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ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS,
MARCH, 1957.

(These data are subject to revision)

Industrial employment slightly declined at Mar. 1, but the index on the 1949 base was 118.0, the highest on record for the time of year, 4.2 p.c. over the Mar. 1, 1956, figure. The loss in the month, amounting to 0.5 p.c., was accompanied by an increase of 0.7 p.c. from Feb. 1 in the weekly payrolls, which were 11.2 p.c. higher than a year earlier. The per capita weekly wages and salaries, at \$67.48, established a new maximum. The average in the week of Feb. 1 was \$66.67, and at Mar. 1, 1956, \$63.20.

On the whole, industrial activity was lower in all provinces except Manitoba and British Columbia. The rise in employment in the former was small, while that in the latter amounted to 1.3 p.c., largely due to heightened activity in forestry and wood products which had been affected by poor weather when the preceding survey was made. Employment in Quebec fell by 0.3 p.c. mainly due to seasonally slackened operations in logging. The reduction of 0.5 p.c. in Ontario took place largely in manufacturing, with some declines in forestry and trade.

The weekly payrolls were higher than a month earlier in most provinces. The exceptions were the Atlantic Provinces and Ontario in which the falling-off was slight. Except in Prince Edward Island, the indexes were higher than in the week of Mar. 1, 1956. Per capita earnings rose from Feb. 1, 1957, in all provinces, and were also generally above their levels a year earlier.

Employment in manufacturing showed only a slight change at Mar. 1, falling by 0.1 p.c. from the preceding survey week. The advance index number, at 115.0, was 2.4 p.c. higher than at Mar. 1, 1956. Weekly payrolls disbursed by the co-operating manufacturers on or about the date under review increased by 0.4 p.c. in the month, and by 8.5 p.c. as compared with Mar. 1 of last year. Wages and salaries averaged \$69.57, a new high, as compared with the Feb. 1 per capita of \$69.23, and that of \$65.57 at Mar. 1, 1956.

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

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Advance Index Numbers^{1/} of Employment and Payrolls at Mar. 1, 1957, with Indexes for the Preceding Month and a Year Ago. (1949=100)

Area	<u>Employment</u>			<u>Payrolls</u>		
	Mar. 1 1957	Feb. 1 1957	Mar. 1 1956	Mar. 1 1957	Feb. 1 1957	Mar. 1 1956
Newfoundland	114.6	119.7	119.5	185.5	189.6	177.1
Prince Edward Island	95.3	113.2	125.7	146.8	156.6	165.6
Nova Scotia	97.8	99.9	100.4	147.1	147.8	140.7
New Brunswick	103.1	106.4	105.4	160.9	161.8	153.4
Quebec	117.6	118.0	112.1	186.9	184.2	166.2
Ontario	120.9	121.5	115.5	190.2	190.4	171.5
Manitoba	106.2	106.1	102.8	156.7	155.8	144.6
Saskatchewan	112.6	113.6	107.1	176.0	175.3	154.5
Alberta	144.1	145.4	132.0	226.2	225.1	194.9
British Columbia	115.4	113.9	110.9	184.0	177.3	165.6
Canada - Composite Index	118.0	118.6	113.2	186.0	184.7	167.3
Canada - Manufacturing	115.0	115.1	112.3	182.9	182.2	168.5

Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

	Mar. 1 1957	Feb. 1 1957	Mar. 1 1956
Newfoundland	\$60.74	\$59.44	\$55.58
Prince Edward Island	52.02	46.74	44.40
Nova Scotia	56.37	55.40	52.43
New Brunswick	59.05	57.51	55.01
Quebec	65.34	64.16	60.83
Ontario	69.67	69.41	65.67
Manitoba	62.76	62.46	59.79
Saskatchewan	64.70	63.84	59.87
Alberta	69.75	68.80	65.53
British Columbia	72.84	71.09	68.13
Canada - Composite figure	67.48	66.67	63.20
Canada - Manufacturing	69.57	69.23	65.57

^{1/} The above data are based on an advance tabulation of statistics received from establishments usually employing 15 persons and over, in the following major industrial divisions: logging, mining, manufacturing, construction, transportation, storage and communications, 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 earnings will be issued some days hence.