

66.7 per cent in 1957, an increase of 6 per cent. This shift has been attributed mainly to a sudden decline in agriculture's share (which has a very low ratio of wages to total income); continuation of the long-term decline in nonfarm unincorporated business; and a relative employment increase in the Government and services industries (which have a very high ratio of wages to total income). Between 1957 and 1962, however, the labour share showed remarkable stability.

These statistics give only an overall view of wage and price movements in the Canadian economy from 1949 to 1962. As such, they may make interesting comparisons with similar global series in other countries, which I believe will be presented in other papers during this session. The statistics, however, do not indicate the manner in which wages and prices are related, for three main reasons.

First, the various series are not comparable, because they have been developed, collected, and tabulated for different purposes. Thus, it would be difficult to interpret intelligently and with any degree of certainty the ways in which the changes in various series are related. For example, wages and prices are related in certain ways, but because the two series, as recorded in table 1, were derived differently, it would not be possible to say very much about their relation. Movements in one series may be totally

1/ The author expresses his thanks to Messrs. John Millons and Winston Chambers for their help.

2/ See pages 22-24.