

The *Trade Union Act* was amended to require an employer to negotiate with a union for the settlement of a grievance or dispute which may arise between the time the union first becomes the representative of the employees in a unit and the time of the signing of a first agreement and between the time of the termination of an agreement and its renewal or revision, as well as during the term of an agreement. Another amendment limits the authority of the Labour Relations Board to rescind or amend its orders in cases where a collective agreement is in effect.

The *Employee Pension Plans Registration and Disclosure Act, 1961*, which is administered by the Department of Labour, provides for the registration of employee pension plans and requires every trustee to furnish each employee, employer and employees' organization concerned with a description of the plan and with an annual report. Information gathered concerning such plans will assist in determining whether portable contributory pension plans are practical and desirable.

An amendment to the *Electrical Inspection and Licensing Act* extends the application of the Act to the design of electrical equipment. The Act provides for government regulation of the sale of such equipment and requires it to conform to the Canadian Electrical Code.

The *Radiological Health Act, 1961*, which is to be brought into force by proclamation and to be administered by the Minister of Public Health, is designed to protect radiation workers as well as the general public against radiation hazards. The Act requires the registration of radiation installations and equipment, lays down qualifications of operators, prohibits the employment of expectant mothers and persons under age 18 in work in which there is exposure to ionizing radiation, and provides for the appointment of a Radiological Health Committee to advise the Minister and promote an educational program regarding radiological dangers and protective measures.

Alberta.—The *Workmen's Compensation Act* was amended, implementing the recommendations of a special legislative committee which reviewed the Act in 1960. The amendments raised the ceiling on annual earnings from \$4,000 to \$5,000, and increased benefits in both fatal and disability cases. The allowance for funeral expenses was raised from \$200 to \$250, and provision was made for payment of a sum not exceeding \$50 for a burial plot. The lump sum payable to a widow was increased from \$150 to \$200, a widow's monthly pension from \$60 to \$75, and the monthly pension to a dependent child under age 16 from \$30 to \$40. The maximum additional monthly allowance payable at the discretion of the Board to an orphan child under age 18 was raised from \$10 to \$25. The increases were made applicable to existing pensioners, irrespective of the date of the accident. Another amendment increased the minimum weekly payment of compensation for temporary total or permanent total disability from \$25 to \$35 or average earnings, if less.

The minimum period during which a workman must have been exposed to silica dust in his employment in the province in order to qualify for compensation for silicosis was reduced from three years to 450 work shifts (the equivalent of two years) preceding disablement. Changes were also made with respect to subsistence allowances payable to workmen undergoing treatment away from home.

New sections provide for the payment of additional compensation to a workman in receipt of a permanent partial disability pension who becomes entitled to temporary total compensation during a period of further treatment in respect of the original injury, and permit a workman to receive compensation for an injury sustained in work which he is directed by his employer to do but which is outside the scope of his ordinary employment.

British Columbia.—A number of changes were made in the *Labour Relations Act*. A trade union is now prohibited from making contributions to a political party from union funds, and must make a statutory declaration that it is complying with this provision before an employer may make deductions from wages on behalf of the union under the check-off provisions of the Act. Unions are also required to make copies of an audited financial statement available to their members annually. The provisions permitting the