

PROVINCIAL EMPLOYMENT

Employees of eight provincial governments (excluding Quebec and British Columbia) and the governments of the Yukon and Northwest Territories numbered 182,657 at December 31, 1963, down 6.5 per cent from the September 30, 1963, total of 195,448, according to advance figures that will be contained in the issue of the report "Provincial Government Employment", published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, for the fourth quarter of 1963.

Earnings of these employees in the 1963 October-December period amounted to \$193,842,000, a decrease of 1.3 per cent from the July-September 1963 figure of \$196,362,000. This brought staff earnings in the calendar year 1963 to \$746,938,000, a gain of 7.8 per cent from the 1962 total of \$692,787,000.

DISTRIBUTION OF EARNINGS

Earnings of these employees in 1963 were distributed as follows: departmental services, \$434,781,000 (58.2 per cent of total earnings); institutions of higher education, \$88,605,000 (11.9 per cent); enterprises, \$214,267,000 (28.7 per cent); and workmen's compensation boards, \$9,285,000 (1.2 per cent).

Data for Quebec, which were available but not included in the preceding totals, show 42,008 employees at December 31, 1963, with earnings of \$49,891,000 in the fourth quarter of 1963. There were 28,926 employees in departmental services, 12,285 in enterprises, and 797 in the Workmen's Compensation Commission. Earnings were: departmental services, \$30,061,000; enterprises, \$19,100,000; and Workmen's Compensation Commission, \$730,000.

PARK EXPERT TO ADVISE TURKS

Canadian experience in national-park planning will guide Turkish government officials in establishing such a park in the Uluday mountains of central Turkey. Lloyd Brooks, Chief of the Planning Division, National Parks Branch, Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, will visit Turkey for two months to advise on the establishment of a national park.

His assignment is the first sponsored by the International Commission on National Parks, which has established an advisory committee on the planning of park systems to assist countries wishing to develop national parks. This body will choose park planners and others with the necessary knowledge and experience to undertake special advisory projects in various countries.

J.R.B. Coleman, Director of the National Parks Branch, Ottawa, is Canadian representative on the International Commission and also a member of the advisory committee that selects park experts to advise foreign countries.

Mr. Brooks has been Chief of the National Parks Planning Division since 1959 and previously was Chief Park Planner of the British Columbia Provincial Parks Branch.

RCAF CREDIT UNIONS PROSPER

The assets of the Defence Headquarters Credit Union, which consists of 1,700 members of the Royal Canadian Air Force in Ottawa, recently passed the million-dollar mark. This figure, which is claimed as a new record for credit unions, was reached in just 21 months. The previous record had been set in 1961 by a similar credit union at the RCAF Station, Cold Lake, Alberta.

HOLDER OF PREVIOUS RECORD

The assets of the Cold Lake credit union grew to \$1 million in 23 months; they now total more than twice that amount. Since its inception. This organization has made personal loans of more than \$5 million to its 3,000 members.

NETWORK OF CREDIT

Both the Ottawa and Cold Lake agencies are parts of a network of 24 military credit unions, located at RCAF units throughout Canada, possessing total assets of more than \$10 million. "These self-help, semi-banking institutions encourage personnel throughout the RCAF to save money while borrowing at the lowest possible interest rate", observes Wing Commander V.C. Stevens, a member of the Board of Directors of the Defence Headquarters Credit Union, "with the result that there has been a general lifting of the standard of living wherever they have been formed."

DUTCH HONOUR CANADIAN UNITS

In appreciation of the liberation of their city by the Canadian Army during the Second World War, the citizens of Woensdrecht in the Netherlands, about 15 miles west of Antwerp, Belgium, have decided to name four of their streets after Canadian regiments. The units to be so honoured are the Fort Garry Horse, the Toronto Scottish Regiment, the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada, and the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry.

In addition, the Burgomaster of Woensdrecht has presented each unit with the Medal of Woensdrecht on behalf of the citizens of the city. These units have the city's name emblazoned on their colors as a battle honour.

BATTLE OF THE SCHELDT

The regiments honoured by Woensdrecht figured prominently in the victory won by Allied forces in the Battle of the Scheldt in south-western Holland during the autumn of 1944. Some of the bitterest fighting of the Second World War occurred on the flooded fields surrounding the isthmus west of Woensdrecht and in the city itself before its capture by soldiers of the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry on October 16, 1944.

Of the four units concerned, only the Fort Garry Horse is now serving with the Canadian Army Regular. It is the armoured component of Canada's NATO Brigade in Germany.