

The Russian Service will begin as soon as the necessary language staff has been assembled and trained. At present two half-hour periods daily are contemplated.

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**INCREASED DEMAND FOR LABOUR:** Employment conditions at the end of September contrasted sharply with the situation last year at this time. This September, labour demand continued to increase throughout the month, particularly in the forest industries and in manufacturing, the Minister of Labour, Mr. Gregg, announced on October 23. Last year, there were few job openings in manufacturing, and the labour requirements of the logging industry were at their lowest postwar level. Applications for employment at National Employment Service offices this September have been steadily declining; in the same month last year, the labour surplus was growing, and registrations at employment offices increased by 6,000. On September 28, 1950, there were 133,100 registrations for employment on hand, 18,500 below the total at the first of the month, and 10,000 below the total on the corresponding date in 1949.

**SKILLED WORKERS**

The demand for skilled workers in the metal trades is particularly strong. Vacancies reported to local employment offices in manufacturing areas for such occupations as machinists, tool and die makers and welders exceed application from qualified workers. These new job openings occur at a time of peak labour requirements in agriculture and construction. This increase in labour demand in manufacturing is the result of the accelerated defence programme, at a time when production of automobiles, refrigerators and other consumer durables with a large steel content is continuing to expand. Employment is also increasing in manufacturing industries outside the iron and steel group, among them sawmills, canning factories and some textile plants. Many primary textile firms which until recently were on the short work week have returned to full time operations.

Employment in the construction industry is at very high levels, and more workers are being hired in an effort to advance projects as far as possible before the cold weather sets in.

Base metal mines have increased their output in response to the heavy demand in both Canada and the United States.

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*(Cont'd. from p. 1)* **CANADA-U.S. ECONOMIC ACCORD**

become necessary. At its last meeting on August 8, 1950, in Ottawa, the Committee drew up the Statement of Principles which has now been confirmed by both Governments.

**SUGGESTS A.P.N. NAVIES VISIT CANADA:** A suggestion by Rear-Admiral E.R. Mainguy, during H.M.C.S. Magnificent's visit in Rotterdam over the past weekend, that navies of the Atlantic Pact Nations might come to Halifax in the not too far distant future for combined exercises in Atlantic waters was received enthusiastically in Netherlands naval circles.

The suggestion was made at a press conference on board the Magnificent and had no official label tagged to it, but the newsmen received it as an excellent idea. Admiral Mainguy told reporters he hoped units of the Dutch Navy would find it possible to make a return visit to Canada and went on to say he would like to see all Atlantic Pact Fleets get together for a work-out. Halifax, he said, would make an ideal base for combined exercises.

During the Magnificent's five-day stay in Rotterdam, her 1,200 officers and men were welcomed sincerely by the Hollanders, who hold a deep love for Canadians which stems back to the Canadian Army's role in the country's liberation in the Second World War. At Amsterdam the destroyers Huron and Micmac were equally received with open arms.

The Netherlands visits set a precedent in that senior and commanding officers of the squadron were received by the country's royalty.

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**PASSAMAQUODDY REPORT:** In a report issued on October 25, the International Joint Commission states that additional information is required before it can reach a conclusion as to whether any one of the plans for the development of tidal power at Passamaquoddy Bay, in Maine and New Brunswick, is practicable, and is desirable from the point of view of public convenience and necessity.

Answering the respective questions under reference, the Commission reports, first, that the additional information is required; second, that the cost of the additional investigation is estimated at \$3,900,000, or possibly less; and, third, that the costs of the investigation should be divided in proportion to the benefits each country would derive from the project.

The Commission said, in part.

"The critical feature, in making use of the large quantities of energy in the tides at Passamaquoddy Bay which is potentially available for conversion into electric energy, lies in the dams and as to whether or not these dams can in fact be built at the particular locations required and at a cost which is economically practicable.

"The question of the practicability of the construction of these dams depends principally on the foundation conditions at the respective sites. Adequate information in this connection to permit conclusions to be reached is not at present available..."