

is begun on a trench which is more than four feet deep, the owner or contractor must notify the inspector who is required to ensure that the provisions of the Act are complied with.

Manitoba.—The *Fair Employment Practices Act, 1953*, prohibits discrimination by an employer in regard to employment, or by a trade union in regard to membership, on grounds of race, national origin, colour or religion. The Act applies generally in the Province to employers of five or more persons, but non-profit educational, social, religious or charitable organizations and domestic servants employed in private homes are excluded. An advertisement in connection with employment may not contain any specification as to race, national origin, colour or religion. A complaint of discrimination may be filed by the aggrieved person with a designated officer in the Department of Labour, and the complaint will be investigated; the Minister has authority to appoint an industrial inquiry commission to recommend any action necessary and to make the action effective. A 10-day period is provided for, wherein the Minister's order may be appealed to the Court of Queen's Bench.

Amendments to the *Workmen's Compensation Act* provide that compensation for disability is to be computed on the basis of 70 p.c. of average earnings instead of 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ p.c. The burial allowance is increased from \$150 to \$200; the monthly allowance for a dependant child from \$12 to \$20 and for an orphan child from \$20 to \$30. Widows receiving compensation according to earlier scales of benefit will be brought up to the current level of \$50 a month. The minimum compensation payable to a dependent widow and one child is raised from \$12.50 a week to \$70 a month, and to a widow and two or more children, from \$15 a week to \$90 a month.

The *Hours and Conditions of Work Act* was made to apply to the northern mining communities of Snow Lake and Lynn Lake; hours of work are limited to eight a day and 48 a week for men (44 a week for women) unless paid at time and one-half the regular rate.

The *Fire Departments Arbitration Act* passed in 1954 provides for arbitration of disputes between a municipality and its firefighters. It applies only where the union representing the firefighters does not have the right under its constitution to call a strike. The award of an arbitration board is binding on both parties, and strikes and lockouts are prohibited.

Saskatchewan.—In 1953, amendments to the *Workmen's Compensation (Accident Fund) Act* increased the funeral allowance from \$175 to \$250.

An amendment to the *City Act* relating to disputes involving members of the police force provides for submission of a dispute to a board of arbitration authorized to make an award binding on both parties—but only where the constitution of the policemen's union contains an undertaking not to go on strike. The *Fire Departments Platoon Act* was amended to make similar provisions for the settlement by arbitration of disputes involving full-time firefighters.

The *Gas Inspection and Licensing Act*, effective Jan. 1, 1954, requires a person who installs gas equipment or works as a gasfitter to hold a licence under the Act.

In 1954, locomotive engineers and maintenance-of-way employees of the railroads, formerly covered by an individual liability statute, elected to come under the *Workmen's Compensation (Accident Fund) Act*.