

ship inspectors make routine checks of hundreds of ships after they are in port.

The Oil Pollution Regulations make it an offence for any person to dump oil from a ship in Canadian domestic waters. There is also an international agreement, called the 1954 Convention for Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, to which 14 countries, including Canada, are signatory, which bans the dumping of oil by ships within 50 miles of sea coasts throughout the world. This limit is increased in certain areas of heavy traffic and, in the case of Canada, is extended to 100 miles from the Atlantic coast.

The penalties on conviction for oil-pollution offences are up to \$500 fine and may include up to six months' imprisonment. The master or owner is responsible for violations by the ship. The law provides for exemption from prosecution in the case of ships that have suffered damage causing unavoidable leakage, but this does not exempt them from subsequent civil action for damages owing to the pollution of property.

A number of cases involving oil pollution have been the subject of legal action in the past three years. The arrangements now concluded have already resulted in wider enforcement of the regulations.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

Canada's composite index of industrial employment (1949=100) rose 0.7 per cent in August to 123.4 from 122.5 in July. Last year's August index stood at 123.1. The seasonally adjusted index declined fractionally in August to 118.5 from 118.9 in the preceding month; gains had occurred in this series in the three previous months.

Gains in August from July in *per capita* earnings in Ontario and Alberta more than offset losses in the remaining provinces, and the industrial composite of average weekly wages and salaries edged up in the month to \$78.26 from \$78.24 in the preceding month. Wages and salaries averaged \$75.94 in August 1960. The composite payroll index was 226.8 in August, up 0.8 per cent from 225.1 in July and up 3.6 per cent from 219.0 in the same month last year.

A majority of the larger industrial divisions recorded higher levels of employment in August, compared to July. Employment in transportation, storage and communication, and finance, insurance and real estate showed no change, while employment in forestry and mining was down slightly. The only advance of consequence in the seasonally-adjusted industry series occurred in the service industries.

There were small gains in August from the preceding month in durable-goods manufacturing, trade and public-utility operation, and there was no change in transportation, storage and communication. Employment declined in forestry, mining, construction, non-durable goods manufacturing, and finance, insurance and real estate.

DOCTORATE FOR "MR. WEATHER"

On October 26, Canada's No. 1 weather-man received an honorary degree. P.D. McTaggart-Cowan, 49, director of the Meteorological Branch, Department of Transport, was honored by his *alma mater*, the University of British Columbia, which conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Science *honoris causa*.

Dr. McTaggart-Cowan graduated from UBC in 1933 with first class honors in mathematics and physics. A Rhodes Scholar, he subsequently attended Oxford, where he received an honors degree in natural sciences in 1936.

He was responsible for the organization and development of meteorological services in Newfoundland for experimental transatlantic flights before World War II.

After the war, Dr. McTaggart-Cowan came to Meteorological Branch headquarters in Toronto as Chief of the Forecast-Services Division and Assistant Director, and subsequently, in 1959, he became Director of the Branch.

Recognition of his services to Canada was made when he was awarded the MBE and Coronation Medal; and his part in aviation was recognized when he received the Robert M. Losey Award from the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences in the United States for his "outstanding contributions to the science of meteorology as applied to aeronautics".

Dr. McTaggart-Cowan is vice-president of the American Meteorological Society and serves as a member of the executive committee of the World Meteorological Organization.

The citation accompanying the awarding of the degree presented him as an undergraduate at the University, "a wartime legend and a dedicated public servant".

NEW HOME BUILDING

Starts on the construction of new dwellings in all areas of Canada totalled 38,762 units in this year's third quarter, an increase of 9.8 per cent from last year's corresponding figure of 35,315 units, according to advance figures that will be contained in the September issue of "New Residential Construction", issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This placed starts in the January 1-September 30 period at 93,121 units against 76,797 in the same period of 1960, an advance of 21.3 per cent.

Completions in Canada rose 6.1 per cent in the third quarter to 32,981 units from 31,091 a year earlier, but fell 9.3 per cent in the January 1-September 30 period to 80,410 units from 88,621 a year ago. Units in various stages of construction at the end of September numbered 76,825, a rise of 10.5 per cent from the comparable 1960 total of 69,538 units.

Starts in urban centres of 5,000 population and over increased 20.0 per cent in September to 8,934 units from 7,443 a year earlier, and 27.8 per cent

(Over)