

the Northwest Territories to consider all plans for education being put into effect in the north. Officials with a specialized knowledge of the problems under consideration, also attend in an advisory capacity.

BULGARIAN NATIONALS: It has come to the attention of the Department of External Affairs that a notice has been published in *Novo Vreme*, a Bulgarian-language weekly in Toronto, on behalf of the Legation of Bulgaria in London, England, to the effect that all Bulgarian citizens living in Canada must register with the Consular Section of the Bulgarian Legation in London. The notice said that this was in accordance with the decree No. 425 of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, published in issue No. 69 of the State Gazette of March 25, 1948, and the regulations applying to all Bulgarian citizens living outside the confines of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. All Bulgarian citizens living in Canada were requested to communicate their addresses to the Bulgarian Legation in London so that they might be supplied with forms and instructions.

The Canadian Government regards any registration of Bulgarian nationals under this decree to be entirely voluntary and recognizes no obligation on the part of any resident of Canada to register.

The Government hopes that the Bulgarians who are making their permanent home in Canada will seek Canadian citizenship, just as other immigrants from Europe have become Canadian citizens. The Canadian Citizenship Act gives assurance to anyone who comes to this country with the intention of making a permanent home here, that he may readily become a naturalized Canadian citizen and secure the rights and privileges which belong to natural-born Canadians.

DECLINE IN DIVORCES: Fewer divorces were granted in Canada last year than in 1947, lower totals being shown for all provinces except Prince Edward Island. The decline was the first interruption in a steady upward climb dating from 1940. Despite the decrease, the total for 1948 was almost three times as large as that for 1940.

According to preliminary figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, there were 6,881 divorces in 1948, down 16 per cent from the preceding year's total of 8,199, but a rise of no less than 290 per cent over 1940. The decline from 1947 lowered the rate per 100,000 population from 65.3 to 53.5. In 1940 the rate was 20.8.

Ontario led the provinces in 1948 with a total of 3,107 divorces -- 45 per cent of the all-Canada total -- as compared with 3,509 in 1947. British Columbia was again second with 1,683, down from 1,826 in 1947, Alberta had 651 compared with 881; Manitoba, 477 compared with 665; Saskatchewan, 333 (509); Quebec, 292

(348); New Brunswick, 211 (236); Nova Scotia, 78 (207); Prince Edward Island 49 (18).

British Columbia, although second to Ontario in the number of divorces granted, exceeded the rest of Canada by a wide margin in the rate of divorce per 100,000 population, with a figure of 155.5, which was down from 174.9 in 1947. Alberta was next with a rate of 77.0 (107.2 in 1947); Ontario, 72.3 (83.8); Manitoba, 63.0 (89.5); Prince Edward Island, 52.7 (19.1); New Brunswick, 41.9 (48.1), Saskatchewan, 39.0 (60.5); Nova Scotia, 12.3 (33.3); and Quebec, 7.7 (9.4).

Following are annual totals of divorces in Canada between 1939 and 1947: 1940, 2,369; 1941, 2,461; 1942, 3,089; 1943, 3,263; 1944, 3,788; 1945, 5,076; and 1946, 7,683.

LEADING MINERALS: The upward trend in the output of mineral products in Canada was continued in January, lead being the only one of the 16 leading items for which figures are available on a monthly basis to show a decline from January last year.

According to figures released by the Bureau of Statistics, output for January was as follows by items, totals for January last year being in brackets: asbestos, 48,872 (46,633) tons; cement, 622,621 (500,317) barrels; clay products, \$1,267,525 (\$982,187); coal, 1,853,131 (1,396,363) tons; copper, 41,611,545 (40,894,610) pounds; gold 308,989 (273,366) fine ounces; gypsum, 152,011 (138,534) tons.

Lead production amounted to 21,592,887 pounds (22,134,925 pounds in January, 1948); lime, 84,134 (77,412) tons; natural gas, 7,865,078 (6,096,765) M cubic feet; nickel, 22,358,071 (21,548,839) pounds; petroleum, 1,356,483 (777,583) barrels; salt, 61,041 (53,931) tons; silver, 975,434 (958,225) fine ounces; zinc, 43,895,475 (34,332,614) pounds.

NEW IMMIGRATION OFFICE: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon, on March 29 announced that effective April 1, the Canadian Government Immigration Mission in Occupied Territory will open an office in Salzburg, Austria, to facilitate the examination of displaced persons in that country. The opening of this office will further enable the Mission to examine and grant visas to other admissible immigrants. The Officer-in-Charge of the Mission will be J.F.R. Robillard.

TARIFF BOARD APPOINTMENTS: The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott announced on March 29 that Mr. Francois Joseph Leduc, Montreal, Quebec, and Mr. William Wallace Buchanan, East Selkirk, Manitoba, have been appointed to fill the two vacancies which have existed on the Tariff Board. Mr. Leduc will be Vice-Chairman of the Board.

APPOINTMENTS: The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced on March 30 the appointment of Mr. Warwick Fielding Chipman, K.C., as High Commissioner for Canada in India; Mr. Chipman has been Canadian Ambassador in Argentina since August, 1945.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs also announced the appointment of Mr. John Doherty Kearney, M.C., K.C., as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Canada in Argentina; since December, 1946, Mr. Kearney has been High Commissioner for Canada in India.

Mr. Chipman was born in Montreal and was educated at McGill University. He practised law in Montreal and served as Batonnier of the Bar of Montreal and Batonnier General of the Bar of the Province of Quebec in 1942 and 1943. He was appointed Canadian Minister to Chile in 1943 becoming Ambassador in 1944 when the Canadian Legation there was raised to the rank of embassy.

Mr. Kearney was born in Montreal and was educated at Loyola College and McGill University. He was awarded the Military Cross in the first world war. He practised law in Montreal. He entered the Canadian diplomatic service and was appointed Canadian High Commissioner in Ireland in 1941. In 1945 he became Canadian Minister to Norway, being accredited also as Minister to Denmark in 1946.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT: Following the usual seasonal pattern, industrial employment showed a further substantial contraction between January 1 and February 1, but was well above the level of a year ago. Curtailment as compared with a month earlier was reported in all provinces. There was little change in manufacturing as a whole, but substantial decreases were recorded in logging, construction and trade.

The advance index number of employment compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, on the base 1926=100, stood at 191.3 -- highest in the record for midwinter -- compared with 196.0 at January 1, and 189.3 a year earlier.

Despite the falling-off in employment from the beginning of January, the weekly salaries and wages disbursed by the reporting establishments at February 1 were 1.5 per cent greater than a month earlier. As compared with a year ago the gain was 11.8 per cent. The advance figure of weekly earnings in the eight major industrial groups at the beginning of February was \$42.77 as compared with \$41.10 at January 1, and \$38.63 at February 1, 1948.

The advance index of employment in manufacturing was 202.7, unchanged from the January 1 figure, but two points higher than last year's February index of 200.7. Weekly earnings of persons employed by the larger manufacturing establishments averaged \$44.11 -- highest in the record -- as compared with \$42.28 at January 1, and \$39.38 at February 1 last year.

REVENUE FREIGHT: Cumulative totals of revenue freight carried by Canadian railways during 1948 reached 154,732,409 tons compared with 152,705,372 tons in 1947, a gain of 2,027,037 tons, or 1.3 per cent; according to the monthly traffic report for December issued by the Bureau of Statistics. The volume originated in 1948 was the second highest on record, second only to the 1944 total of 154,845,277 tons.

Revenue freight carried during December, in contrast with the year's advance, declined to 12,345,498 tons as compared with 13,013,397 tons in the same month of 1947, a drop of 5.4 per cent. Loadings at Canadian stations receded from 9,300,226 to 9,079,612 tons, while receipts from foreign connections were down more sharply from 3,713,171 to 3,265,886 tons. Foreign freight destined to Canadian points was 1,735,940 tons compared with 1,955,242 tons, the principal decline being in bituminous coal imports.

1949 HANDBOOK, "CANADA": Publication is announced of the 1949 edition of the Official Handbook CANADA. Initiated 19 years ago to supplement the field of the CANADA YEAR BOOK, it is especially designed for ready use by business men, teachers, students, lecturers, and all those interested in the progress of Canada. This convenient pocket-sized annual contains up-to-date official information on all phases of the country's economic organization, reports the Bureau of Statistics.

Containing over 280 pages of text, more than 150 illustrations, including eight pages of coloured reproduction, 100 statistical tables, as well as diagrams, charts and lithographed maps, this nineteenth edition is attractive and readable. The frontispiece marks the decision of Newfoundland to enter the Canadian Confederation.

Special articles in this edition deal with "Canadian Petroleum Production and Outlook", "Citizenship and Canadian Unity", and "Canada's interest in the Alaskan Fur Seal". The chapter material covers population and vital statistics, education, science and culture, public health and welfare services, veterans affairs, national income, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, furs, mines and minerals, water power, manufactures, transportation and communication, domestic trade, prices and price control, cost-of-living, foreign trade, international payments, construction, labour, banking and insurance, climatic data, and national parks of Canada.

EXPORTS DOWN: The value of Canada's domestic merchandise exports showed a minor decline in February from the corresponding month of last year. There was further expansion in the value of shipments to the United States and a marked rise to India and Pakistan, but the value of goods exported to the United Kingdom and European countries again moved downward.