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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY PAYROLLS, MARCH, 1954.

(These data are subject to revision)

The trend of industrial employment was slightly retrogressive at Mar. 1, when the index showed a decline of 0.6 p.c. from Feb. 1, conforming to the movement indicated at the beginning of March in 12 of the last 15 years. The latest index, at 106.6 on the 1949 base, was 3.2 p.c. lower than at Mar. 1, 1953.

On the whole, curtailment was noted in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Alberta and British Columbia, where there were increases of 6.7 p.c., 0.9 p.c. and 0.7 p.c., respectively, as compared with a month earlier. The reductions elsewhere indicated ranged from 0.1 p.c. in Nova Scotia to 1.3 p.c. in Manitoba. The loss in Quebec amounted to 0.6 p.c., and in Ontario to 0.7 p.c.

Accompanying a slackening in industrial employment generally at the beginning of March was an advance of 0.9 p.c. in the reported weekly wages and salaries as compared with the week of Feb. 1. The latest industrial composite payroll index was fractionally higher than at Mar. 1, 1953, previously the maximum for that date. The advance figure of per capita weekly earnings rose to a new peak of \$59.28 at the date under review. A month earlier, the average was \$58.47, and that at Mar. 1, 1953, \$57.40.

Employment in manufacturing throughout Canada was a little quieter at Mar. 1. The advance index number, at 108.1, was 0.2 p.c. lower than at Feb. 1, and 4.1 p.c. below the Mar. 1, 1953, figure of 112.7. The weekly payrolls disbursed by the co-operating manufacturers on or about the date under review, however, were greater by 0.8 p.c. than in the preceding survey, although they were slightly lower than at Mar. 1 of last year. The weekly wages and salaries averaged \$61.17, a new high, as compared with the Feb. 1 per capita of \$60.60, and that of \$59.25 at Mar. 1, 1953.

Prepared in the Employment Section of the Labour and Prices Division.

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Advance Index Numbers^{1/} of Employment and Payrolls, Mar. 1, 1954, with Indexes
for a Month and a Year Earlier. (1949=100)

| Area | Employment | | | Payrolls | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Mar. 1 1954 | Feb. 1 1954 | Mar. 1 1953 | Mar. 1 1954 | Feb. 1 1954 | Mar. 1 1953 |
| Newfoundland | 112.9 | 113.4 | 117.8 | 170.0 | 165.8 | 163.8 |
| Prince Edward Island | 102.4 | 96.0 | 103.7 | 132.6 | 127.6 | 140.0 |
| Nova Scotia | 95.2 | 95.4 | 97.9 | 128.7 | 126.0 | 128.4 |
| New Brunswick | 97.0 | 97.6 | 98.6 | 131.3 | 129.4 | 130.1 |
| Quebec | 105.1 | 105.7 | 109.7 | 145.9 | 144.8 | 147.1 |
| Ontario | 110.1 | 110.8 | 112.9 | 152.6 | 152.1 | 151.1 |
| Manitoba | 99.6 | 100.9 | 102.5 | 132.3 | 133.3 | 131.0 |
| Saskatchewan | 108.6 | 109.5 | 105.7 | 146.0 | 145.2 | 136.1 |
| Alberta | 119.3 | 118.3 | 122.7 | 163.2 | 159.6 | 157.8 |
| British Columbia | 98.1 | 97.5 | 102.1 | 138.4 | 133.7 | 139.9 |
| Canada - Composite Index | 106.5 | 107.0 | 110.0 | 147.5 | 146.2 | 147.0 |
| Canada - Manufacturing | 108.1 | 108.3 | 112.7 | 151.2 | 149.9 | 151.9 |

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

| | Mar. 1 1954 | Feb. 1 1954 | Mar. 1 1953 |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Newfoundland | \$56.51 | \$54.90 | \$52.19 |
| Prince Edward Island | 43.62 | 44.80 | 45.32 |
| Nova Scotia | 50.57 | 49.45 | 49.05 |
| New Brunswick | 51.21 | 50.15 | 50.25 |
| Quebec | 57.06 | 56.26 | 54.98 |
| Ontario | 61.38 | 60.75 | 59.56 |
| Manitoba | 56.36 | 56.05 | 54.53 |
| Saskatchewan | 55.69 | 54.93 | 53.58 |
| Alberta | 60.74 | 59.93 | 57.76 |
| British Columbia | 64.39 | 62.61 | 62.59 |
| Canada - Composite Figure | 59.23 | 58.47 | 57.40 |
| Canada - Manufacturing | 61.17 | 60.60 | 59.25 |

^{1/}The above data are based on advance tabulations of statistics received from establishments usually employing 15 persons and over, in the following major industrial divisions: logging, mining, manufacturing, construction, transportation, storage and communication, public utility operation, trade, finance, insurance and real estate, and service, mainly hotels, restaurants, laundries, dry cleaning plants, business and recreational services.

The monthly bulletin giving detailed statistics of employment, payrolls and average weekly earnings will be issued some days hence.