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Current Manpower Picture: At the peak of industrial activity last summer, only 1.4 per cent of the total labour force was unemployed, according to the current manpower summary released by Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour.

Seasonal employment is nearing completion and many displaced summer workers now are being channelled into winter industries. In the meantime, the number of applicants for work is on the increase. This is the usual seasonal trend, and is largely due to employment declines in agriculture, transportation, and construction.

Labour shortages have been so acute during the past few months, that this expansion in supply will greatly benefit many industries. At peak activity this summer, only 1.4 per cent of the total labour force was unemployed, and the actual pool of available labour was even smaller since many of these persons were older, physically unfit, or unqualified workers.

There were 106,000 unplaced applicants registered with the National Employment Service at November 13, 1947, some 35,000 less than the number one year ago.

Observatory at Baker Lake: The Mines, Forests and Scientific Services Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources, has announced plans for the operation by the Dominion Observatory of a temporary magnetic observatory at Baker Lake in the District of Keewatin, Northwest Territories.

Establishment of the observatory at Baker Lake indicates the continued emphasis being placed by the Division of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Dominion Observatory on the study of magnetic conditions in northern Canada. Changes in the earth's magnetic field which are peculiar to northern Canada will come under careful study.

Magnetic data necessary for a study of the movements of the North Magnetic Pole will be collected, in order that accurate magnetic charts of the Canadian Arctic may be constructed for air navigation purposes. In addition, the effect of sun spots and aurorae on the magnetic field in relation to radio communication in the Arctic will be studied.

John Clark, B.A., of Bounty, Saskatchewan, who accompanied Paul Serson on the recent airborne expedition to the environs of the North Magnetic Pole, and Weldon Hannaford, B.Sc., of Ottawa, a graduate of St. Patrick's College, will be stationed at Baker Lake for an indefinite period.

Conversion of Pre-War Yugoslav State Internal Debts: The Department of External Affairs on Thursday announced that a translation of the text of a summons concerning the conversion of pre-war Yugoslav State Internal Debts has been received. The summons calls on all legal and physical persons who have not yet submitted owners' declarations in respect of State papers of value which they have deposited with former banking institutions to submit declarations to the National Bank of Yugoslavia as soon as possible in order that the bank may hand such declarations to the State Investment Bank (Debts Directorate) at the latest by December 31st, 1947.