

"Compared with all other nations but one, we enjoy a very high standard of living, indeed. And that good fortune has enabled us to help the less fortunate in our own midst."

Employment Prospects For 1952: Ottawa, December 30, -- The Minister of Labour, Mr. Milton F. Gregg, in a New Year review said, in part, that it seemed "likely that the main characteristics of the 1951 labour market will carry over into 1952. For the first few months of the year, winter unemployment will be present and there may be spotty unemployment throughout the year, but the basic economic trend is firm. There is a world-wide need for the food, lumber, newsprint and mineral products which the basic and manufacturing industries produce. The defence and defence-supporting industries will be getting into high gear. With a high level of national income, it seems likely that consumer demand will re-assert itself.

In regard to construction, 1952 will be a busy year as there are a great many large-scale projects planned or underway which will take several years to complete. All these factors will contribute to a strong demand for labour, but with the re-adjustments which have been going on in the labour market, no over-all serious manpower shortage is foreseen."

Mr. Gregg said that 1951 had been "on the whole a very good year" for the Canadian worker. "During the summer....there were about 5,350,000 Canadians at work, more than a million more than were employed in 1939.... Employment and wages were never higher, but at the same time consumer prices rose and small pockets of unemployment were produced by the shifts in labour demand....

"Probably the most interesting feature of 1951 labour market was the shift of labour into areas where resources development projects were under way. New townsites and industries have grown up as a result of these projects, many of them in remote and unsettled regions. There was a steady movement of workers to such areas as the aluminum project in British Columbia, the construction of a 365-mile railway and terminal facilities to transport iron-ore from Ungava, and the growing Alberta oil and chemical industries."

Nootka Sails For Korea: December 30, (CP) -- There was little fanfare or visible excitement yesterday as the destroyer HMCS Nootka slipped from her berth and headed to sea for her second tour of duty in the Korean theater. About 200 persons, mostly wives, children and relatives of men aboard the Nootka, were on hand for the farewell.

The Nootka will relieve the west coast-based destroyer HMCS Sioux.

Across Canada: Winning a game against Chicago Black Hawks 3-0 on New Year's Day, the Montreal Canadiens climbed into a tie with Toronto Maple Leafs for second place in the NHL Standings. Detroit leads with 50 points, Montreal and Toronto each have 38, while New York Rangers are in fourth place with 30, one point ahead of Boston....Canadian Army engineers are preparing to dynamite the towering ice jams that have caused disastrous floods in Montreal's north end communities where the Red Cross estimates between 200 and 300 dwellings, mostly summer cottages, have been damaged and 70 to 80 families have been evacuated....Canada's civilian force stood at an estimated 5,210,000 persons during the week ended November 3 this year and of this total 5,100,000 had jobs and 100,000 were without jobs and seeking work, according to the quarterly survey by the Bureau of Statistics....Two hundred unsuspecting children were safely herded out of the Tweed, Ont., skating rink Saturday night, minutes before the entire building collapsed under the pressure of snow on the roof, burying the ice under tons of debris. The sound of cracking timbers overhead warned Canadian Legion supervisors.