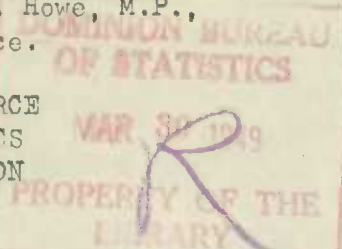


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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS SECTION
OTTAWA - CANADA



ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS AT FEB. 1, 1949.

(These data are subject to revision).

Dominion Statistician:	Herbert Marshall
Director, Labour and Prices Division:	H.F. Greenway
Chief, Employment Statistics Section:	M.E.K. Roughsedge

There was a further substantial contraction in activity in the major industrial groups at the beginning of February, lowering the advance index number of employment to 191.3. The Jan. 1 figure, also on the 1926 base as 100, was 196.0. Abnormal weather conditions, particularly in British Columbia, contributed to the downward movement, which is in accord with the trend shown at Feb. 1 in eight of the years since 1938. The latest percentage loss, which amounted to 2.4 p.c., was quite similar to that indicated at Feb. 1, 1948, when the situation had also been affected by unusual climatic conditions. The index number then stood at 189.3. The most recent figure is the highest in the record for midwinter.

Curtailment as compared with a month earlier was reported in all provinces. The declines in this comparison varied from 1.5 p.c. in Ontario and 1.8 p.c. in Quebec, to 5.5 p.c. in British Columbia, 6.9 p.c. in Saskatchewan, and 7.8 p.c. in Prince Edward Island. The indicated levels of employment at Feb. 1, were higher in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and Alberta than at the same date of last year, but in the remaining provinces they were lower. Industrially, the advance tabulations indicate that employment generally in manufacturing was in practically the same volume as at Jan. 1, although there were widespread variations in different branches of the industry. Logging, construction and trade reported substantial reductions in most provinces.

In spite of the falling-off in employment at the beginning of February, there was an increase of 1.5 p.c. in the weekly salaries and wages disbursed by the co-operating establishments as compared with the holiday week of Jan. 1, while as compared with Feb. 1 of last winter, there was a gain of 11.8 p.c. in the latest index number of weekly payrolls. The advance figure of average weekly earnings in the eight major industrial groups^{1/} at the beginning of February, 1949, was \$42.77, as compared with \$41.10 at Jan. 1, and \$38.63 at Feb. 1, 1948.

The advance index of employment in manufacturing in Canada at Feb. 1 was 202.7, unchanged from the Jan. 1 figure. At the beginning of February of last year the index was slightly lower, at 200.7. The expenditures in weekly salaries and wages in the larger manufacturing establishments rose by 4.3 p.c. as compared with Jan. 1, when the situation had been affected by the year-end holidays, inventories, etc. The index number of payrolls was 13.1 p.c. above that at Feb. 1, 1948. The earnings of persons employed by the larger manufacturing establishments at Feb. 1, 1949, averaged \$44.11, as compared with \$42.28 at Jan. 1, 1949, \$43.72 at Dec. 1, 1948, and \$39.38 at Feb. 1, 1948. The latest figure is the highest in the record.

^{1/}See footnote on page 2.

DEC 61

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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Advance Indexes^{1/} of Employment at Feb. 1, with Comparisons as at
Jan. 1, 1949, and Feb. 1, 1948.

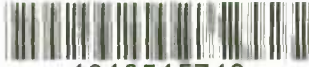
(1926=100)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Feb. 1, 1949</u>	<u>Jan. 1, 1949</u>	<u>Feb. 1, 1948</u>
Prince Edward Island	139.9	151.8	170.2
Nova Scotia	172.3	178.2	182.4
New Brunswick	164.4	177.6	177.4
Quebec	194.7	198.2	193.6
Ontario	203.1	206.1	198.6
Manitoba	157.2	162.4	152.6
Saskatchewan	147.0	158.0	148.3
Alberta	197.4	201.8	167.4
British Columbia	181.8	192.4	190.3
Canada - Eight Leading Industries	191.3	196.0	189.3
Canada - Manufacturing	202.7	202.7	200.7

^{1/}The above data are based on the advance tabulation of statistics received from establishments usually employing 15 persons and over in the following major industrial divisions: manufacturing, logging, mining, communications, transportation, construction and maintenance, trade and certain service groups, mainly hotels, restaurants and laundries and dry-cleaning plants. The figures are subject to change, as a result of the arrival of revised or delayed returns during the period of tabulation. The monthly bulletin giving in some detail the latest statistics of employment, payrolls and average earnings will be issued some days hence.

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