

An amendment to the *Collective Agreement Act* permits a provision in a collective agreement in the construction industry prohibiting strikes, lockouts, slowdowns and picketing to be extended by government decree throughout a specified region. If a no-strike provision is included in a decree, the employers and employees concerned would not be subject to the certification, collective bargaining and conciliation sections of the Labour Relations Act for the duration of the decree, with the result that no employer subject to the decree would be obliged to negotiate an individual collective agreement during the period.

An amendment to the *Education Act* entitled "An Act respecting free education and compulsory school attendance" raised the statutory school-leaving age from 14 to 15 years, effective from July 1, 1962.

Ontario.—The *Construction Hoists Act, 1960-61*, which is to be brought into force by proclamation, provides for the regulation, inspection and licensing of hoists used in the construction industry. Sections of the *Municipal Act* giving municipalities authority to pass by-laws regulating elevators, lifts and construction hoists were deleted since these lifting devices are now subject to provincial control under the Elevators and Lifts Act and the Construction Hoists Act, 1960-61.

Amendments were made to the *Energy Act* requiring any person who installs, repairs, services or removes a gas appliance to be registered under the Act or to be supervised by a registered person.

Manitoba.—A *Tradesmen's Qualifications Act* was passed, effective from Feb. 15, 1962, instituting a system by which qualified tradesmen who have not had an opportunity to take apprenticeship courses may secure a certificate of proficiency on the basis of their work experience by passing a prescribed examination. The Act provides for voluntary certification but also authorizes the adoption of a system of compulsory certification by empowering the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to make regulations prohibiting any person from engaging in a trade unless he holds a valid certificate of proficiency. The Minister of Labour is authorized to issue certificates of proficiency on the recommendation of the examining board set up for each trade.

Amendments to the *Department of Labour Act* enable the Manitoba Labour Board to sit in panels. The Board is also given express authority to take a vote of employees with respect to any matter under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Labour.

An amendment to the *Workmen's Compensation Act* raised the ceiling on annual earnings from \$4,500 to \$5,000. In another amendment, the Board is authorized to pay a clothing allowance to compensate an injured workman who has to wear a prosthetic device for the extra wear on his clothing caused by the use of such a device.

Saskatchewan.—The *Employees' Wage Act, 1961* is a comprehensive wage protection law, incorporating some provisions of the former Act and introducing important new features. In addition to specific provisions regarding manner and frequency of wage payment, the Act provides for the prosecution of an employer who issues a cheque in payment of wages which is not honoured by the bank on which it was drawn, and makes a construction contractor liable for the payment of wages to employees of his subcontractors. Another new provision empowers the Minister of Labour to require an employer who has been convicted of failure to pay wages to an employee to furnish a bond or equivalent security for the payment of wages. The Act also provides for investigation of wage claims and collection of unpaid wages by inspectors of the Department of Labour.

The *Wages Recovery Act*, which enables an employee to file a claim for unpaid wages with a magistrate, was amended to provide a more effective means of enforcing a magistrate's order to pay wages found to be due. The magistrate now may, upon the request of the complainant, file a certified copy of the order in the district court, whereupon the order becomes enforceable as an order of the court.