

(C.W.B. November 12, 1948)

Maine, and -- by means of a controlled flow between the two basins thus formed-- utilizing the great tidal range in the Bay of Fundy for the generation of hydro-electric power.

Under the terms of reference which have now been transmitted to the United States and Canadian sections of the International Joint Commission, by the U.S. State Department and the Canadian Department of External Affairs respectively, the Commission is asked to review existing plans for the project, to report how large and expensive an investigation would be required to determine whether any of these or other plans would be practicable, and to recommend a division of the expenses of such an investigation between the two countries. The reference does not ask the Commission to undertake the investigation, and both Governments have made it clear that they are not committed, by the present reference, to any later reference to the Commission for full investigation of the project itself.

**MANPOWER PICTURE:** The seasonal shifts in employment which involve about 200,000 workers at this time each year now are under way, announced Labour Minister Mitchell in his monthly statement on manpower conditions. Workers are moving from farms, food processing plants, hotels, and other summer-active industries, into woods employment, meatpacking firms and other winter jobs. As construction activity declines, more seasonal workers will enter the labour market and an increase in the number of job seekers may be expected for the next few months.

Currently, workers are moving to the woods as the harvest season ends. Most areas have reported that their farm labour needs were satisfied for the first time in many years. This is due in large part to the arrival of immigrant farm workers and to the major transfers of harvest workers organized during the season. Many Polish veterans will complete their two-year contracts in November. Indications are that a considerable number of them will remain in agricultural employment.

Construction is very active in most sections of the country and no decline is expected as long as the weather continues fine. Skilled construction workers are still in demand, especially bricklayers and plasterers. Building materials are in short supply in some areas, in relation to the tremendous demand; cement, nails and steel pipe are most scarce.

Seasonal workers are registering for work in greater numbers as summer activity ends. There were 99,000 unplaced applicants registered with the National Employment Service offices at October 21, 1948, an increase of 12,000 since September 23. Of those presently registered, 65,000 are men and 34,000 women. Unfilled vacancies fell to 54,000 at October 21, from 68,000 at September 23, owing to the slackening of demand in agriculture and construction.

**CANADIAN DELEGATION:** The Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs on November 9, announced the composition of the Canadian delegation to the Fourth General Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization, which opens in Washington, D.C., on November 15.

#### Head of Delegation

The Right Honourable J.G. Gardiner, P.C., M.P., Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa.

#### Alternate

Dr. G.S.H. Barton, C.M.G., Deputy Minister, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

#### Advisers

Dr. J.F. Booth, O.B.E., Associate Director of Marketing Service, Economics Division, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Dr. J.G. Bouchard, C.B.E., Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Dr. D.A. Macdonald, Dominion Forester, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa.

Mr. I.S. McArthur, Chief Economist, Department of Fisheries, Ottawa.

Dr. A.W.H. Needler, O.B.E., Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Fisheries, Ottawa.

Mr. G.R. Paterson, Agricultural Counsellor, Canadian Embassy, Washington.

Dr. L.B. Pett, Chief, Nutrition Division, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa.

Dr. W.D. Porter, Chief, Crops Branch, Agricultural Division, Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

Miss H.D. Burwash, Department of External Affairs.

#### Technical Advisers

Mr. H.H. Hannam, Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Mr. C.J. Morrow, Fisheries Council of Canada, Lunenburg, N.S.

#### Secretary of the Delegation

Dr. S.C. Hudson, Principal Economist, Economics Division, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

#### Press Relations Officer

Mr. R.S. McKay, Assistant Director Information Services, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

**LIGHTHOUSE DEMOLISHED:** Last week's storm on the Pacific coast completely demolished the Department of Transport's lighthouse at Egg Island, near Bull Harbour in the Prince Rupert Agency according to information received by the Department November 8. The lighthouse keeper, Robert Lawrence Wilkins, together with his wife and son were taken off by a fish packer and removed to hospital at Bella Bella suffering from exposure.

Information received by the Department is very sketchy. It is believed that the lighthouse was demolished last Wednesday during the height of the storm. When the lightstation failed to report by radiophone schedule it was realized that there was trouble at the station. High seas and bad weather delayed rescue operations until today. It was found that besides demolishing the lighthouse, the storm washed away the bridge and damaged the engine house.

**RETAIL SALES ANALYSIS:** Dollar sales of Canadian retail merchants averaged seven per cent higher in September than in the corresponding month last year and were up eight per cent above August as the customary seasonal upswing began. The volume of business was 11 per cent higher in the first nine months of this year than in the same period of 1947. Unadjusted indexes of sales, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 258.8 for September, 239.5 for August, and 241.0 for September, 1947.

Women's apparel shops and food stores remained in the forefront among individual trades when they recorded September increases of 15 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively. These gains were not quite so large as those shown by the nine-month cumulative comparisons for the two trades.

For the second consecutive month, sales of men's wear and shoe stores fell short of 1947 volume. Declines in September amounted to seven per cent for both trades. One factor affecting the shoe store comparison was the unusually heavy demand for shoes in the early fall of 1947 when footwear prices mounted sharply.

Department stores had a much smaller sales increase of five per cent in September than the average gain in the first nine months of the year of 13 per cent. Restaurant receipts increased nine per cent, probably reflecting increased meal prices to some extent.

September increases for most other trades showed some moderation compared with those for earlier months of the year.

**SPENDING ON MOVIES:** Despite a decline of three per cent in admissions, Canadians spent a record total of \$78,685,000 on motion picture theatre entertainment last year. Receipts increased five per cent over 1946, with gains recorded in all provinces except Nova Scotia, where the decline was 10 per cent. Attendance totalled 220,858,000 as compared with 227,539,000 in 1946. Of the receipts, \$15,820,000 went to the federal and provincial governments

in taxes, the Bureau of Statistics announced. Per capita expenditures on this form of entertainment in 1947 amounted to \$6.30 compared with \$6.15 in 1946 and \$5.01 in 1942. Expenditures in the various provinces ranged from \$3.68 in Prince Edward Island to \$8.29 in British Columbia. Increases were shown for all provinces except Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan.

A net increase over 1946 of 216 theatres was recorded, bringing the number to 1,693 in 1947, with a seating capacity of 834,360 compared with 758,642 seats reported by 1,477 theatres in 1946. Twenty-seven theatres were closed during the year while 233 new theatres came into operation and 10 others re-opened.

Six drive-in theatres, five in Ontario and one in British Columbia, in operation in 1947, reported gross receipts -- including taxes -- of \$316,000. These "drive-ins" had accommodation for 4,450 cars and were attended by 637,000 persons.

**B.C. FISHERIES:** The total marketed value of the products of the fisheries of British Columbia reached an all time high in 1947.

**ICAO STAFF APPOINTMENTS:** Citizens of 42 nations have made application for 60 staff positions advertised recently by the International Civil Aviation Organization, it was announced at ICAO headquarters in Montreal on November 10. More than 3,000 replies have been received to the advertisement, and are now being considered together with outstanding applications previously received. Largest number of the new group of applicants comes from the United Kingdom (957), and the United States (939), with France (427) and Canada (213) following. On the average each applicant is interested in about three positions.

The list of vacancies, which includes administrative, technical, economic and legal positions, was sent by the Organization to all its member states early in June. Letters notified the states of the vacancies to be filled and asked them to inform their own nationals. A second notification was given to delegates at the ICAO Second Assembly in June. Deadline for the receipt of applications was originally set for September 1, but this date was extended to September 27 because of delays in the transmittal of applications from countries distant from the Organization's headquarters.

ICAO officials pointed out that, in many cases, positions advertised are being filled at present on an acting basis, and that the present incumbents are also candidates for permanent appointment. Review of the large number of applications is now being undertaken by advisory appointments boards composed of senior secretariat officials. Appointments will be made by the Secretary-General of the Organization.