

to levels which, it has been estimated, would more than double coastal logging. Logging employment in the province's interior, therefore, is rapidly expanding.

One of the effects of this shift in employment is a probable increase in the seasonal variations of employment, although this trend is not yet evident from statistical data. Mainly because of weather and ground conditions, logging in the interior of British Columbia differs from coastal logging and has seasonal patterns and characteristics more similar to logging in Eastern Canada.

LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS

In general, living conditions in the logging camps of Eastern Canada now bear little resemblance to those of a few years ago. Many companies provide accommodations for two to four men to a room, although there are still many camps where the bunkhouse accommodates 50 to 80 men. Most camps, many of which are now portable, are supplied with electric light, running water, showers and indoor toilets. There is a growing interest in establishing forest communities and experimental forest villages based on year-round and continuous operation. These experiments are proving successful.

Cook training and compulsory menus are also common among larger operators. A survey of 150 camp kitchens made in 1951-1952 for the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association showed that the caloric value of the food consumer by a woods worker varied from 5,000 to more than 9,000 calories per man per day, with an average consumption of 6,900 calories. According to estimates of the Department of National Health and Welfare, the average requirement in very heavy work is between 5,000 and 6,000 calories, depending on the individual, the type of work he is doing and the length of his working day. The average per capita consumption of the whole Canadian population is just over 3,000 calories per day.

Living conditions in British Columbia have also greatly improved over those of a few years ago. On the Coast, most employers have given up logging camps. The loggers live in towns and are taken out to the logging operations in company trucks. Where isolated operations exist, an effort is made to build up logging communities with the workers accommodated in houses. In some areas, bunkhouses are still used but they are modern, with showers and two men to a room.

Working conditions in the Canadian logging industry have also shown great improvement over the past. Standard hours per week have decreased, although regional differences continue to exist. In Newfoundland 60 hours per week were worked in 1955. In Nova Scotia the range was between 54 and 60 hours, most establishments reporting 54. In New Brunswick the 54-hour week was predominant. In Quebec, most establishments reported a 60-hour week.

In Ontario, 48 hours per week were predominant. The practice in British Columbia coastal areas was 40 hours per week. In the interior the general practice was 44 hours per week until 1955, when the northern interior reduced standard hours per week to 40.

Wage rates and earnings in the logging industry have increased rapidly during the post-war period. From 1947 to 1955 wage rates rose by more than 50 per cent and average weekly earnings by about 70 per cent. Since consumer prices in 1955 were, on the average, only about 35 per cent higher than in 1947, the actual increases in wage rates and earnings represented very substantial real gains.

Other important developments in working conditions were increases in the number of paid statutory holidays per year and in the length of vacations. Unemployment insurance coverage was extended to loggers in British Columbia in 1945 and to those in Eastern Canada in 1950. The duration and benefit rates of unemployment insurance have also been increased.

Important advances have been made in safety measures and in the development and use of protective equipment, such as protective footwear and non-slip plastic gloves and mitts. For example, in 1955, more than 30,000 hard hats were sold to woodworkers in Quebec and Ontario alone. Industrial accident data also suggest that the decrease in labour turnover and the increase in the number of permanent and experienced workers have tended to reduce the number of accidents.

Trade union membership in the logging industry has also been increasing steadily, from 24,000 in 1949 (the earliest date for which comparable figures are available) to 34,000 in 1950 and to 46,000 in 1954. Workers covered by collective agreements in 1948 totalled 10,000 but rose to about 60,000 by 1954. During the postwar period, major strikes occurred only in 1946 and in 1952, mainly in the coastal areas of British Columbia.

POSTED TO UK: George M. Morrison, National Employment Service expert in the field of professional and executive manpower, has been transferred to the United Kingdom office of the Canadian Department of Labour, 61 Green Street, London, W1, it has been announced today by the Unemployment Insurance Commission. Mr. Morrison is widely known in Canada's university cities and towns for his work in placing university graduates in the various professions.

Head of the Unemployment Insurance Commission executive and progression placement organization since it was established 11 years ago, Mr. Morrison's new work will involve liaison with Canadian immigration officers in providing information of opportunities in Canada to prospective British immigrants of professional and executive calibre.