

automobiles and trucks, 15 by tractors and loadmobiles and 12 by hoisting or conveying apparatus. Exposure to dust, poisonous gases and poisonous substances caused 86 fatalities and contact with electric current was responsible for 65. Conflagrations, explosions and exposure to hot substances caused 60 deaths and 22 were the result of over-exertion, strain, etc.

### Subsection 2.—Workmen's Compensation\*

In all provinces legislation is in force providing for compensation for injury to a workman by accident arising out of and in the course of employment, or for disablement caused by a specified industrial disease, except where the workman is disabled for fewer than a stated number of days. The Acts of all provinces provide for a compulsory system of collective liability on the part of employers. To ensure payment of compensation, each Act provides for an accident fund, administered by the province, to which employers are required to contribute at a rate determined by the Workmen's Compensation Board in accordance with the hazards of the industry. A workman to whom these provisions apply has no right of action against his employer for injury from an accident during employment. In Ontario and Quebec, public authorities, railway and shipping companies, and telephone and telegraph companies are individually liable for compensation as determined by the Board and pay a proportion of the expenses of administration. A federal Act provides for compensation for accidents to Federal Government employees according to the conditions laid down by the Act of the province in which the employee is usually employed. Seamen who are not under a provincial Workmen's Compensation Act are entitled to compensation under the Merchant Seamen Compensation Act.

In all provinces, free medical aid is given to workmen during disability. Compensation is payable in all provinces for anthrax and for poisoning from arsenic, lead, mercury and phosphorus, and silicosis is compensated under certain conditions. Other diseases compensated vary according to the industries of the provinces.

**Scope of the Workmen's Compensation Acts.**—The Acts vary in scope but in general they cover construction, mining, manufacturing, lumbering, transportation and communications and the operation of public utilities. Undertakings in which not more than a stated number of workmen are usually employed may be excluded, except in Alberta and British Columbia.

**Benefits.**—Each Act provides for a waiting period, i.e., a minimum period of time during which a workman must be disabled from earning full wages in order to qualify for compensation. In Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta the waiting period is one day. Compensation is not payable when a workman is off work only for the day on which the accident occurs but if he is disabled for a longer time compensation begins from the day following the accident. The waiting period in British Columbia is three days, in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick four days, and in Quebec and Ontario five days. Where a disability continues beyond the waiting period, compensation is payable from the date of the accident. The waiting period does not restrict the right of the workman to medical aid which, under all the Acts, is given from the date of the accident.

Burial expenses are paid to the amount of \$400 in Quebec, \$300 in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Ontario, \$250 in Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, and \$200 in Manitoba. In all provinces an additional sum is allowed for transporting the workman's body.

A widow or invalid widower or a foster mother with children under the age limit receives a monthly payment of \$100 in Saskatchewan, \$90 in British Columbia, \$75 in Newfoundland, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta, \$65 in Prince Edward Island, and \$60 in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In addition, a lump sum of \$300 is paid in

\* More detailed information is given in the Department of Labour publication *Workmen's Compensation in Canada, A Comparison of Provincial Laws*.