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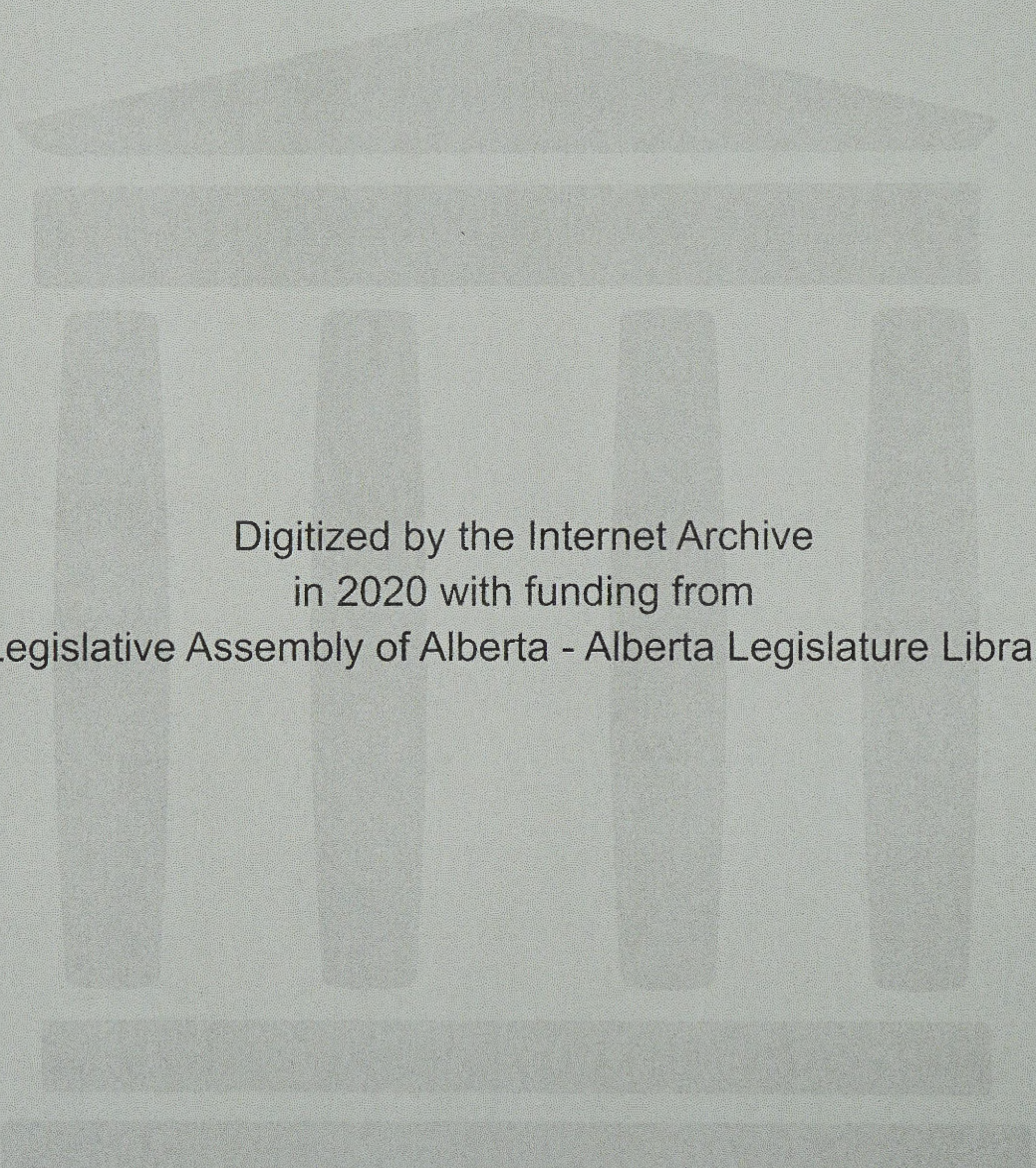
ALBERTA DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

ANNUAL REPORT

1968

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

ALBERTA. LABOUR
1968



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1968 IN BRIEF - a summary

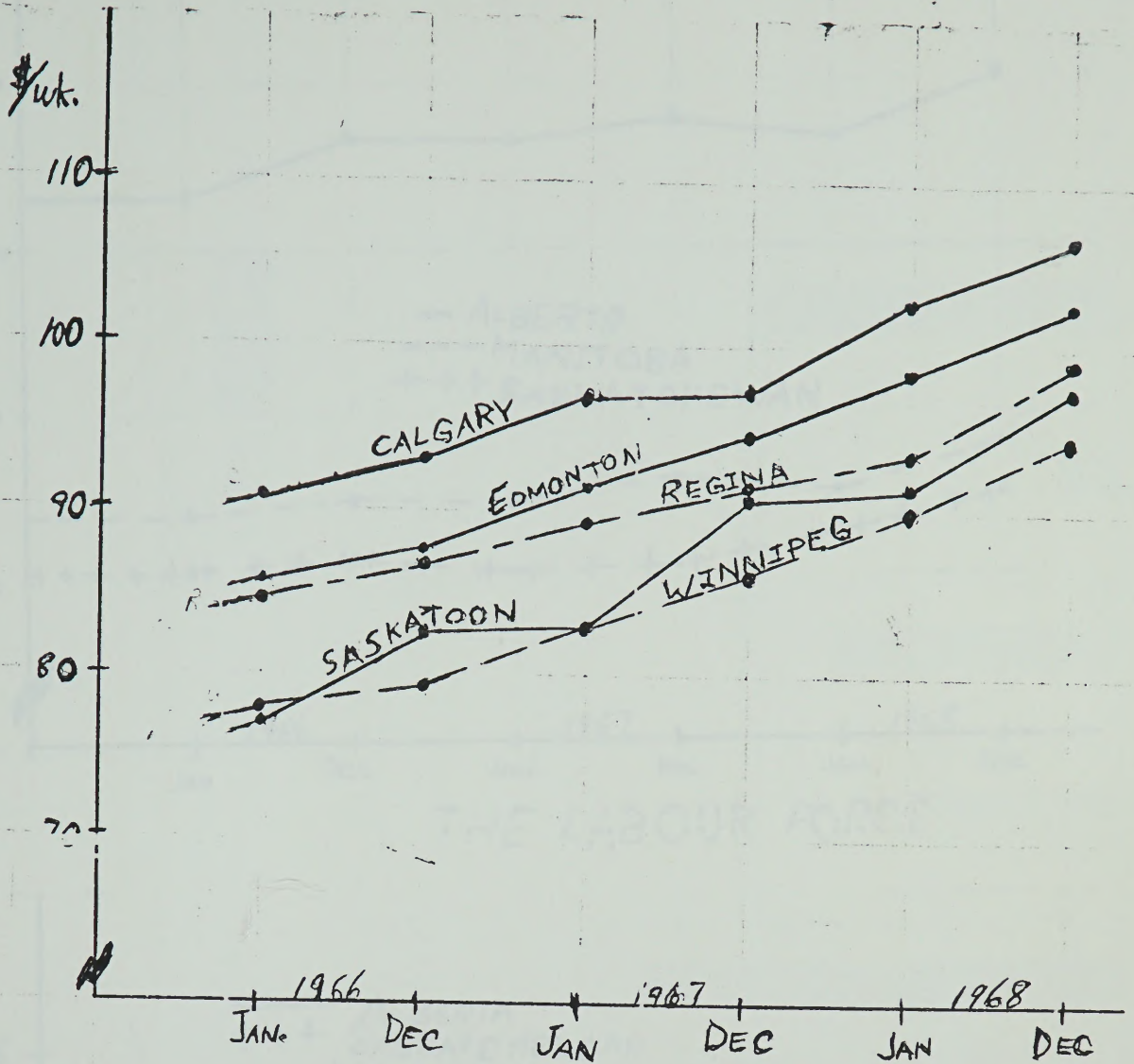
Labour Force 1968

The Alberta labour force was estimated at approximately 600,000 in 1968; an increase of about 3% over 1967 figures. Total potential labour force (all persons 14 years of age and over) showed a comparable increase in the period 1967 - 1968. A male - female ratio of 3 - 1 was held constant during 1968, as in the previous year. The participation rate (the number of employees compared to the total ^{potential} labour force) also remained steady; approximately 60%. Unemployment, although experiencing slight monthly fluctuations during the year, maintained a twelve-month average of close to 2.5% for both 1967 and 1968. Along with Saskatchewan this is one of the most favourable rates in Canada.

Earnings

(1) Average Weekly Wages and Salaries

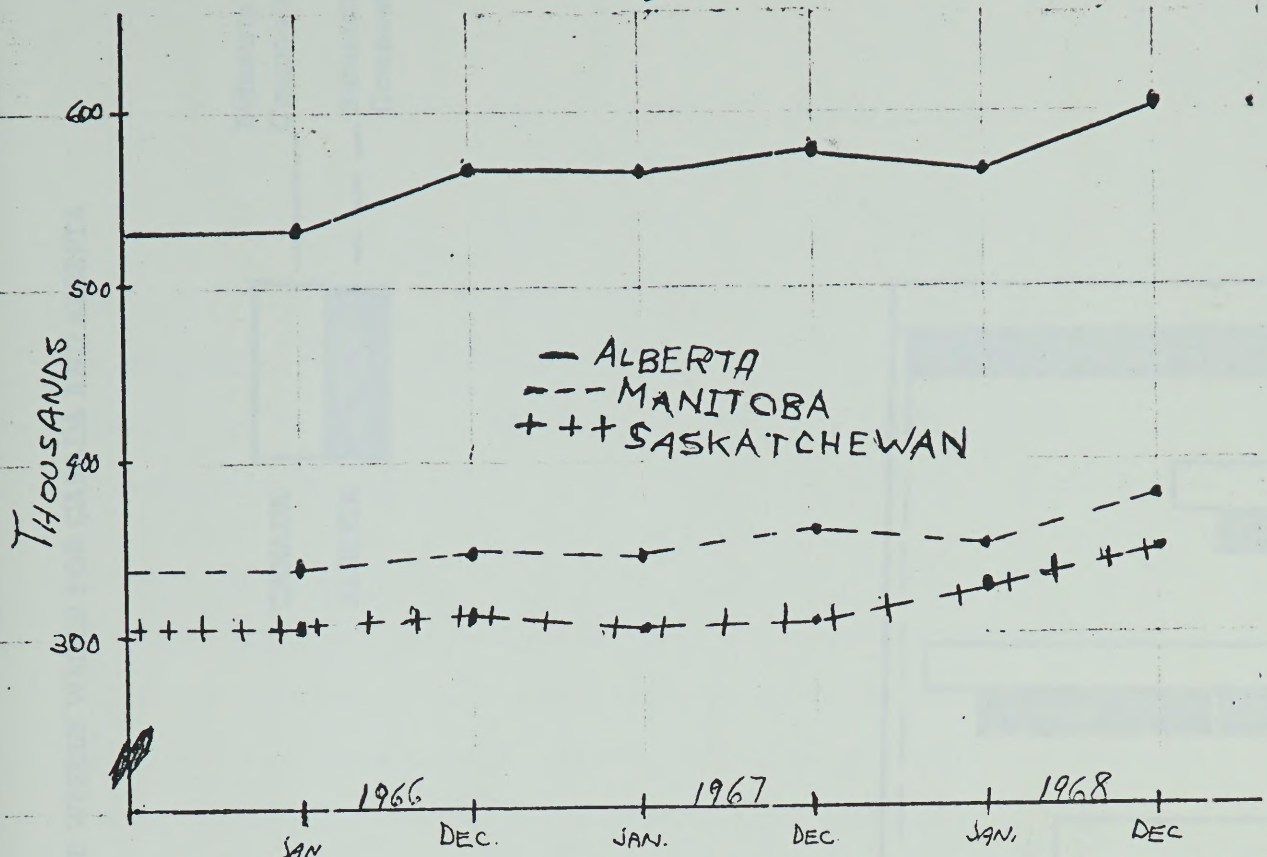
During 1968 all major industries in the Province recorded increases in wages and salaries. The following industries: mining, construction, manufacturing, transportation, communication, trade, finance, and the service industry reported wages and salaries above the all-industry average. The industries showing the largest increase (7%) ^{were} ~~was~~ transportation, communication, and other utilities. Trade, service, ~~and~~ finance, insurance, & real estate also reported gains over 1967, but did not rise above the all-industry average, which also recorded a slight increase. Both mining and finance suffered a slight ^{fall} ~~decrease~~ in the rate of increase during the period 1967-68 as opposed to 1966-67, while the construction, trade, and service industries enjoyed a slight advance in the rate of increase.



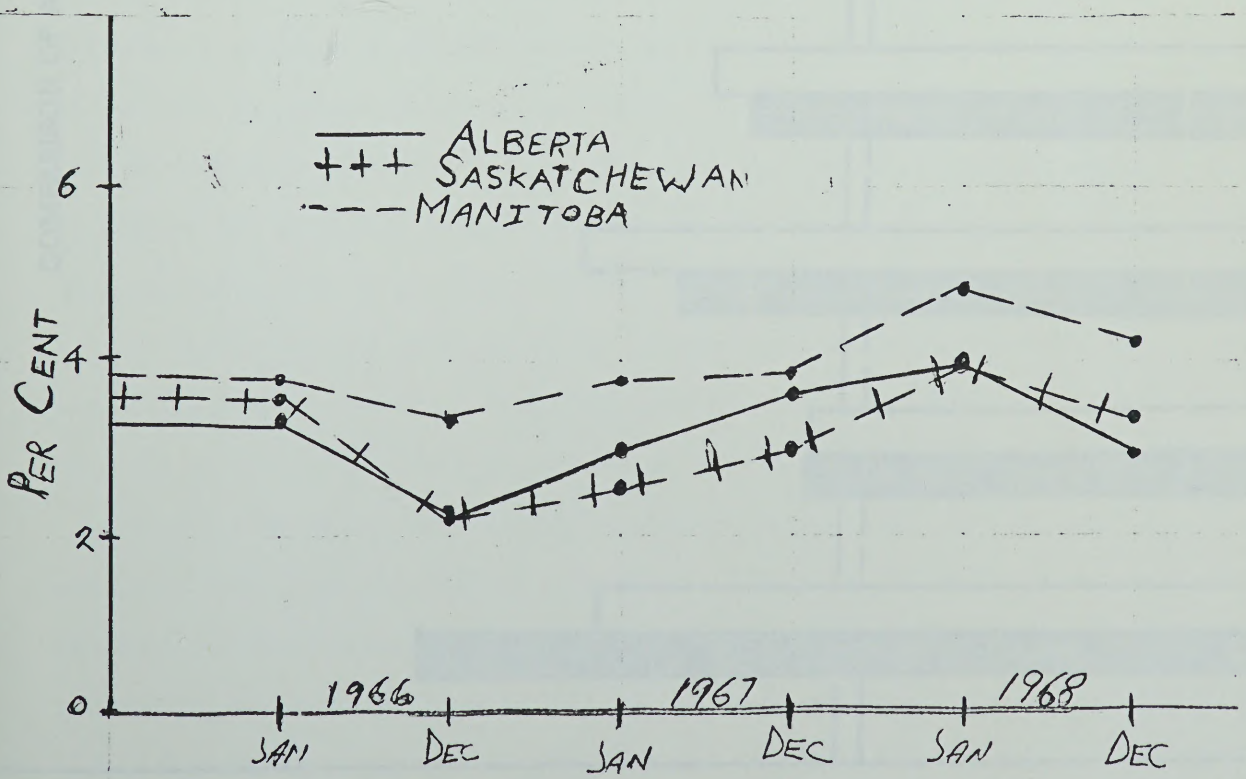
AVERAGE WAGES and SALARIES

(2) Average Manhours and Hourly Earnings

Average weekly hours remained steady in 1968, at the same level as 1967 between 40-42 hours per week, except the construction industry, which registered a slight decline. Hourly earnings showed a general increase of close to 5% with the highest rate being paid in the mining industry. The increase in hourly wages did not succeed in advancing the rate in manufacturing above the all-industry average as this increased also.

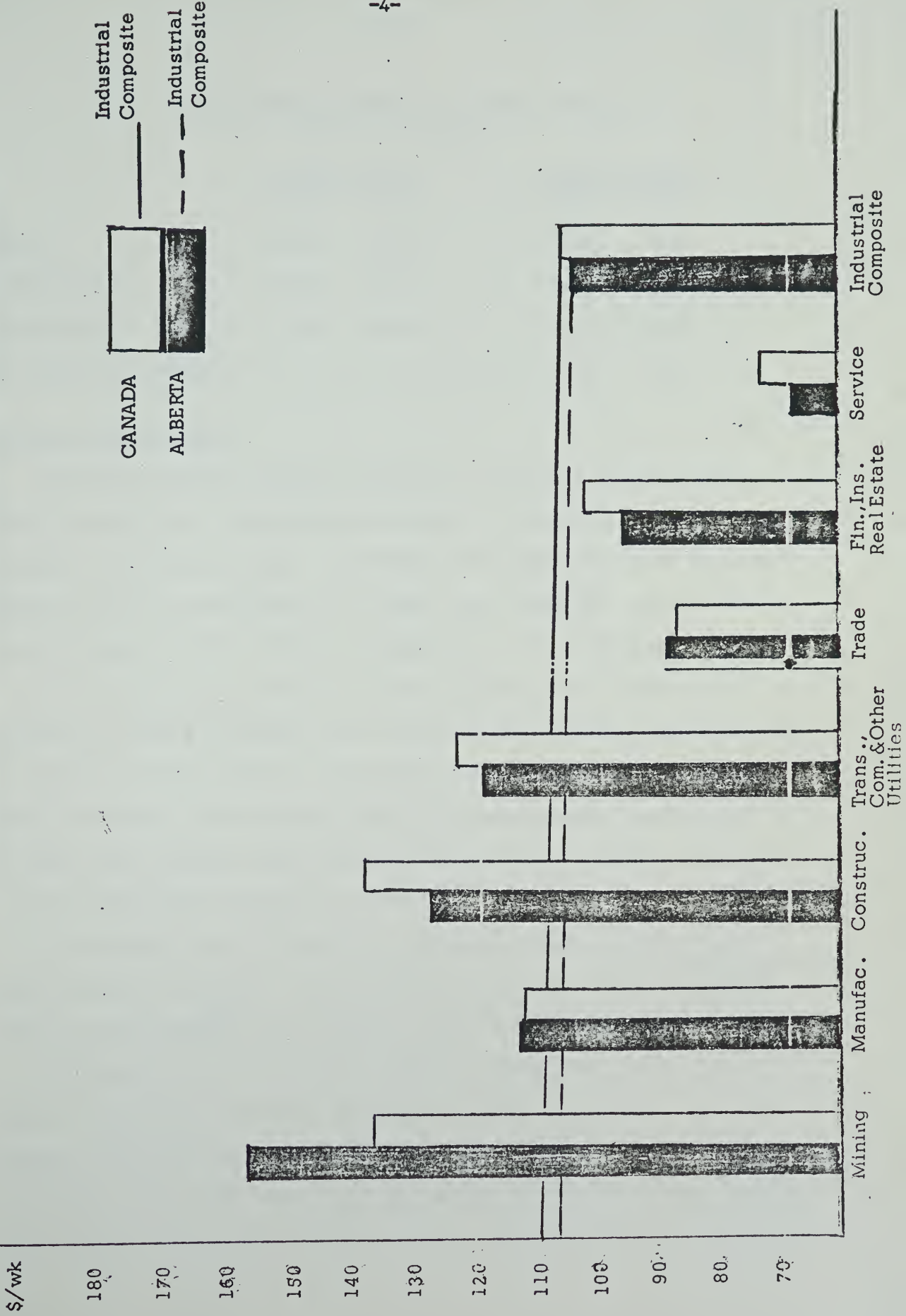


THE LABOUR FORCE



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

COMPARISON OF AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES FOR CANADA AND ALBERTA



AVERAGE WEEKLY MANHOURS AND HOURLY EARNINGS

(as of June 30/68)

	<u>Average Hours</u>		<u>Hourly Earnings</u>	
	1967	1968	1967	1968
Mining	40.0	39.8	3.18	3.34
Manufacturing	39.8	40.1	2.47	2.66
Construction	42.6	40.9	2.82	3.05
All-industries average	-----		2.82	3.02

Economic Overview - 1968

Generally speaking, economic activity has remained brisk in Alberta during the past year. Construction activity, as in past years continues to highlight the Alberta economy. In Edmonton and Calgary plans were announced during the year for construction of several major buildings. In numerous smaller centers as well, projects of significance were undertaken.

The outlook for the petroleum industry continues to be optimistic. Exploration activity in Alberta was on the increase this year, and is expected to continue if present plans are followed. Interest is building in the potential oilfields of the MacKenzie Delta, and the Northwest Territories. It appears the projected energy needs of the 1970's are the main reason for the intensification of petroleum exploration.

As in other parts of the prairies agricultural harvesting operations were delayed by wet weather. This affected the quality of crops much more than the quantity, ^{thus} ~~and~~ this had an adverse effect on farm income levels.

Mortgage money was more readily available during 1968, as both the chartered banks, and the Federal Government through the Central Housing and Mortgage Association were making increased funds accessible. There was a residential construction boom in both the Calgary and Edmonton areas. Housing starts for the third quarter of 1968 exceeded totals for the whole year of 1967.

Alberta accounted for a major share of the construction increase in all three Prairie Provinces.

The outlook for 1969 appears optimistic in all sectors of the Alberta economy. Continuing advances are expected to be registered in construction, petroleum exploration, and manufacturing. With the imminent opening of the new Alberta Resources Railway, and the emergence of the new town of Grande Cache in northwest Alberta, the mining industry should experience a boom having repercussions on the economy of the whole of Alberta. This, in addition to an excellent agricultural forecast, should make 1969 a record-breaking year for the Province of Alberta.

BOARD OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

The Board of Industrial Relations has jurisdiction over minimum wage, hours of work, holiday pay, overtime, and other conditions of work. The Alberta Labour Act administered by the Board grants to labour full collective bargaining rights, and provides the procedure for settlement of disputes ~~through settlement of disputes~~ through negotiation, conciliation, and conciliation board. This Act applies to all employers and workers alike except farm labourers, domestic servants in private homes, and municipal constables.

Labour standards schedules, agreed to by employers and employees, and providing for uniform wages and working conditions in a given industry are administered by the Board.

<u>Labour Standards -</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Number of inspections	49,230	51,088	60,707
Number of business places inspected	13,050	13,122	15,652
Number of employees affected	95,193	96,478	116,365
Number of complaints received	10,069	7,627	9,932
Employees affected by settlements	7,433	7,627	7,056

NOTE: As in previous years, a number of "repeat" offenders were charged, and it appears in most instances that present penalties are not a deterrent. It is felt that consideration should be given to legislation bringing this type of employer under the Provisions of the Industrial Wages Security Act, or a similar requirement to post security for wages.

Conciliations

Prior to the taking a strike-vote all parties concerned in a dispute must submit their case to a conciliation officer, whose duty it is to try and effect a mutually satisfactory agreement between the disputants. Following these discussions the conciliator can either tender his recommendations for an equitable settlement, OR, if he thinks it necessary, he can request the Minister of Labour appoint a conciliation board. This board consists of one

representative of management, one representative of labour, and a third person (impartial) mutually acceptable to the disputants.

During 1968 a total of 244 disputes required the services of a conciliation officer. Of these, 90 were settled at the conciliation officer stage, with 93 disputes being referred to a conciliation board. After complying with the requirements (Alberta Labour Act) 58 disputes evolved into strike actions, and 1 resulted in a lockout.

Dispute Settlement Activities (as of December 31, 1968)

CONCILIATIONS

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Applications for conciliation	161	182	244
Settled	76	104	90
Pending	6	20	49
Withdrawn	5	1	8
To conciliation board	74	57	93
Lapsed	0	0	0
Conciliator's recommendations			
Rejected	0	0	2

CONCILIATION BOARDS

Unanimous Awards	26	23	28
Majority Awards	15	7	28
Pending	2	2	5
Accepted by both parties	4	4	18
Rejected by both parties	21	31	12

STRIKES & LOCKOUTS

Strikes	7	15	58
Lockouts	0	0	1
Employees involved	1201	1053	2044
Employers involved	7	17	59

Certifications

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Granted	131	184	150
Refused	40	64	50
Returned	4	14	13
Withdrawn	5	3	8
Pending	16	9	22
Number of Board Meetings	43	65	40

Before a union is allowed to legally function as the bargaining agent for any specified group of employees, certification must be obtained from the Alberta Board of Industrial Relations. The granting of such certification is pursuant to a number of pre-requisites and subject to strictly enforced regulations. If at any time, the majority of employees represented by a union does not feel its interests are being justly served by that union, it may make application to the Board of Industrial Relations for the revokation of that union's certification. If revokation is granted that union may no longer serve as the bargaining agent for the aforementioned unit of employees.

HUMAN RIGHTS BRANCH

The Human Rights Act provides that no person or class of persons shall be denied accomodation, services, or facilities available in places to which the public is customarily admitted, or to be discriminated against in such places or denied occupancy. Similar protection is extended people seeking employment, and in employment as well as in respect of membership in trade unions and employer organizations. The administrator is responsible for administering the Act, developing educational programs, and promoting the principles established by the Act.

Complaints

The Human Rights Branch received 42 complaints in 1968. A significant proportion of these ultimately turned out to be beyond the scope of the Act however, as they had no reference to race, religion, etc.

Complaints Received

Formal complaints (registered by aggrieved party) - 32

Informal complaints (registered by third party) - 10

Total - 42

Complaints settled:

Formal - 10

Informal 4

Total 14

Complaints beyond jurisdiction of Act:

Formal - 18 (6 referred to appropriate authority)

Informal - 5 (no further action taken)

Areas in Which Complaints Registered

Employment - 18

Trade unionism - 3

Public accomodation - 0

Public services - 5

Non-public accomodation - 11

Miscellaneous - 5

Total - 42

Education

The Human Rights Branch staff are also integrally involved in a committee recently established upon the recommendation of the Minister of Education to review school text books for the purpose of amending material which is clearly biased against or detrimental to the native people of Canada. This committee, which includes several native persons, has met on two occasions and has recommended the deletion of numerous prejudicial materials from the recommended lists for courses of study. Currently the committee is focusing its attention upon the inclusion of textual materials which would afford valid recognition to the place of native peoples in the making of the Canadian nation.

Employment and Media

The program launched to assist business and other concerns in the updating of their application for employment forms through the removal of any items which are obviously or potentially discriminatory proceeded steadily along. The Human Rights Branch was more than pleased with the excellent degree of co-operation it received in the implementation of this project from those engaged in hiring practices.

Early in 1968 the Branch corresponded with news media throughout the Province with a view to the removal of ethnic references in news stories where such are not pertinent to the account. And here again, on the whole, we have been exceptionally pleased by the responsible manner in which press, radio and television have responded to this challenge to treat all with equity in their news reporting.

Other Activities

About two and half times as many public addresses were given by Human Rights Branch personnel during 1968 as in the year previous. And more than twice as many workshop-style programs were conducted with interested groups as compared with 1967. Human Rights displays continued

to garner publicity far afield for the features incorporated in the Act. Early 1968 realized the publication of the third pamphlet "The Alberta Human Rights Act and the Individual" - a popularized version of the Act's protective measures. This pamphlet has been well received by the public and has since been translated into the French, Cree, Chinese, Czechoslovakian and Ukrainian languages. An extensive number of orders were also received for the multi-coloured human rights placard for display within places of business; while copies of the illuminated human rights display scroll were forwarded to each school and each major government building throughout the Province during the latter part of 1968. Numerous requests for this item have also been received from churches and other organizations. The Branch also continued to fill the many requests for material from students throughout the Province and elsewhere who were engaged in studies related to the human rights field. During the month of March, a radio campaign involving Branch staff plus a number of public personalities was conducted throughout Alberta and resulted in some four dozen requests for further information.

THE PENSION BENEFITS ACT BRANCH

This Branch is responsible for the administration of the Pension Benefits Act and regulations there under which require that every pension plan for employees in Alberta must be registered. The Act also sets forth certain provisions with which a pension plan must comply to be eligible for registration.

The Act also provides for an annual report to be made by the employer, thus enabling the Branch to examine each plan periodically to verify that financial obligations are being met.

The intent of this legislation is to ensure that the benefits promised in pension plans will be available when employees retire, and that older employees with long service will reap some benefit from their service with the employer.

Registrations

The Pension Benefits Act was passed by the Alberta legislature and declared binding as of January 1, 1967. In the two years that have since elapsed, recognition of the beneficial aspects of the legislation has grown.

The main provisions of the Act relate to the vesting of all pension funds. Application of these provisions was extended to the following two areas:

- (1) All pension funds established after January 1, 1967.
- (2) All contributions after January 1, 1967 to funds established prior to January 1, 1967.

In the two years since the Act was effected 2,476 pension plans have been submitted for registration, of which 1,791 have been examined, resulting in 1,688 being accepted and issued Certificates of Registration.

Examination of Annual Information Returns, submitted in accordance with

the requirements of the Act, indicates that generally the financial details shown compare favorably with the amounts estimated to be necessary to fund the plans, but, there are some cases where this is not so. In dealing with these it is apparent that in several instances the sales techniques of some pension plan agents includes a great deal of emphasis on the tax advantages, but very little (if any) of the funding obligation under the Act. The employers concerned have been advised of the requirements of the Act in such cases, and in certain circumstances this has caused a reduction of the benefits under the plan to a level the employer can afford.

Cooperation between the provinces having this legislation, and the Federal government is excellent, and has produced uniformity in most matters concerning pension plans. Continuing cooperation is being received from insurance companies, pension consultants, trust companies, and others connected with pension field.

Highlights of 1968

(1) In June of 1968 Alberta hosted the Fifth Interprovincial Conference on Uniform Pension Legislation. Discussions centered on current issues affecting the pension field.

(2) An agreement providing for the reciprocal registration, audit, and inspection of pension plans was entered into with Ontario and Quebec.

(3) The matter of a reciprocal arrangement between Alberta, and the Federal Government reached its final stage, and should be concluded soon.

(4) ^{In} On October 1968, the Department of National Revenue issued revised rules in respect of pension plans. These revisions ^{rendered two changes:} ~~covered two purposes:~~

- (a) Wider coverage of pensions plans was made virtually mandatory.
- (b) Made the registration of all pension plans compulsory (in the Province of origin).

(5) Discussions were entered into with Quebec, Ontario and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics regarding the amalgamated production of statistics.

It is expected agreement shall be reached shortly.

APPRENTICESHIP AND TRADESMEN'S QUALIFICATION BRANCH

The Apprenticeship and Tradesmen's Qualifications Branch is responsible for the development of skilled manpower through an organized system of training, and the establishment of adequate trade standards within the framework of the Apprenticeship and Tradesmen's Qualifications Act. Its administration, therefore, carries with it the task of arranging for adequate school training and supervising on-the-job training, and the general welfare of the apprentice, including his rates of pay and allowance. It includes further the development of training course outlines, the examination of apprentices and tradesmen, and issuance of certificates indicating the level of proficiency of the candidates examined.

The Apprenticeship Board

The membership of the Board consists of two representatives of labour, and two representatives of management, as delineated by the Apprenticeship Act. Liaison with educational institutions is maintained through the attendance at Board Meetings of the Principals of the Southern and Northern Alberta Institutes of Technology.

The Board has held 6 meetings this year. It has investigated requests for designation of Floorcovering Mechanics, Electrical Mechanics, and Installation Mechanics, and recommended the designation of these trades. It is now studying a request from the Insulation Industry. Recommendations of Provincial Advisory Councils have been dealt with, and there are plans to study and formulate a policy on school accommodation and to examine the apprenticeship and tradesmen legislation.

The Apprenticeship Program

Three years ago the Apprenticeship Board, in responding to industrial demands for more skilled tradesmen, produced and circulated the publication

"Training Today for Tomorrow". It challenged industry to produce 7200 tradesmen in the ensuing 5 year period (1966 through 1970) through the apprenticeship program.

To date, the response has been encouraging. In the first three years of this 5 year period, the Completion of Apprenticeship Certificate has been awarded to 3,744 men, and in addition 166 have terminated with lesser qualifications - a total of 3,910 tradesmen. Consequently, there now is a senior apprentice population sufficient to assure that the 1970 goal will be reached, provided all goes well with the economy.

School Attendance of Apprentices

In 1968 school attendance of apprentices reached the all-time high of 8,020 - a increase of more than 1000 over 1967. The following chart provides comparative attendance figures for the period 1964 - 1968. An analysis of this material shows:

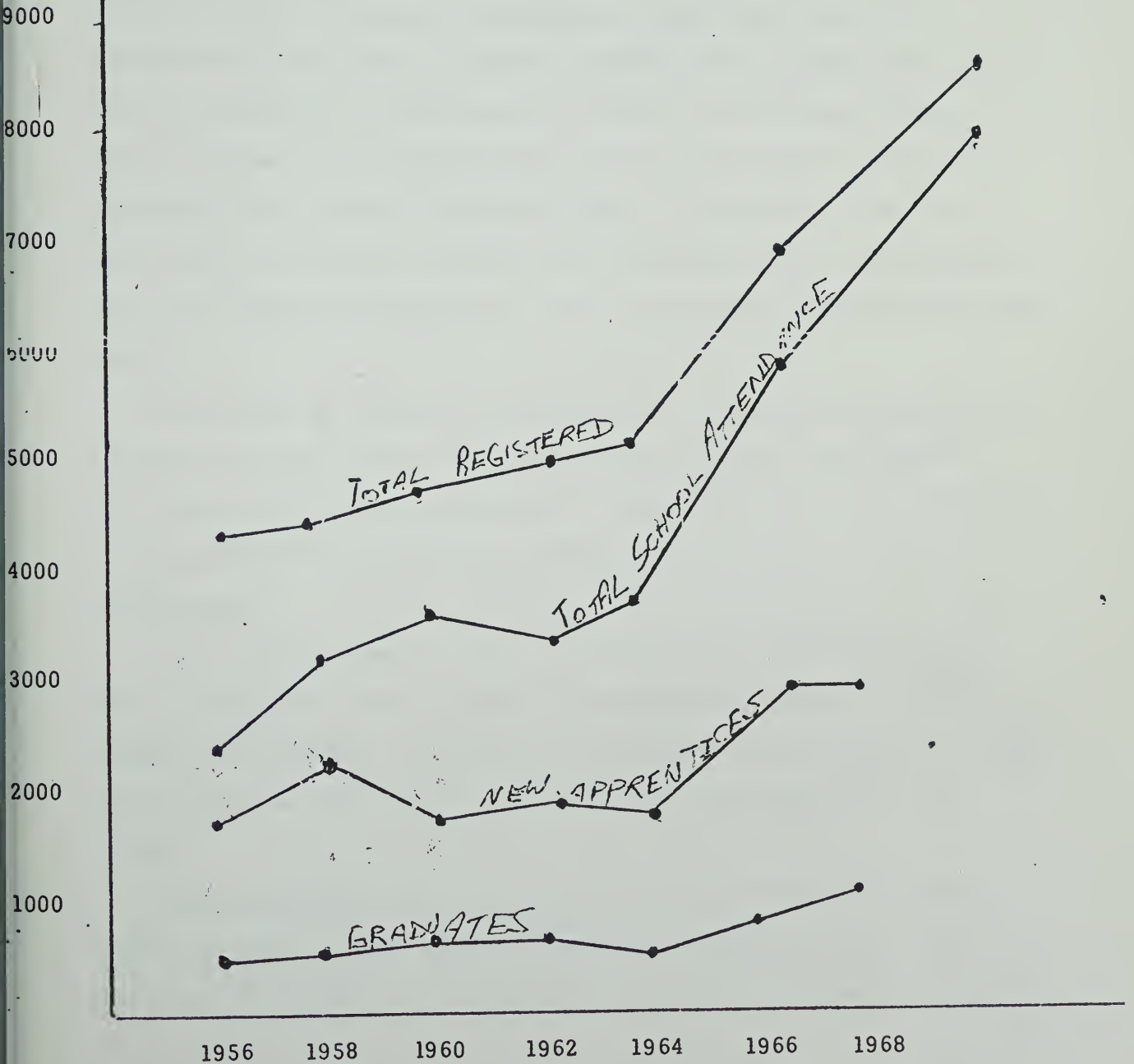
- (1) 80% increase in school attendance in 5 years
- (2) Steady and substantial increase at both NAIT & SAIT
- (3) Percentage of total 1968 attendance by schools:

SAIT - 41.4% NAIT - 56.75% FAIRVIEW - 0.75% LETHBRIDGE - 1.1%

Apprentice School Attendance - 1964 - 1968

YEAR	SAIT	NAIT	FAIRVIEW	LETHBRIDGE	TOTAL
1964	1833	2609	17	21	4480
1965	1927	2787	47	79	4840
1966	2430	3539	64	114	6147
1967	2813	3980	63	85	6941
1968	3321	4553	59	87	8020

THE APPRENTICESHIP STORY 1956 - 1968



An accomodation crisis is emerging in many areas of the apprenticeship program. Many trades are forced to severely restrict registration due to lack of facilities. Cancellation of some courses has been necessitated, and newly designated trades have not yet been scheduled as space has not been found.

Examination Program

During the course of 1968 approximately 20,000 formal examinations were conducted (1,200 of these were Interprovincial Standards examinations). The demand for examinations is rapidly approaching the magnitude where continuous accomodation in special rooms at the Edmonton and Calgary offices appears necessary if an adequate service is to be maintained. At present, examinations for apprentice classes are taken at the school, at the end of each course. However, many candidates who take supplementary apprenticeship tests, and Journeyman examinations, write in the Regional Offices during office hours.

During 1968, 44 examinations (36 Theory and 8 Practical) underwent major revisions, and 8 new Theory and 1 new Practical test have been originated for a total of 53 examinations available. Additional trades are in the process of being examined for future course development.

Certifications

Over 4,550 permanent journeyman certificates were earned and issued in 1968 - an increase of 900 over 1967. Among these were some 1500 earned through apprenticeship. The remainder - over 3000 - have been given to others than apprentices. This two-to-one certification ratio prevailed in 1967 as well.

Besides permanent certificates being issued, 1,253 temporary certificates were issued in 1968, under the Tradesmen's Qualification Act. The Board is of the opinion that many of the people receiving these certificates,

as well as a substantial number who fail to qualify for a certificate under the voluntary program could benefit from some special trade training. Lack of training facilities, however, prevents any sizable undertaking in this regard.

Voluntary certification programs were granted to the trades of Power Electrician, Baker, and Partsman, with some 1,110 certificates being issued to journeymen in these trades. The trades of Elevator Constructor, and Bricklayer were also designated under the Tradesmen's Qualification Act. However, the regulations governing the issuance of certificates have not been established yet for these trades.

Provincial Advisory Committee Activity

A brief summary of recommendations arising from the meetings (17) held by the Committee during 1968, is charted below:

<u>TRADE</u>	<u>NO. OF MEETINGS</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>
Bricklayer	1	Revised program & regulations
Electrician	1	Name change: Interprovincial exam
Pipefitter	1	Eight week courses
Auto Body Mechanic	2	Survey of trade; 6 wk. courses; pre-apprenticeship training
Millwright	1	Amended regulations school courses for apprentices
Power Electrician	1	Certificate of Qualifications
Common Electrician	3	Major program revision - 6 wk. course
Appliance Service	1	School course revision
Glassworker	1	Amended regulations; course revisions
Partsman	1	Certificate of Qualification; publicity
Roofer	1	Review of programs & examinations
Floorcovering Mechanic	2	Regulations; new program
Electrical Mechanic	1	Regulations

Regional Office Activity

	EDMONTON	CALGARY	LETH - BRIDGE	RED DEER	GRANDE PRAIRIE	TOTALS
New apprentices	1772	937	229	212	216	3361
Apprentices term. with	734	451	110	66	64	1425
School attendance	3989	2605	580	416	430	8020
Shop registrations	4178	3615	1497	830	900	11020
Field interviews (apprentices)	3533	3635	792	622	733	9315
Field interviews (other)	1046	3035	306	219	572	5196
Office interviews	8086	5450	525	474	230	14765
Exam sittings (general)	131	120	39	35	23	348
Class exams (school)	204	151	8	-	6	369
LAC meetings	89	67	11	-	12	169
Field interviews (employer)	2350	2229	270	617	772	6238

The activity of the five regional offices summarized in the chart above, generates nearly all of the Branch activity outlined in this entire report. Growth in Regional office activity is indicated by the grand total of all items recorded on the chart: 1968 - 60,000; 1963 - 38,000; 1959 - 33,000. This growth is particularly evident in the Edmonton area - half of all apprentices attending school in 1968 were registered with the Edmonton Regional Office. Expansion of activity in the other Regional Offices, although not as marked, has nonetheless been substantial on several fronts.

ELECTRICAL PROTECTION BRANCH

The Electrical Protection Branch is responsible for enforcing regulations governing the acceptance, installation, and maintenance of materials and equipment required for the production and use of electrical energy.

Inspections

While the number of permits issued to cover new projects and the number of inspections undertaken have not materially changed, there is a continued need to concentrate more effort in the special inspection area, and in the examination of large complex undertakings. This trend is reflected in the gradual increase in plan examinations and the permits issued for large industrial projects.

Inspections and Reports

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Reports issued on installations under permit -	31,739	30,092	36,481
Reports issued on installations not covered by permit -	16,073,496	4,767	4,654
Transmission and distribution line inspections -	2,724	1,929	1,571
Inspections for approval of equipment -	<u>1,607</u>	<u>1,867</u>	<u>1,781</u>
Total Inspections	39,566	38,655	44,487

Rural Electrification

The extended use of electrical energy continues to reflect itself in the number of electrical fires and accidents investigated at farm premises. Investigations disclosed that in practically all cases the accident was a direct result of improperly maintained electrical systems, or the addition of facilities using improper materials following the completion of the initial wiring. The re-inspection program now in effect

is felt responsible for maintaining such incidents at a reasonably low figure. At the present time coverage is given in this area through the completion of re-inspections when new additions have been undertaken under permit.

Canadian Standards Association (CSA)

In recognition of the need to keep the "Electrical Protection Act" standards up-to-date with new construction techniques and work methods which involve electrical safety considerations, the Branch and Technical Advisory Committees have continued to be active in re-assessing our existing requirements. Committees established under the auspices of the Canadian Standards Association, consisting of representatives from Industry and Government from various locations in Canada, have continued to be active in the formulation of new safety standards. Representatives from this Branch have continued to maintain a close liaison with such groups to ensure that the Electrical Protection Branch programs will be effectively co-ordinated with the standards of the CSA.

A representative from the Branch also attended meetings of the Canadian Electrical Association which considers safety problems and new construction techniques. With latest information from such gatherings, we are in a much better position to determine future Branch standards and policies.

Certification of Electrical Workers

The "Regulations Governing the Certification of Electrical Workers" were most successful in the control area as far as ensuring that work undertaken for the public is completed in a safe manner.

Electrician Certificates

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Master & first class "P" type	544	522	597
(Res.) Master & second class "P" type	154	129	139
First class regular type	2,077	2,288	2,600
Second class regular type	293	338	358
Rural wireman	79	83	79
Total valid Dec. 31	3,147	3,360	3,773
Renewed or issued during the year	1,431	1,514	1,999

There are, at the present time, some 3,773 persons in the Province holding valid certificates issued under the Electrical Protection Act. This figure represents an increase of approximately 10% over the previous year, and includes 736 Rural Wiremen.

The number of valid Rural Wiremen certificates decreased in 1968 from 83 to 79. While in the last few years it was found that the services of qualified electrical workers were becoming more readily available in rural areas served by Rural Wiremen, this trend has not continued. It is evident, therefore, that there will be a need for the continuation of the Rural Lineman certification program for some time yet.

As in the past, there was very close cooperation between the Electrical Protection and Apprenticeship Branches to ensure that appropriate action was taken in cases where regulations of either of the Branches were violated. In addition, through consultation, the overall certification (including training) programs are periodically re-assessed.

Accidents

The safety programs administered under the provisions of the Electrical Protection Act have been most successful during the past year, thus maintaining an electrically safe environment for the citizens of Alberta.

The cooperation received from, and participation by industry in these programs and the development of standards contributes immeasurably to their success.

<u>Fatal Accidents</u> - Persons -	<u>1966</u> 9	<u>1967</u> 3	<u>1968</u> 3
Animals -	24	16	13*
Non - Fatal Accidents -	54	92	83
Fires -	43	48	33

* The 13 farm animals listed were electrocuted in seven separate accidents

The results of fire and accident investigations undertaken substantiates the need for continued vigilance when viewed in terms of human suffering, lost time, and property damage. In addition, the fact that most citizens are becoming more and more involved with electrical apparatus in their everyday environment an effective educational program on the safe usage of same appears to have become imperative. To this end, the Branch has now assembled a number of slides showing misused and abused electrical equipment. It is anticipated the viewing of these slides will sharpen public awareness as to the potential hazards which are inherent in electricity.

General - Major Construction - Inspection Trends

Because of the continued trend towards almost complete automation of most plants and the complex electrical systems and circuitry this entails, electrical requirements and inspection policies are in a state of flux. Ready adaptation and additional work in the standards writing fields has taken on more prominence because of this. Coupled with this is the continued rise in the number of major plant starts and oilfield projects which results in an increase in the drawing survey workload and requires a greater concentration of our field staff in major construction inspection work. The interior wiring plan reviews increased from 1,760 last year to 2,568 in 1968.

A total of 136 Annual Permits were issued in 1968, to cover the electrical systems at major plant establishments. The number of such plants under Annual Permit has gradually increased over the last number of years and under this program where two semi-annual inspections are carried out in each such establishment, we are successful in ensuring that an acceptable safety standard is maintained.

While the overall workload has remained relatively constant, there has been ^a continued shift in its concentration. Generally speaking, the activities in the electrical field in the southern part of the Province have been at or below normal, but this has been more than offset by an increase in new undertakings in the northern part of the Province. It is not anticipated that any difficulty will be experienced by existing staff members in coping with the workload during the forthcoming year.

BOILERS AND PRESSURE VESSELS BRANCH

The Boilers and Pressure Vessels Branch is responsible for inspection of boilers and pressure vessels, investigation of accidents, in addition to inspection and enforcement of safety measures. Examinations are also conducted for candidates for engineer's, firemen's, and pressure vessel welder's certificates.

Inspections

During 1968 the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Branch carried out 19,547 regular inspections, 1,273 re-inspections and 251 special inspections for a total of 21,071 (an increase of 8% over 1967).

Regular Inspections

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
High Pressure boilers	1,192	1,212	1,331
Low Pressure boilers	3,199	3,746	3,748
Receivers	3,944	4,051	4,436
Heat exchangers	1,664	2,077	1,957
Process Vessels	3,394	3,277	3,819
L.P.G. and A.A. containers	4,588	3,079	3,177
Miscellaneous	278	402	63
Progress inspections	<u>1,021</u>	<u>1,531</u>	<u>2,016</u>
	19,280	19,375	19,547

Examinations

In 1968 a total of 2,768 welders examinations were conducted with 2,045 of the candidates being successful and obtaining their certificate of proficiency. This is an increase of 377 examinations over 1967, and maintains the pass-fail ratio of past years.

Accidents

During the year 1968 there were 37 accidents involving equipment subject to the jurisdiction of the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act. These mishaps resulted in injuries to 15 persons. These were investigated and suitable recommendations were made to prevent further happenings of this nature.

Types of Accidents

Fires and/or Gas Explosions	- 18
Rupture of pressure containing parts	- 7
Overheating of boilers	- 9
Discharge of poisonous gases	- 3
Scalding of employee	- 3
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Total	- 40

Investigations indicated that the basic causes of these accidents were as follows:

Causes of Accidents:

Operation errors	- 16
Faulty installations	- 4
Failure of controls or equipment	- 20
	<hr/>
	40

ELEVATOR AND FIXED CONVEYANCES BRANCH

This Branch is charged with enforcing regulations respecting the installation, operation, and maintenance of passenger and freight elevators, and other fixed passenger conveyances to ensure the safety of persons.

Inspections

During 1968 a total of 162 new installations were checked and approved along with 5 major and minor alterations.

Regular, special, and repeat inspections of elevators, dumb-waiters, escalators, employee belt lifts, and workmen's hoists totalled 3,470 (an increase of 70 over 1967).

One hundred and fourteen inspections were made on aerial trams, ski and rope tows.

A few accidents involving ski tows were reported in 1968. As the reporting of accidents by the owners has not been entirely satisfactory, efforts are being made to have reports submitted by the Canadian Ski Patrol.

Accidents

A total of 73 mishaps were reported to the Departments concerning Elevator and Escalator Accidents. Those involving serious damage to equipment or requiring medical aid were investigated and reports were forwarded to the Ottawa Department of Labour, and the Workmen's Compensation Board.

Safety

The Elevator Branch has continued the policy of meeting with Alberta Elevator Contractors and Union representatives to discuss safety code changes and amendments.

Several meetings were held during 1968 with Union and Elevator Contractors, together with Tradesmen's Qualification Branch officials concerning certification and approval of elevator mechanics. This subject is still under discussion

with the Deputy Minister.

Close contact has been maintained with Fire Departments and Building Inspectors in an effort to have code requirements strictly observed.



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