iblished by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce

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

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

(These data are subject to revision).

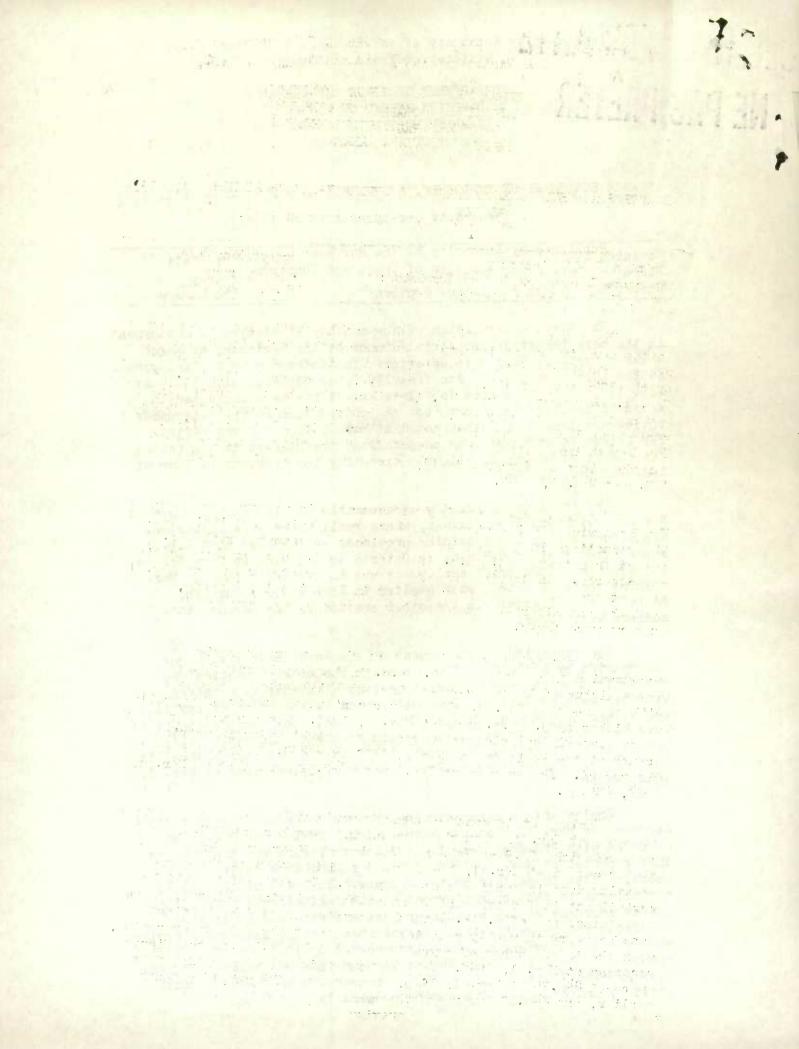
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The advance tabulation of the monthly statistics of employment in the more important industrial groups at the beginning of March shows a further decline in activity. The index number of employment, on the 1926 base as 100, stood at 189.2, as compared with 190.5 at Feb. 1. A reduction from Feb. 1 to Mar. 1 has been indicated in seven of the last ten years, but the contraction at the date under review was larger than that noted at Mar. 1 in a lengthy period. The latest index number was nevertheless the highest in the record for the first of March, slightly exceeding the previous maximum of 188.9 at Mar. 1, 1948.

The trend was generally unfavourable in all provinces except New Brunswick and Saskatchewan, where small gains were indicated. The reductions in the remaining provinces as compared with Feb. 1 ranged from that of 0.5 p.c. in Ontario to 1.2 p.c. in Nova Scotia and Alberta. Industrial employment was in greater volume at Mar. 1 than at the same date a year earlier in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta. In the other provinces, the advance index numbers were lower.

The recession in employment at the date under review was accompanied by a decline of 0.2 p.c. in the weekly salaries and wages disbursed by the co-operating establishments as compared with the week of Feb. 1. The most recent index number of payrolls was higher by 9.5 p.c. than at Mar. 1, 1948. The advance figure of average weekly salaries and wages in the eight major industrial groups at the beginning of March, 1949, was \$43.17, the highest in the record. The average at Feb. 1 was \$42.92, and that at Mar. 1, 1948, \$39.50.

Employment in manufacturing throughout Canada showed a minor decrease at Mar. 1, when the advance index number was 202.6, as compared with 202.9 at Feb. 1. The latest figure was the same as that recorded at Mar. 1, 1948, but was higher than at the corresponding date in earlier post-war years. In spite of the slight curtailment in factory employment at the beginning of March, there was an increase of 0.5 p.c. in the amounts expended by leading manufacturers in weekly salaries and wages at the date under review, when the index number of payrolls exceeded by 10.3 p.c. the figure recorded at Mar. 1, 1948. The weekly earnings of their employees averaged \$44.34 at Mar. 1, 1949, as compared with \$44.17 a month earlier, and \$40.23 twelve months previously.



Advance Indexes 1/ of Employment at Mar. 1, with Comparisons as at Feb. 1, 1949, and Mar. 1, 1948.

(1926=100)

Area	Mar. 1, 1943	Feb. 1, 1949	Mar. 1, 1948
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia	$139.1 \\ 170.4 \\ 165.5 \\ 191.1 \\ 201.9 \\ 156.1 \\ 146.3 \\ 192.1 \\ 179.5 $	139.9 172.4 16 ¹⁴ .7 193.0 202.8 157.3 146.2 194.4 181.3	171.2 169.0 173.4 193.4 199.3 150.6 147.7 177.2 188.1
Canada - Eight Leading Industries	189.2	190.5	188.9
Canada - Manufacturing	202.6	202.9	202.6

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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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