

FORESTRY RESEARCH

A group of internationally-known forest-research experts forgathered in Ottawa recently for the annual meeting of the permanent committee of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO). The Canadian member of the committee is Dr. D.R. Redmond, scientific adviser to the Deputy Minister, Department of Forestry. Countries represented on the committee are Germany, the United States, Canada, Mexico, the U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia, Austria, Poland, Italy, France, Denmark, India and Japan.

Following its three-day deliberations, the group spent a week touring various forest-research institutions and industrial operations in Ontario and Quebec.

This week, committee members are visiting the Department of Forestry's Petawawa Forest Experiment Station at Chalk River and Forest Products Laboratory, Ottawa, the Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada, at Pointe Claire, Quebec, the Morgan Arboretum at Macdonald College, Montreal, and various units of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests. The group will also visit a pulp mill, a veneer mill, a sawmill and a match factory in the Ottawa Valley.

EMERGENCY HEALTH UNITS

Directors and staff officers of emergency health services from across Canada are participating in a detailed study of the principles and techniques of organizing, directing and operating emergency medical units, such as advanced-treatment centres and emergency hospitals, at one-week course at the Canadian Emergency Measures College in Amprior, Ontario. The course is being sponsored and conducted by the Emergency Health Services Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Those attending will become familiar with the role the different units will play in the health plan during emergency situations. In addition to the advanced-treatment centre and the 200-bed emergency hospital, candidates are studying the role and operation of the emergency blood-service shadow depot and the emergency clinic.

PROGRAMME

The five-day programme includes the study of unit direction and related aspects of leadership, co-ordination, communications and assignment of personnel. Administrative responsibilities are also covered, particularly the provision and control of accommodation and transport.

A detailed study of the basic personnel and unit training programme is also being carried out. Candidates are learning how units should be deployed, and how they will be used to provide health facilities during an emergency.

A series of courses at the Emergency Measures College is being sponsored and conducted by Emergency Health Services for the training of candidates who, in turn, establish a number of courses in their provincial regions.

STUDY PENSION COMMISSION

Mr. Roger Teillet, Minister of Veterans Affairs, announced recently that a survey of the organization and work of the Canadian Pension Commission would be carried out immediately. A past president of the Royal Canadian Legion, a joint Deputy Minister of the Quebec Department of Lands and Forests, and a former chairman of the National Employment Committee have been appointed.

The Committee is not limited in the scope of its report, but it has been specifically instructed to study all matters relating to the organization, methods and procedures used in the adjudication of disability and other pensions paid under the Pension Act and the interpretation by the Canadian Pension Commission of such sections of the Pension Act as it feels should be considered.

The Committee is to report to the Minister within three months or as soon as possible thereafter.

LABOUR FORCE

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that employment increased in Canada by 28,000 to 7,279,000 during July and August, whereas in previous years it has seldom shown any appreciable advance during this period. Unemployment declined by 33,000 to 211,000. As in recent years, the decrease in unemployment during the month occurred among teenagers, who had entered the job market in large numbers in June and July.

In July and August, the number of persons in the labour force between 14 and 19 years of age decreased by 39,000. Unemployed teenagers accounted for the largest part of this decline. For persons 20 years of age and over, the labour force increased by 34,000 during the month; employment among persons in this age group showed a similar increase.

Employment in August was 308,000 higher than a year earlier and unemployment was 35,000 lower. The labour force, at 7,490,000, was 273,000, or 3.8 percent higher than in August 1964.

EMPLOYMENT

The July-August increase in employment was entirely in agriculture. Non-farm employment maintained a high level during the month.

Total employment in August was 4.4 percent higher than a year earlier. Year-to-year gains of 3.5 per cent or better have been recorded in each of the past eight months.

Non-farm employment was up 295,000 or 4.7 per cent, from August 1964. Most non-farm industries shared in the improvement. Particularly large gains occurred in construction and service..

Employment was substantially higher than a year ago in all regions, with the largest relative increase, 6.2 per cent, occurring in British Columbia.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment decreased by an estimated 33,000 in July and August. As in recent years, nearly all of this decline was among persons 14 to 19 years of age