the bargaining agent may be made only during the last two months of its operation. Where the agreement is for a term of more than two years, application may be made during the twenty-third and twenty-fourth months of its operation or during the two months preceding any anniversary date or the two months preceding the termination of the agreement.

The *Trench Excavators Protection Act* passed in 1954 was amended to provide that a trench must be inspected at least once in each eight-hour period as long as any person is working in or near the trench.

An amendment to the *Workmen's Compensation Act* raised the lump sum payable to the widow immediately on the death of the workman from \$200 to \$300. The allowance for burial expenses was also increased from \$200 to \$300.

Manitoba.—An amendment to the *Labour Relations Act* makes the Act, with some modifications, applicable to specified Crown corporations. The amendment sets up a special procedure for dealing with disputes involving employees of Crown corporations after a conciliation officer has tried and failed to effect a settlement. Employees of Crown corporations are prohibited from going on strike where the Lieutenant-Governor in Council has declared that uninterrupted operations are "essential to the health and well-being of the people of the province, or of some of them". The Corporations brought under the Act are: Manitoba Power Commission, the Manitoba Telephone Commission, the Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board, the Winnipeg Electric Company and the Liquor Control Commission and their employees.

An amendment to the *Workmen's Compensation Act* raises compensation to a widow from \$50 to \$65 a month and that of a child living with the widow from \$20 to \$25 a month. This applies to all widows and children receiving compensation regardless of the date on which the death of the workman occurred.

Saskatchewan.—The *Annual Holidays Act* was amended to increase the minimum annual vacation with pay to three weeks each year after five years of service with one employer. For employees with less than five years of service but with at least one year, the vacation with pay remains at two weeks.

The *Hours of Work Act* was amended to authorize the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to issue regulations applicable to any class of employment limiting working time in any one day to 12 hours. The Act does not set absolute limits on hours of work, but provides that time and one-half must be paid for work after eight hours in a day and 44 hours in a week.