

(C.W.B. August 12, 1949)

EMPLOYMENT REPORT: Employment and payrolls in leading establishments in the major industrial groups showed considerable seasonal expansion throughout Canada at the beginning of June, advance indexes rising to record levels for the time of year, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics.

The advance index number of employment in Canada, based on 1926 as 100, showed a rise of 2.8 per cent in the month, standing at 194.4, as compared with 189.1 at May 1, and 192.3 a year earlier. The increases, as compared with May, ranged from 3.3 per cent in Nova Scotia and 1.2 per cent in Ontario, to 4.4 per cent in Quebec, 7.8 per cent in Saskatchewan and 8.3 per cent in Prince Edward Island.

The advance index number of payrolls in Canada rose 0.7 per cent as compared with May 1. Reflecting losses in working time on the Victoria and Ascension Day holidays, changes in the industrial distribution of the employees, and reduced working hours in some industries, the advance figure of per capita weekly earnings in the eight leading industries was lower, falling from \$43.18 at May 1, to \$42.31 at June 1, but was higher than last year's figure of \$40.02.

The advance index of employment in manufacturing was 204.9, as compared with 203.3 at May 1, and 203.6 at June 1 last year. The index number of factory payrolls was lower, falling in the month by 1.8 per cent. As compared with June 1 last year, there was a rise of 7.2 per cent. The advance figure of average earnings in manufacturing at June 1 was \$43.29 as compared with \$44.43 at May 1, and \$40.63 at June 1, 1948.

COAL PRODUCTION HIGH: Canadian mines produced more coal in 1948 than in any year since 1942, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. The year's output, at 18,450,000 tons, was 16 per cent higher than in 1947, and was slightly under the tonnage produced in 1942.

During 1948, Canadian coal mines employed 22,550 wage-earners and 1,769 salaried employees, compared with 20,763 wage-earners and 1,464 salaried employees in 1947.

INDIAN ART EXHIBIT: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. Gibson, has announced that an exhibition of modern Indian art was placed on display on August 5 in the National Museum of Canada. This exhibition is the work of a nineteen-year-old Indian art-student, Judith Morgan, and portrays the traditional customs and legends of the British Columbia Indians.

Anthropologists at the National Museum who specialize in the study of native races are interested in this work which preserves an authentic and valuable history of the culture of the west coast Indian tribes.

AMBASSADOR TO GREECE: The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced on August 9 the appointment of Mr. George Loranger Magann as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Canada to Greece to succeed Major General the Honourable L.R. LaFlèche, D.S.O., who has been appointed High Commissioner for Canada in Australia.

Mr. Magann was born at Toronto, Ontario, May 6, 1892. He was educated at Oratory College in England, Loyola College, Montreal, Trinity College, Port Hope, and graduated from the Royal Military College, Kingston in 1913. He also attended the School of Practical Science at the University of Toronto. He served in the first World War from 1915 to 1919.

Before joining the Department of External Affairs in October, 1941, Mr. Magann was engaged in business as partner and manager of G.L. Magann and Company, Toronto, and as Director of Anglin Norcross Corporation, Montreal. In October, 1941, Mr. Magann was appointed Special Assistant at the Canadian Legation in Washington. He represented Canada in the exchanges of disabled prisoners of war at Barcelona, Spain, in May, 1944; Gottenburg, Sweden, September, 1944; and Marseilles, France, in January, 1945. In April, 1945, he was posted to the Canadian Embassy in Paris with the rank of Counsellor and was transferred to the Canadian Embassy in Washington in January, 1947, serving in the same capacity.

Mr. Magann attended the League of Nations Assembly in Geneva in 1946 as an adviser to the Canadian Delegation.

Mr. Magann was married in 1921 to Grace Isabelle George. They have two daughters.

LIVING COST HIGHER: The Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced from 160.5 to 162.1 between June 1 and July 2, the increase being almost entirely due to a rise of 4.3 points in the food index. The advance in foods is in keeping with the seasonal movement normally experienced during this period.

The food index rose from 202.9 to 207.2 as sharp increases in eggs and potatoes combined with smaller advances in other fresh vegetables and meats. Rents were the only other group to show an appreciable change; the index for this group moved from 122.4 to 123.4, reflecting the results of a June rent survey.

The clothing index was unchanged at 183.3 and the index of home furnishings and services declined 0.2 points to 167.5. The fuel and light index rose from 128.7 to 129.1 as the price of coal advanced fractionally in several centres. The index of miscellaneous items changed from 128.4 to 128.5.

HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES: The estimated number of households in Canada in June 1948 was 3,235,000 as compared with 3,128,000 in 1947. At the 1941 Census, the number of households

recorded was 2,706,089. The increase in households between 1941 and 1947 was 421,911, and between 1941 and 1948 it was 528,911. The average size of household declined from 4.2 to 3.9 persons over the latter period. The average size of household in 1948 was largest in Quebec at 4.7 persons and smallest in British Columbia at 3.2 persons.

The estimated number of families in Canada in June 1948, was 3,088,000, an increase of 46,000 over June, 1947, and 562,701 or 22.3 per cent more than at the 1941 Census. The average size of family in 1948 was 3.8 persons as compared with 3.7 in 1947 and 3.9 in 1941. In each region, a decline in size of family took place between 1941 and 1948. This is reflected in an increasing proportion of families in the smaller size groups, the percentage of families from two to four persons constituting 74.4 per cent of all families in 1948 as compared with 70.8 per cent in this category in 1941, reports the Bureau of Statistics.

RCAF CHANGES: The transfer of four senior Air Force officers and the retirement of one of the original members of the RCAF, was announced in Ottawa on August 9 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton. Air Commodore D.E. MacKell, CBE, of Ottawa, Deputy Air Member for Personnel, a veteran of 35 years service, is retiring from the Air Force and will be replaced by Air Commodore F.G. Wait, CBE, of Ottawa, presently Commander of the RCAF Group at Halifax. Air Commodore R.C. Gordon, CBE, of Harris, Sask., Air Attaché and Air Member of the Canadian Joint Staff in Washington, will take command of the Group at Halifax. Air Commodore J.G. Bryans, CBE, of Ottawa, now attending the Imperial Defence College in Britain, has been appointed Deputy Air Member for Air Plans (Organization) replacing Air Commodore W.E. Bennett, of Halifax, who has been transferred to the Imperial Defence College. The changes are effective the latter part of this year.

GEN. SIMONDS ASSUMES NEW POST: Lieutenant-General G.G. Simonds, CB, CBE, DSO, has arrived in Kingston prior to taking over his new appointment as commandant of the National Defence College and the Canadian Army Staff College next week. He replaces Major General J.F.M. Whitely, CB, CBE, MC, present Commandant, who has been serving in Canada on exchange duty from the British Army for the past two years and who will return to England in the near future.

Since the exchange of these two senior officers went into effect in January, 1947, General Simonds has been Army Instructor at the Imperial Defence College at Camberley, England. At the same time, General Whitely took command of the Canadian Army Staff College,

and, when it opened in January, 1948, of the National Defence College.

General Simonds is the former commander of the 2nd Canadian Corps in Northwest Europe, and, after VE-Day, of the Canadian Forces in the Netherlands. When the CFN was disbanded early in 1946, he studied at the Imperial Defence College.

A veteran of both world wars, General Whitely served as a brigadier, general staff, with the Eighth Army in the Middle East. In 1942 he was transferred to Allied Forces Headquarters in the Mediterranean where he attained his present rank. Early in 1944, he was posted to Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces. He was appointed Army Instructor at the Imperial Defence College in 1945.

The third National Defence College course begins on September 3.

SEA-FISH LANDINGS LOWER: Landings in the sea-fisheries of Canada, excluding Newfoundland, amounted to 118,579,000 pounds in June, only 2.8 per cent below the total for June last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. However, the cumulative catch for the first half of 1949 -- 469,403,000 pounds -- is still about 14 per cent lower than for the same period of last year, decreases being registered for almost all the major species on both coasts.

Landings for the month in British Columbia were 11,431,000 pounds, a decline of 22.3 per cent from the June 1948 figure. Over the six-month period there was a large increase in the landings of clams. In the Pacific Coast fisheries, June is usually a comparatively quiet month, owing to the lull between the end of the halibut and the commencement proper of the salmon season.

On the Atlantic Coast the June catch amounted to 107,148,000, just 0.1 per cent below the June, 1948, landings. However, the cumulative total was 10.3 per cent lower than for the same period of last year. Herring and sardines continue to show the large decreases, clams and quahaugs, and hake the largest increases.

Although the season is still fairly young, there are indications that larger quantities of Atlantic cod, pollock and hake are being salted and dried than was the case a year ago. Almost half of the increased landings of Pacific clams is being canned.

GOLD PRODUCTION: Continuing the gains of preceding months this year over 1948, Canadian gold production during May totalled 332,442 fine ounces as compared with 287,065 fine ounces in May last year. The month's output, which had a value of \$11,635,470, was also above the April output of 326,903 fine ounces but below this year's peak of 342,677 fine ounces in March.