

in charitable institutions and non-profit hospitals. Employment in agriculture and horticulture became insurable effective April 1, 1967.

Insured workers make contributions on a scale graded according to wages and ranging from 20 cents to \$1.40 a week. Employers contribute a sum equal to that paid by the employee and the Federal Government contributes an amount equal to a fifth of the combined employer and employee contributions. Rates of benefit are related to the insured person's contributions and range from \$13 to \$42 a week for a person without dependants or, for a person with one or more dependants, from a minimum of \$17 a week to a maximum of \$53 a week.

To qualify for regular benefit, a person must have at least 30 contribution weeks in insurable employment during the 104 weeks immediately preceding his claim, eight of which must have been made in the immediately preceding 52 weeks or since his last benefit period began, whichever is the shorter period. Moreover, if a claimant had a previous benefit period in the preceding 104 weeks, at least 24 of the 30 contribution weeks must be in the 52 weeks preceding his new claim or since the commencement date of his last claim, whichever is the longer period. The number of weeks of regular benefit that may be authorized varies from a minimum of 12 to a maximum of 52. Claimants must be employed, capable of and available for work.

An unemployed person who is unable to fulfill the contribution requirements for regular benefit may qualify for seasonal benefit, which may be paid in the period from the week in which December 1 occurs to the week in which May 15 occurs, if he has at least 15 contribution weeks since the previous March or if he had a claim that terminated subsequent to the week in which the preceding May 15 occurred.

Workmen's Compensation

In each province a workmen's compensation act protects workers affected by work-connected disabilities and diseases in industries covered by the legislation. While there is some variation by province, the legislation applies to most industries and occupations. Major groups of workers not covered are farm-workers (except in Ontario), domestic servants, casual workers, employees of most financial, insurance and professional undertakings, and employees of certain service industries in some provinces. Compensation benefits include cash awards, all necessary medical aid, hospital care and physical restoration services, and vocational services to re-establish the injured worker in gainful employment. Cash awards take the form of time-loss compensation for temporary disability, disability pensions for permanent disability, or survivors' benefits to widows or dependants in case of fatal accidents or disease. Benefits to the worker are calculated on 75 per cent of earnings subject to conditions of maximum annual earnings of from \$5,000 to \$7,000, as fixed in the individual acts. Costs are met from employer contributions to accident funds at rates fixed by the workmen's compensation boards according to the hazard involved in each class of industry.

Social Assistance

Financial aid is provided through provincial or municipal departments of welfare to persons in need, including needy mothers with dependent children, disabled persons, elderly persons, widows, unemployed persons and persons whose