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## ADVANCE STATEMENT ON EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY EARNINGS, MARCH, 1958.

(These data are subject to revision)

The Mar. 1 industrial composite index of employment for Canada was 113.0 (1949=100), down slightly from the index for Feb. 1 (113.7). The drop is not attributable to seasonal influences, so it appears that the underlying downward movement in industrial employment which began last fall continued through to Mar. 1. However, declines in seasonally-adjusted data in the first part of 1958 were not as great as in the last few months of 1957. Average weekly wages and salaries were \$69.96 at Mar. 1, up 71 cents from the figure recorded for the previous month. Seasonal factors appear to have accounted for the greater part of this increase. The industrial composite payroll index for Mar. 1 was 184.8, and was therefore higher than that for Feb. 1 (183.8). However, the Mar. 1 payroll index was below that for the corresponding month in 1957, as was the index for Feb. 1.

Employment in Quebec and the Prairie Provinces showed normal seasonal changes from Feb. 1 to Mar. 1. In Ontario and Nova Scotia, declines were recorded although seasonal factors tend to occasion increases. Drops in employment in construction in the two provinces contributed to the overall declines. On the other hand, employment rose in Newfoundland and New Brunswick, although normal seasonal factors tend to lead to employment declines. An early start on spring logging operations in Newfoundland and an increase in railway employment in New Brunswick were important causes for the increases. A rise in employment in the pulp and paper industry in British Columbia which followed settlement of a major strike fully accounted for the increase in overall industrial employment in that province.

Employment increased from Feb. 1 to Mar. 1 in manufacturing and mining, but declined in the other major industry divisions. The increase in employment in manufacturing is wholly attributable to the rise in employment in the pulp and paper industry in British Columbia. As no seasonal increase occurred in employment in manufacturing, it appears that the underlying downward movement which had been established previously continued through to Mar. 1. Month-to-month employment movements in most other industry divisions followed normal seasonal patterns. However, employment in forestry dropped less than normal; there are indications that good weather permitted an early start on spring operations in some areas. Employment in mining increased from Feb. 1 to Mar. 1, although seasonal factors tend to occasion a decrease over the period.

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

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Advance Index Numbers of Employment at Mar. 1, 1958, with Provincial  
Averages of Weekly Wages and Salaries  
(1949=100)

Area and Industry	Employment Indexes			Average Weekly Wages and Salaries		
	Mar. 1	Feb. 1	Mar. 1	Mar. 1	Feb. 1	Mar. 1
	<u>1958</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>
				\$	\$	\$
<u>A. Provinces</u>						
Newfoundland	109.2	108.4	115.1	62.24	61.67	60.76
Prince Edward Island	100.2	94.2	95.5	50.23	52.71	51.55
Nova Scotia	90.8	92.3	97.8	59.42	58.44	56.35
New Brunswick	95.3	93.8	103.3	59.28	57.63	59.03
Quebec	112.3	113.2	117.6	67.41	66.64	64.96
Ontario	116.2	117.0	120.9	72.35	72.08	69.64
Manitoba	102.7	103.9	106.1	65.71	64.87	62.78
Saskatchewan	113.0	114.4	112.6	67.52	66.48	64.68
Alberta	139.8	142.2	144.2	73.06	71.56	69.79
British Columbia	108.7	106.9	115.9	75.39	73.59	72.84
Canada - Composite Index	113.0	113.7	118.1	69.96	69.25	67.36
Canada - Manufacturing	108.3	107.9	115.0	72.02	71.61	69.29

B. Industrial Division Employment Indexes

	Mar. 1	Feb. 1	Mar. 1
	<u>1958</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>
Forestry (chiefly logging)	71.5	76.3	108.4
Mining	126.8	126.2	124.7
Manufacturing	108.3	107.9	115.0
Construction	101.7	105.9	112.7
Transportation, storage and communication	110.7	111.0	113.8
Public utility operation	131.8	132.2	124.0
Trade	126.4	127.7	126.1
Finance, insurance and real estate	146.6	147.5	141.3
Services <sup>1</sup>	126.8	128.3	125.1
Industrial composite	113.0	113.7	118.1

Note:- These data are based on an advance tabulation of statistics received from establishments usually employing 15 persons and over. The monthly report giving more detailed area and industry statistics of employment, payrolls and average weekly earnings will be issued some days hence.

<sup>1</sup>/Mainly hotels, restaurants, laundries, dry cleaning plants, business and recreational services.