

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY DEGREES: The National Employment Committee, which acts in an advisory capacity to the Unemployment Insurance Commission of the National Employment Service, on April 22 recommended that the National Council of Canadian Universities take under consideration at their May Conference the special employment problem of immigrants from Displaced Persons Camps who hold degrees from European universities and who have completed their period in selected employment in Canada.

A resolution to this effect was passed at the first of a two-day meeting of the Employment Committee which opened in Montreal under the Chairmanship of Mr. Justice W.J. Lindal, of Winnipeg. Mr. E.N. Mitchell, of the Unemployment Insurance Committee is acting as secretary.

Judge Lindal quoted several instances in the Winnipeg region alone where there were graduates of European universities, including architects, doctors, chemists, mineralogists, dentists, who had come to Canada for work in basic industries and who had now completed their period in selected employment.

Judge Lindal said that "the responsibility lies upon the State to place these people" (in employment for which they are most suited).

The Committee agreed that there should be a uniform method in Canada of assessing the value of training in the various European schools of learning.

COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION: The Royal Commission on Transportation has announced that its opening sittings will commence in Ottawa on May 2, 1949.

The opening sittings are expected to take two or three days and will be followed by regional hearings in the Provinces.

The sittings in Ottawa, to commence on May 2, will be for the purpose of formally opening the inquiry into national transportation. Details as to scope of inquiry, itinerary and procedure to be followed during the public hearings will be announced at the opening sittings.

Submissions and representations by provincial governments, railways and other interested organizations will be made at regional hearings in the Provinces and at other hearings to take place in Ottawa at a later date.

NEWFOUNDLAND FAMILY ALLOWANCES: Approximately 45,000 family allowance cheques have been mailed to families in Canada's newest province last week the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, has announced.

The allowances total more than \$700,000 per month and, when all applications have been dealt with, it is expected that allowances will be paid on behalf of children in more than 48,000 families.

FARMERS' INCOMES: Net income of Canadian farmers from farming operations in 1948 reached a total of \$1,693,315,000, the highest figure recorded since the publication of comparable statistics back to 1938, according to preliminary estimates by the Bureau of Statistics. Last year's net income compares with the revised estimates of \$1,234,909,000 for 1947, the previous high total, and of \$1,161,395,000 for 1946.

Farm cash income from the sale of farm products also established an all-time high record of \$2,449,865,000 last year as against \$1,962,276,000 in the preceding year, and there were further increases in the value of home-consumed farm produce. The decrease in the value of the year-end change of farm-held livestock inventories more than offset some increase in the value of year-end changes of farm-held grain inventories, but it was insufficient to offset the gains in cash income and income in kind, the result being that gross income for 1948 also set a record.

Farm operating expenses during 1948 continued their upward climb. From \$968,372,000 in 1947, they increased to \$1,083,556,000 last year, a gain of nearly 12 per cent. While gains were registered for nearly all of the expense items, the most significant increase occurred in livestock feeds, which rose by approximately \$45,000,000 or about 19 per cent.

With the exception of British Columbia, all of the 1948 provincial net incomes were larger than in 1947, while compared with 1946, net incomes were lower in Nova Scotia and British Columbia. Greatest absolute gain in net income last year as compared with 1947 occurred in Saskatchewan.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES: The increase in total value of inventories during the last two years is still continuing, according to preliminary index figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. The February index for all industries stood at 133.0 per cent of the average 1947 value as against 131.2 at the end of January.

Of the main industry groupings, inventory values in the consumers' goods industries continued their consistent increase, and are now at the highest point since January, 1947. Inventories of construction goods' industries, which dropped sharply last fall, appear also to have reached their highest value since January, 1947. Capital goods industries, which showed alternate rises and falls during 1948, have increased inventory values for the third consecutive month, but are below last year's high point. Inventories in the producers' materials industries, which had risen steadily since last April, showed a 4.6 point fall in February.

WHEAT STOCKS UP 27 P.C.: Total stocks of Canadian wheat at the end of March were 262,400,000 bushels, an increase of 55,400,000 or nearly 27 per cent over the level at March 31, 1948. All stocks were held in Canadian positions. Last year on the same date 2,400,000 bushels out of the total stocks of 207,000,000 bushels were held in the United States.

Over 70 per cent of Canada's total wheat stocks at March 31 were held on farms and in country, interior private and mill elevators -- 129,300,000 bushels or some 49 per cent of total stocks being accounted for by farm-held wheat, while 57,500,000 or about 22 per cent were located in the latter positions. A year ago there were an estimated 116,000,000 bushels on farms and 42,700,000 in country, interior private and mill elevators. Lakehead stocks at 39,600,000 bushels on March 31 this year were sharply above last year's level of 16,900,000 bushels. Stocks in transit by rail and in store in Eastern elevators were also well above the March, 1948 level but west coast terminal stocks at 5,000,000 bushels were 2,000,000 below the 1948 figure.

The total quantity of oats in Canada at the end of March is estimated at 167,839,000 bushels as compared with 135,504,000 on the same date last year, this year's total comprising 9,407,000 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 1,776,000 in transit by rail and 156,656,000 bushels on farms.

Barley stocks amounted to 78,831,000 bushels as compared with 73,102,000 at the same date last year, the figures for 1949 including 14,112,000 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 1,658,000 bushels in transit by rail and 63,061,000 bushels on farms.

Stocks of rye are estimated at 15,530,000 bushels as against 2,217,000, this year's total including 7,305,000 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 493,000 bushels in transit by rail and 7,732,000 bushels on farms.

Flaxseed stocks amounted to 14,334,000 bushels as compared with 8,536,000 at the end of March 1948, the total in 1949 being made up of 10,497,000 bushels in elevators, 402,000 bushels in transit by rail and 3,434,000 bushels on farms.

VEHICLE ENTRIES: Foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits in March totalled 46,200, an advance of less than one per cent over the same month last year. During the first three months of this year, entries totalled 114,600, an increase of six per cent over the same period in 1948.

A falling-off in traffic entering through ports in Ontario almost balanced increases in other provinces. The Ontario decrease was influenced by unusually heavy traffic in March 1948, which was 59 per cent greater than in March, 1947.

NEWFOUNDLAND POPULATION: Since the turn of the century, the population of Newfoundland (including Labrador) has grown from 220,984 in 1901 to 321,819 in 1945, an increase of 100,835 or over 45 per cent. From 1935 to 1945 it increased by 32,000 or 11 per cent. The 1945 total was approximately three and one-half times that of Prince Edward Island, about one-half that of Nova Scotia, and about one-tenth that of Quebec.

These and other facts are revealed in two reports, released by the Bureau of Statistics, which form part of a series based on the results of a Census of Population, Agriculture and Fisheries, taken by the Newfoundland Government in 1945. These results were compiled in the Bureau of Statistics at the request of Newfoundland.

In the 10-year period since the taking of the 1935 Census in the districts of Newfoundland showing the largest increases in population were Grand Falls, Humber and St. George's - Port-au-Port, each of which increased by more than one-third.

Eight centres in 1945 had a population of over 2,500. The population within the incorporated limits of St. John's City numbered 44,603, as compared with 39,886 in 1935. However, if several adjoining settlements and sections are included, the population of the Greater St. John's Area numbered 57,496 in 1945. The populations of the remaining centres of over 2,500 in 1945, with 1935 figures in brackets, were as follows: Bell Island, 8,171 (6,157); Bishop's Falls, 2,522 (1,882); Botwood, 2,744 (1,090); Carbonear, 3,472 (3,367); Corner Brook, 8,711 (6,374); Grand Falls, 4,552 (4,244); and Windsor, 2,772 (1,447).

PHOTO SURVEY OPERATIONS: The RCAF's aerial photo operations for 1949 get under way on April 25, with the take-off from Rockcliffe Airfield, near Ottawa, of the first survey aircraft of No. 22 Photo Wing.

Last year the Air Force smashed all records by photographing over 911,000 square miles of previously uncharted or poorly charted Canadian territory. But this year by setting themselves a goal of 947,000 square miles the aerial photo teams expect to exceed even that figure.

For the first time No. 408 Squadron, formed late last year, will take its place in the field alongside the veteran 413 and 414 squadrons. Officer Commanding 408 is a veteran photo flyer, W/C C.L. Olsson, DFC.

Two of the new squadron's eight Lancasters will operate this summer on Shoran-controlled survey work with which the RCAF has been experimenting. In the past, ground surveyors from the Department of Mines and Resources have been flown into unsurveyed areas to establish accurate ground positions, necessary before aerial photos of the region can be