

FARM LABOUR IMMIGRATION: The farm labour shortage will be considerably relieved in 1948 by Canada's immigration policy, according to a statement made Tuesday by Honourable Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour.

"The immigration of farm labour is being co-ordinated by the close liaison of the Federal and Provincial Governments under the Dominion-Provincial Farm Labour Agreements, and full use is being made of the farm intelligence service provided by the Dominion-Provincial Farm Labour Committees and the National Employment Service", Mr. Mitchell stated.

A total of 2,500 Dutch families will be coming to the Dominion for introduction into Canadian agriculture, and will include some 10,000 people in all. In addition to these immigrants from Holland, some 2,000 single men from Displaced Persons camps in Europe will arrive here this spring and summer to help out on farms. These are in addition to the 500 D.P. domestics who are to be placed in farm homes and about which an announcement was recently made.

There is also a considerable volume of agricultural labour from Britain which will migrate to the Dominion. The largest proportion of these new settlers, many of whom have already arrived, are being placed on farms through the cooperation of the provincial authorities and the National Employment Service. Immigrants from other countries are brought in under sponsorship programmes which are supervised by the Federal Government.

ATOMIC CONTROL BOARD ORDER: In order to carry into effect the policy with regard to private prospecting, exploration and mining for radio-active minerals announced by the Right Honourable C.D. Howe in the House of Commons on 16 March 1948, it is necessary that prospectors and others concerned be informed of and be able to communicate to others the results of analyses of ore samples and to have hand samples for the usual purposes. Accordingly, a general order has been issued under the Atomic Energy Regulations of Canada permitting these things to be done, the Atomic Energy Control Board has announced.

COL. PANGMAN RETURNS: Colonel J.E.G. Pangman, DSO, ED, has returned to Army Headquarters, Ottawa, after completing a course at the British Joint Services Staff College in the United Kingdom. He has resumed his appointment as Director of Military Operations and Plans.

PRAIRIE CENSUS: The number of gainfully occupied persons, 14 years of age and over in Saskatchewan on June 1, 1946, was 310,493, according to preliminary Prairie Census fig-

ures, a decrease of 8.7 per cent from the 1941 figure of 339,899. Total population of the province in this age group was 608,114 in 1946 compared with 647,219 five years earlier.

The number of gainfully occupied males, 14 years of age and over, was 267,259, showing a decrease of about 10 per cent since 1941, while the male population in this age group fell from 351,187 in 1941 to 327,644 in 1946, or by 6.7 per cent. The number of gainfully occupied females, 14 years of age and over, was 43,234, an increase of one per cent over 1941 even though the female population in this age group decreased by five per cent, or from 296,032 to 280,470.

At the 1946 Census, 160,733 or 60 per cent of the gainfully occupied males in Saskatchewan were engaged in agricultural occupations as compared with 184,244 or 67 per cent at the 1941 Census. This is the only large occupation group to show a marked decline since 1941. The growth in the number of females employed in clerical, commercial and financial occupations since 1941 was considerably greater than the increase shown for all gainfully occupied females, being 51 per cent for clerical and 48 per cent for commercial and financial occupations. On the other hand, there was a decrease of 8,025 or 49 per cent in domestic service occupations over the five-year period. In 1941, 16,377 females or 38 per cent of the total gainfully occupied females were employed in domestic service occupations as compared with 8,352 or 19 per cent in 1946.

While the total gainfully occupied males decreased by about 10 per cent in the five-year period, the number engaged in agricultural industries showed a decrease of 13 per cent. Males employed in manufacturing and transportation and communication industries showed an increase of 15 per cent and eight per cent, respectively.

GOLD PRODUCTION: Canadian production of gold during January totalled 274,104 fine ounces compared with 274,686 in the previous month and 234,137 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Production follows, by provinces, totals for January 1947 being in brackets: Quebec, 55,108 (36,822) fine ounces; Ontario, 170,827 (160,863); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 14,229 (14,893); British Columbia, 27,457 (16,161); Yukon, 19 (376); Northwest Territories, 6,464 (4,661); Nova Scotia, nil (361) fine ounces.

WOODENWARE INDUSTRY IN 1946: There were 29 establishments in the woodenware industry engaged wholly or principally in the manufacture of articles made entirely or almost entirely of wood, such as pails and tubs, clothes pins, washboards and ladders.

REPORTING PARLIAMENT BRIEFLY

STATEMENT ON TRIESTE: In the House of Commons on Monday, March 5, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. St. Laurent, made the following statement on Trieste:-

"Mr. Speaker, I should like to answer a question put on March 22 by the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon) as to the intention of the Government with respect to objectives set out in the joint statement on Trieste issued on Saturday, March 20, by the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom and France. The first part of this declaration reads as follows:

"The governments of the United States, United Kingdom and France have proposed to the Governments of the Soviet Union and Italy that those Governments join in agreement on an additional protocol to the treaty of peace with Italy which would place the free territory of Trieste once more under Italian sovereignty.

"In his address before the plenary session of the Paris conference on August 2, 1946, the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) said,

"Our concern as a nation is to see that, as far as we can help to make them so, the peace treaties will be based upon broad and enduring principles of justice and equity. Canada seeks no territory, no reparations, no special concessions of any kind, but we do seek to build a lasting peace.

"On October 8, 1946, the head of the Canadian delegation, the Hon. Brooke Claxton, speaking before the plenary conference, stated with reference to the statute of Trieste:

"The compromise for which the large majority of the commission eventually voted followed the lines laid down by the council of foreign ministers. The Canadian delegation supported the creation of the free territory of Trieste in the hope that it will possess genuine independence under the authority of the United Nations. This hope, however, is based upon the belief that in the last resort Yugoslavia, which was in the forefront in the war against the axis forces, will find it possible to play a leading role in supporting a pacific and progressive solution of this most difficult aspect of the Italian settlement.

"This hope has not been realized. In reply to the question of the hon. member for Peel, therefore, I wish to state that it is the intention of the Canadian Government to support the proposal of the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom, and France to return the free territory of Trieste to Italy by revision of the peace treaty with Italy."

GOLD OUTPUT SUBSIDY: The Governments legislation providing for the payment of subsidies on increased gold production received second reading in the House of Commons Tuesday. During the course of a detailed explanation,

the Minister of Finance spoke in part as follows:-

"I do not need to assure the house that, so far as Canada is concerned, there is not very much danger in the contingency referred to by the Council (the National Advisory Council of the United States Government) namely, that we shall largely stimulate the production of gold as the result of these subsidies. It is true that the bonus payments we are providing for should lead to some increase in production--I hope they will--but we are not under any illusion that the increased production for this reason alone will be of such magnitude as to become a major factor in the solution of our immediate exchange problems. Any contribution which it makes will, of course, be most helpful, but unfortunately there are other important factors at work which, unless conditions change, will be bound to limit the size of that contribution. I refer particularly to the shortage of labour and the mounting production costs which have been referred to by a number of speakers who have taken part in this debate today.

FREIGHT RATES ISSUE: The Minister of Transport, Hon. Lionel Chevrier, in the House of Commons Wednesday, announced that the Government will not interfere with the effective date of the order of the Board of Transport Commissioners authorizing a general advance in freight rates, but will direct that a thorough investigation of the railway rate structure be made. M.J. Coldwell, CCF leader, moved an amendment which would censure the Government for failure to defer the increases. Debate will continue.

Mr. Chevrier's statement was as follows:-

"The Government has reviewed the petition from the Transportation Commission of the Maritime Board of Trade representing *inter alia* the Governments of the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island and representations made on behalf of the Governments of the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia and other interested persons and organizations to vary Order No. 70425 of the Board of Transport Commissioners by providing that tariff schedules published and filed under the provisions of this Order be not effective until at least 30 days from the date thereof.

"After careful consideration of these representations, and, without prejudice to any appeal, the Government has decided that it should not interfere with the effective date of the Board's Order.

"The Government has taken into consideration the fact that no general investigation of freight rates has been made in Canada since that conducted in 1925 by the Board of Railway Commissioners. In the circumstances, the Government has decided it would be in the public