

Comparison shows that 1963 ranks second only to 1954, when 266,000 acres of forests were swept over by fire, the lightest year on record.

FIGURES FOR 1962

The Department of Forestry has also released final figures of forest areas burned in 1962, totalling 842,000 acres, a sharp increase from the 482,000 acres estimated at the close of the forest-fire season last year. The higher figure recently came to light following the normal process of review and survey of previous years' burns.

Forestry officials have noted that the revision from the estimated to the final figure for 1962 has been much greater than normal, but the discrepancy occurred in the early part of the 1962 season, when the rate of fire outbreaks was unusually high in certain provinces, making accurate estimating much more difficult than in most years.

GRANT TO OLYMPIC HOCKEY TEAM

A grant of \$25,000 was recently sent to the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association to help to meet the expenses of Canada's Olympic Hockey team for 1964. Provision of a grant of this size was recommended by the National Advisory Council on Fitness and Amateur Sport at its recent meeting in Ottawa. The Council pointed out that funds provided under the terms of the Fitness and Amateur Sport Act were necessary to enable the team to secure ample ice time for training and to take part in a number of games in Canada before leaving for the 1964 Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria, in early January.

Canada will be represented for the first time at the Olympics by a team selected from outstanding players from Canadian universities. The group has been trained by the Reverend Father David Bauer, C.S.B., of the University of British Columbia.

LABOUR-MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION

More than 500,000 workers in Canadian industry are now represented on labour-management committees across the country, according to a statement recently released by Mr. Allan J. MacEachen, the Minister of Labour. The exact total (506,514) is an increase of almost 10,000 over last year. The number of labour-management committees currently operating in industry stands at 1,811, an increase of 62 over last year.

PURPOSE OF COMMITTEES

Active promotion of these committees is conducted by the Labour-Management Co-operation Service of the Federal Department of Labour, which has field officers stationed in key centres across Canada.

Primarily concerned with bettering relations employers and employees and improving plant operations, these committees provide labour and management with an opportunity to meet on a regular monthly

basis to discuss mutual problems other than those normally handled through collective bargaining. The topics discussed at LMC meetings include automation and technological change, production, trade, morale, unemployment and layoffs, the quality of products, union-management objectives, competition, employee welfare, safety, the care of equipment and fire prevention.

Mr. MacEachen pointed out that, though not all these topics are discussed by all committees, there is a steadily increasing use of joint consultation as a means of solving problems affecting the welfare of both labour and management and industry as a whole.

Canadian industries operating labour-management committees include manufacturing, service, logging, mining, construction, transportation, communication, and wholesale and retail trade.

OCTOBER STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS

In October there was an increase in the number of work stoppages compared with the previous month, and the number of workers involved and the number of man-days lost also showed an increase over the September figures, according to a preliminary summary of strikes and lockouts recently released by Mr. Allan J. MacEachen, the Minister of Labour.

There were 81 stoppages in October, involving 24,861 workers, with a time loss of 138,980 man-days. In September, there were 63 work stoppages, involving 9,583 workers and a time loss of 86,320 man-days.

Fifty-two per cent of the time loss was accounted for by disputes involving longshoremen at Montreal, Quebec and Trois-Rivières, Quebec, rubber-manufacturing workers at St. Jerome, Quebec, food-and-beverage manufacturing workers at Montreal, and transportation-equipment workers at Oakville, Ontario.

JURISDICTION

Five of the work stoppages were in industries under federal jurisdiction. Of the others, 41 were within Ontario jurisdiction, 15 in Quebec, six in British Columbia, three each in Nova Scotia and Alberta, two each in Newfoundland, Manitoba and Saskatchewan and one each in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

Twenty-nine of the October work stoppages involved 100 or more workers. Of these, 18 were terminated by the end of the month.

A breakdown by industry of the month's stoppages shows 40 in manufacturing, 12 in construction, 10 in trade, seven in service, six in transportation and utilities, five in mines and one in forestry.

Reckoned on the basis of the number of non-agricultural wage and salary workers in Canada, the number of man-days lost represented 0.11 per cent of the estimated working time. In September, the percentage was 0.08 per cent. The corresponding figure for October 1962 was 0.11 per cent.

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