from 24.7 p.c. in 1946 to 23.4 p.c. in 1953 and then rose to 29.1 p.c. in 1962. During the 1953-62 period, the participation rate for the female group 25-44 years of age rose from 23.1 p.c. to 29.7 p.c. and for the 45-64 age group from 17.2 p.c. to 29.4 p.c. In 1962, women in the labour force numbered 1,789,000, about half of whom were married (excluding widowed, divorced and separated). Total employment in that year averaged 6,217,000, an increase of 33.2 p.c. over 1946. The number of men employed (4,487,000) was 24.3 p.c. higher and the number of women employed (1,730,000) was 63.7 p.c. higher.

Between 1946 and 1962, employment in agriculture dropped from 1,186,000 to 653,000, a decline of 44.9 p.c. On the other hand, employment in non-agricultural industries increased by 59.9 p.c. from 3,480,000 to 5,564,000 and the number of paid workers employed in non-agricultural industries rose by 66.5 p.c. from 2,990,000 to 4,978,000. Important changes also occurred in the distribution of employment among industries. In 1962, the goods-producing industries accounted for 45 p.c. and the service-producing industries for 55 p.c. of total employment compared with 60 p.c. and 40 p.c., respectively, in 1946. The most notable shift was in agriculture. In 1946, about one in four employed persons worked in agriculture whereas in 1962 the proportion was one in ten. In other primary industries the proportion employed also declined substantially but in manufacturing it remained about the same. In all other industry groups the proportion employed was higher in 1962 than in 1946. In the later year, almost one out of every two employed women worked in service industries as compared with one out of every three in 1946.

On an annual average basis, unemployment as a percentage of the labour force fluctuated widely during the period, ranging between 2.2 p.c. in 1947 and 7.2 p.c. in 1961; it averaged 5.9 p.c. in 1962. Throughout the period, unemployment rates were substantially lower for women than for men.

The number of persons 14 years of age or over not in the labour force averaged 5,616,000 in 1962 compared with 3,950,000 in 1946, an increase of 42 p.c. Housewives and students together constituted more than 80 p.c. of the total in the later year; the number of women keeping house increased by almost one third during the period and the number of students more than doubled.

3.—Percentage Distribution of the Population 14 Years of Age or Over in the Labour Force and Non-labour Force Categories, by Sex, 1946 and 1953-62

Note.—Comparable figures for 1947-52 are given in the 1962 Year Book, pp. 710-711. Newfoundland included from 1950 only.

	Population (14 years of age or over)	Percentage Distribution of the Population 14 Years of Age or Over							
Year		Labour Force				Not in Labour Force			
		Employed				Women	Persons		
		Agri- culture	Non- agri- culture	Unem- ployed	Total	Keeping House	Going to School	Other	Total
	Males								
	'000	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
1946	4,400	23.4	58.7	3.1	85.2	•••	5.5	9.3	14.8
1953 1954 1955 1956 1957	5,188 5,290	16.1 16.2 14.8 13.6 12.7	64.0 61.8 63.3 65.4 65.2	2.8 4.2 4.0 3.2 4.4	82.9 82.2 82.1 82.2 82.3	•••	5.6 5.8 6.0 6.2 6.3	11.5 12.0 11.9 11.6 11.4	17.1 17.8 17.9 17.8 17.7
1958. 1959. 1960. 1961. 1962.		11.6 11.2 10.6 10.3 9.7	63.4 64.3 63.6 62.9 64.1	6.7 5.6 6.6 6.8 5.5	81.7 81.1 80.8 80.0 79.3	•••	6.8 7.3 7.6 8.1 8.6	11.5 11.6 11.6 11.9 12.1	18.3 18.9 19.2 20.0 20.7