

DELEGATES TO GENEVA CONFERENCE: The Minister of Labour, Mr. Mitchell, on January 17, announced the names of Canada's delegates to an ILO Preparatory Technical Conference on Vocational Training of Adults, Including Disabled Persons, to be held at Geneva from January 23 to February 3, 1950.

Brigadier J.E. Lyon, Assistant Director, Canadian Vocational Training Branch, Department of Labour, Ottawa, will be the Canadian Government representative. Representing the Employers of Canada will be Roy L. Campbell, Secretary, Canadian International Paper Company, Montreal, P.Q., while William H. Burnell, First Vice-President, International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, Cornwall, Ontario, will represent labour.

The Minister explained that the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization had decided to call this conference since the question of vocational training had recently come into special prominence throughout the world. The training of disabled persons in particular had become a matter of special urgency as a result of World War II.

This conference would pave the way for discussions on the subject at the International Labour Conference next summer, by providing an opportunity for representatives of the various countries to consider draft international regulations embodying principles and methods for the successful operation of training schemes for adult workers, including the disabled.

WELFARE WORK AMONG INDIANS: A new emphasis is being given to social welfare work among Canadian Indians, according to an announcement made on January 17 by the Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. Gibson. Three Social Workers have been named to the staff of the Indian Affairs Branch, and six others will be appointed in the near future, to carry out welfare duties on behalf of the Indian population in all parts of the country.

Duties to be performed by these Social Workers are many and varied. They include care of the aged, guidance of children graduating from Indian schools, the organization of women's clubs, instruction in sewing, canning, and sanitation, and assistance to young Indians stranded in cities or towns.

Two of the new officers have been assigned to posts in Ontario, and the third will assume social service duties in Manitoba.

GRANTS TO HOSPITALS: Hospitals in Hazelton, B.C., Gainsborough and Regina, Sask., and a medical nursing unit in Wawanessa, Man., have been awarded grants under the federal plan to aid hospital building the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, has announced.

LABOUR INCOME AT ALL-TIME HIGH: Estimated total of salaries and wages and supplementary labour income in Canada reached an all-time high of \$663,000,000 in October, showing an increase of \$1,000,000 over the preceding month and a rise of \$30,000,000 over the October 1948 total of \$633,000,000. This raised the aggregate for the first 10 months of 1949 to \$6,327,000,000 from \$5,867,000,000 in the like period of 1948, or by 7.8 per cent, gains occurring in all main categories except the primary industries, the Bureau of Statistics announces.

Labour income in agriculture, logging, fishing, trapping and mining in the month was down to \$53,000,000 from \$54,000,000 in September and \$57,000,000 a year earlier. The 10-month total for this group was lower at \$488,000,000 compared with \$514,000,000 in the same period of 1948.

In manufacturing, labour income in October totalled \$219,000,000 as against \$220,000,000 in September and \$213,000,000 in October, 1948. In the 10 months ended October the group total was \$2,147,000,000 against \$1,997,000,000 a year earlier.

In construction the month's labour income was \$52,000,000 compared with \$53,000,000 in September and \$48,000,000 a year ago, and in the 10 months, \$436,000,000 compared with \$393,000,000.

The estimated total for utilities, transportation, communication, storage and trade was \$175,000,000 in October compared with \$174,000,000 in September and \$164,000,000 in October, 1948, bringing the 10-month figure to \$1,671,000,000 as against \$1,516,000,000 a year earlier.

In finance and services -- including government -- the month's labour income amounted to \$141,000,000 compared with \$138,000,000 in September and \$130,000,000 a year ago. In the 10 months the aggregate stood at \$1,371,000,000 compared with \$1,251,000,000.

Supplementary labour income in October totalled \$22,000,000, unchanged from September, but \$1,000,000 above October, 1948. In the 10 months the aggregate was \$207,000,000 compared with \$194,000,000.

LEADING MINERALS: Output of 11 of 16 of Canada's leading minerals in September was higher than in the corresponding month of 1948, while in the first nine months of the year, production was advanced in 12 of the 16 items.

Output was as follows in September, totals for the same month of 1948 being in brackets: asbestos, 71,963 (68,424) tons; cement, 1,559,238 (1,481,347) barrels; clay products, \$1,707,670 (\$1,733,697); coal, 1,744,205 (1,578,467) tons; copper, 44,223,948 (39,177,650) pounds; gold, 364,301 (294,963) fine ounces; gypsum, 378,008 (347,081) tons; iron ore, 483,469 (234,236) tons.