

In the seven years of 1946-53 industrial production increased in Canada by 46 per cent and in the United States by 49 per cent. In the 1953-56 period, Canadian production rose by 14 per cent and in the United States by only 8 per cent.

In releasing this information the Bureau of Statistics said:

"The gap between the rates of growth in real output, which had been considerably higher in Canada, has widened perceptibly in the past two years.

"Investment in durable assets had been a higher proportion of gross national product--value of all goods and services produced--in Canada than in the United States; this disparity is now accentuated.

"The rate of increase in real wages has been higher in Canada than in the United States, but since 1953 real wages have shown the same advance in both countries.

"The pattern of recovery from recession, with the strategic role of consumer expenditure and a closely related sector--housing--was the same in the two countries.

"With the accumulating effects of resource development, in the past year investment was a more dynamic factor in Canada than in the United States and indications are that it will continue to be in the current year."

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**CANADIAN DELEGATION:** The Canadian Delegation to the twenty-third session of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, which is being held in New York from April 16 to May 3, 1957, is headed by Dr. R.A. MacKay, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations in New York.

He is being assisted by an alternate representative, Mr. Jean Boucher, Director of Technical Services, Department of Citizenship and Immigration, and by officers of the Departments of External Affairs and Agriculture.

The Economic and Social Council (or ECOSOC) holds two regular sessions each year. Canada is at present serving a third term as member of the Council, to which it was elected for three years effective January 1, 1956.

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**SWISS EMBASSY:** The Department of External Affairs announces that it has welcomed the decision taken by the Swiss Government to raise the status of the Swiss Legation in Ottawa to that of an Embassy and agreed to the appointment of the present Swiss Minister, Dr. Victor Nef, as first Ambassador of Switzerland to Canada.

Canadian representation in Berne has been at the ambassadorial level since March 1953, at which time the Canadian Government indicated that it would welcome this change in status whenever the Swiss Government so desired.

**EMPLOYMENT SITUATION:** At March 16, 1957, there were an estimated 5,373,000 persons with jobs, an increase of 11,000 from a month earlier and of 132,000 from a year before. The number of persons without jobs and seeking work, at 343,000, was approximately 20,000 above a month earlier, 48,000 more than at the same time in 1956, but 58,000 less than in March 1955. From February to March of this year, registrations for employment at the National Employment Service offices increased by the same amount as did persons without jobs and seeking work and totalled 597,000 at mid-March. The peak in the number of registrations for employment was reached in British Columbia and Ontario earlier in the winter; and there were clear indications that by mid-March the peak had been reached for the country as a whole.

In the month ended March 16, total employment showed practically no change, a slight decline in non-farm employment being more than offset by a small gain in farm jobs. Since December, the seasonal decline in employment has been somewhat greater than last year, but the decline in the labour force has been less than last year. Reductions in employment in the forestry, construction and mining industries were not entirely offset by employment gains in service, trade, transportation, utilities, finance and insurance. The continued strength of the labour force is attributable, at least in part, to the substantial immigration that has occurred since last Autumn. At April 1, the classification of 109 local labour market areas was as follows (last year's figures in brackets); in balance 3 (5); in moderate surplus 50 (56); in substantial surplus 56 (48).

The civilian labour force totalled 5,716,000 in the week ended March 16, 1957, compared with 5,685,000 in the week ended February 15, 1957. These estimates are obtained from the monthly labour force survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Of the 5,716,000 in the labour force, 4,818,000 or 84.3 per cent worked full time (defined as 35 hours or more) in the March survey week, 401,000 or 7.0 per cent worked less than 35 hours, 154,000 or 2.7 per cent had jobs but did not work during the survey week, and 343,000 or 6.0 per cent did not have jobs and were seeking work. Classed as not in the labour force are such groups as those keeping house, going to school, retired or voluntarily idle, too old or unable to work, and these numbered 5,168,000.

During the corresponding week in 1956, there were 5,536,000 in the labour force of whom 4,737,000 worked full time, 361,000 worked less than 35 hours, 143,000 had jobs but did no work during the week, and 295,000 did not have jobs and were seeking work. There were 5,110,000 classed as not in the labour force.