

INDIAN EDUCATION: In a statement summarizing the progress of Indian education in Canada, Acting Minister of Mines and Resources, the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, said that the Education Division of the Indian Affairs Branch is operating 352 day school classrooms and 225 residential school classrooms. While the majority of the day schools are one-room buildings, the residential schools vary considerably in size. The largest residential school is at Kamloops, British Columbia, where there are some 310 Indian children in attendance.

The Indian Day Schools are operated directly by the Department of Mines and Resources and their teachers are classified as Civil Servants (both temporary and permanent). The Indian Residential Schools are operated by religious denominations and the Department pays a per capita grant to them for each recognized Indian child in attendance. While the majority of these residential schools are owned by the Government, some of them are owned by the churches. This school system extends into each of the nine Provinces, into the Northwest Territories and into the Yukon.

PROVINCIAL COOPERATION

"Every effort is made" stated Mr. MacKinnon, "to have our schools follow the course of study for the province in which they are located. In a number of the provinces, inspections are carried out by Provincial School Inspectors. Excellent co-operation is obtained from the various Departments of Education and the success of the system is evidenced by the increasing number of Indian children who are obtaining High School and other education. Tuition grants are given to Indian pupils who are attending Provincial High Schools and Universities. At the present time, the Department is employing some forty-two Indian teachers in these day schools and a number of Indian teachers are also on the staffs of the various residential schools."

In addition to Indian children who are receiving their elementary education in schools operated by, or for the Department of Mines and Resources, there are a number of children who are attending Provincial schools in the lower grades. Their tuition expenses are paid by the Dominion Government.

One big problem is to provide educational facilities for those Indian children living in the northern parts of the Western Provinces, in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. Due to the nomadic existence which they lead through their families dependence upon the trapping industry, it is very difficult to arrange for the provision of schools. In some cases, the residential school provides the only solution to this problem. In other areas, the Indian Affairs Branch is operating seasonal schools during the summer months. The system, therefore, has to be very flexible.

One school is being operated this summer in a tent on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence. When the Indian moves, the teacher moves too.

Last summer, one teacher started in the Council Hall and ended up his teaching duties at a point some 150-miles up the lake where the Indians had moved to their fishing grounds.

FORESTRY RESEARCH: The Dominion Forest Service of the Department of Mines and Resources will equip fourteen parties this season to carry out field investigations and will conduct special projects to assist in the research work in forestry and forest products, according to an announcement by Acting Minister James A. MacKinnon. One hundred students, chiefly undergraduates in forestry, will be assigned to these parties and special projects and will work under the supervision of the research staff.

An important part of the work will be a survey to determine the extent to which logged and burned-over areas are reproducing naturally, and to develop means of improving forest regeneration. Five parties will be engaged in this work and will study reproduction conditions and means of improvement on representative areas extending from Cape Breton to the Rocky Mountains. These parties will operate in Alberta, Saskatchewan, the Cochrane district of Ontario, St. Maurice Valley of Quebec, and in New Brunswick. One party will operate in the valley of the Montmorency River, Quebec, to establish permanent sample plots on an area recently logged over for balsam and spruce pulpwood. These plots will make it possible to remeasure naturally regenerated stands at ten year intervals in order to trace their development and record the amount of growth. Similar work will be carried out in Saskatchewan and New Brunswick.

RESEARCH STATION

In co-operation with the Manitoba Forest Service a party will establish a forest-fire research station in the Whiteshell Forest Reserve. Meteorological records, fuel moisture measurements, and fire hazard tests will be made in a number of sites typical of the Precambrian forest conditions, to determine the modifications necessary to existing forest fire danger tables used in this area.

Forest fire research is conducted to determine the degree of fire danger present at any time. This information is of great assistance to persons responsible for the protection of the forests. A number of provinces have installed the system of fire-weather forecasting developed by the Dominion Forest Service. Studies will be continued this year of forest fire data, fire danger records, and the standards of forest fire protection in Canada in order to develop more effective methods of fire control.

Five parties will carry out investigations for the Forest Product Laboratories located in Vancouver and Ottawa.

An important investigation in relation to the pulpwood industry will be continued by the

Ottawa laboratory. This involves the use of chemicals to kill standing timber which will reduce weight, thereby increasing the floatability of the wood.

RELINQUISHES COMMAND: Major-General B.M. Hoffmeister, CB, CBE, DSO, ED, 41, who has been commanding the 15th Infantry Brigade (Reserve Force) with headquarters in Vancouver, has relinquished his command on transferring to the Supplementary Reserve.

According to an announcement made May 29 by the Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence, Gen. Hoffmeister will be succeeded in command of the brigade by Brigadier J.M. Rockingham, CBE, DSO, 37, of Victoria, B.C.

Maj.-Gen. Hoffmeister originally served with the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada and rose to become commander of the 5th Canadian Armoured Division. Later he was named to lead the Canadian Army Pacific Force. He is now an executive of the H.R. McMillan Co. in Vancouver.

Brig. Rockingham, who was originally commissioned in The Canadian Scottish Regiment, commanded the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry during part of the war. Later he was given command of the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade. After VE-Day he was chosen as one of the brigade commanders who would have served in the Pacific under Maj.-Gen. Hoffmeister had not the end of the war caused disbandment of the Canadian force destined for Pacific action. Brig. Rockingham now heads the personnel department of the B.C. Electric Co. in Victoria and Vancouver.

MONUMENT TO AUTHOR: The erection of a stone monument and tablet to commemorate the work of Lucy Maud Montgomery, author of the well-known book, "Anne of Green Gables", was among the recommendations adopted by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada at their annual meeting held recently in Ottawa. The site of the monument will be near the famous Green Gables house at Cavendish in Prince Edward Island National Park, one of the great scenic attractions on the island.

The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada is an honorary body whose members are historians of recognized standing. Dr. J.C. Webster, C.M.G. of Shediac, N.B., the Chairman, was unable to attend owing to illness. Professor F. Landon, M.A., Vice-President of the University of Western Ontario, London, acted as chairman of the meeting.

The Board advises the National Parks Service of the Department of Mines and Resources on matters relating to the marking or acquiring of places of historic interest in Canada, and the commemoration of those who have made a distinguished contribution to Canadian history.

RADIOLOGICAL TECHNICIANS: Two naval radiographers, Sick Berth Chief Petty Officer Clifford Brown, Victoria, and Sick Berth Petty Officer Reginald A. Potts, Kingston, Ontario, will attend the Sixth Annual Convention of the Canadian Society of Radiological Technicians at Quebec City from June 15 to 19, it was announced at Naval Service Headquarters June 1.

These men, now serving at Halifax and Esquimalt, received their specialized training in X-ray techniques in Naval Hospitals, supplemented by further training in the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal and qualified for membership in the Society.

Petty Officer Potts will deliver a paper on Sectional Radiography during the conference. It will mark the second consecutive year that a naval radiographer has read a paper before the convention.

FITNESS AGREEMENT: The province of Alberta and the federal government have renewed their agreement under the National Physical Fitness Act for three years, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Hon. Paul Martin, announced May 31.

Under this agreement the federal government undertakes to share with the province the cost of carrying out a fitness and recreational programme in Alberta. The maximum federal grant is \$15,567.75 per year--an amount worked out on a population basis in relation to a total fund of \$225,000 per year for all nine provinces.

The Department of Education administers the fitness programme in Alberta, which has participated in the national plan since its beginning early in 1944. Previous agreements under the Act have been renewed annually.

Other provinces having agreements are: British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia.

COMMODITY PRICE INDEX: The general index number of wholesale commodity prices, on the base 1926=100, rose 1.6 points during April to reach 148.5 as compared with 146.9 in March, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. A year ago it was 123.3. All of the eight main sub-groups registered advances over the March standing, greatest changes being shown for iron products and non-ferrous metals.

CAR LOADINGS: Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended May 22 totalled 76,665 cars, off 793 cars from the preceding week but 5,533 cars or 7.8 per cent above the corresponding week last year. Main increases over the preceding week were recorded in grain and grain products, sand, etc., pulpwood, gasoline, iron and steel, while live stock, coal, machinery, fertilizers and wood pulp and paper were lighter.