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EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS SECTION
OTTAWA - CANADA

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

(These data are subject to revision).

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
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| Director, Labour and Prices Division: | H.F. Greenway |
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Employment in the major industrial divisions showed further curtailment at the first of April, according to the preliminary tabulation of the monthly returns for that date. On the 1926 base as 100, the advance index in the eight leading industries was 187.6, as compared with 188.8 at Mar. 1, and 186.6 at Apr. 1, 1948.

Heightened industrial activity as compared with a month earlier was reported in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Improvement in the weather was mainly responsible for the considerable increase in employment in British Columbia, where the situation at the date of the last report had been seriously affected by shortage of power and other conditions associated with unfavourable weather conditions. The trend was downward in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba; seasonal curtailment in logging operations was the most important factor in the reductions in the first three of these provinces. The moderate losses in Manitoba were largely brought about by industrial disputes, together with a shrinkage in employment in transportation.

Accompanying a decline of 0.7 p.c. as compared with Mar. 1 in the working forces of the larger industrial establishments, was a decrease of 0.6 p.c. in their aggregate weekly salaries and wages. As compared with Apr. 1, 1948, there was a slight rise in the index of employment, while that of payrolls showed an increase of 11.7 p.c. The average weekly earnings at the date under review stood at \$43.31, as compared with \$43.27 a month earlier, and \$39.04 at Apr. 1 of last spring.

In manufacturing, the advance index of employment, at 203.1, was insignificantly higher than that of 203.0 at Mar. 1, and slightly exceeded the index of 202.0 recorded at Apr. 1, 1948. The weekly disbursements of the larger factories in salaries and wages rose by 0.2 p.c. in the month, and by 13 p.c. as compared with a year ago, when the earnings had been affected by the Easter holidays. The advance figure of per capita weekly earnings in manufacturing stood at \$44.49, as compared with \$44.39 at Mar. 1, and \$39.60 at Apr. 1, 1948. The two most recent figures are the highest in the record.

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

(1926=100)

| <u>Area</u> | <u>Apr. 1, 1949</u> | <u>Mar. 1, 1949</u> | <u>Apr. 1, 1948</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Prince Edward Island | 164.3 | 139.1 | 163.7 |
| Nova Scotia | 173.2 | 170.3 | 170.7 |
| New Brunswick | 160.5 | 164.8 | 160.3 |
| Quebec | 184.7 | 190.2 | 187.3 |
| Ontario | 200.6 | 201.8 | 197.7 |
| Manitoba | 155.5 | 156.4 | 151.1 |
| Saskatchewan | 146.9 | 145.9 | 148.8 |
| Alberta | 193.9 | 192.3 | 179.8 |
| British Columbia | 188.0 | 179.6 | 190.8 |
| Canada - Eight Leading Industries | 187.6 | 188.8 | 186.6 |
| Canada - Manufacturing | 203.1 | 203.0 | 202.0 |

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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