

Ontario told members of the Edmonton Builders' Exchange and Alberta Roadbuilders' Association at a dinner meeting that the average annual increase in the number of job-seekers in the 15 to 19 age group had been roughly only 5,100 for a twenty-year period ending in 1955. In recent years the number had rocketed upwards.

"Training facilities for new recruits to the employment market and capital investment to provide additional employment opportunities will be needed on an expanded scale if the new bumper-crop of war babies are to be absorbed," Mr. Soules added. "With this background, the decision to establish an apprenticeship training centre in Edmonton to supplement the fine training facilities at Calgary is all the more welcome. Our youth will need more skilled training if they are to compete successfully for better type jobs in the future. Similarly, the construction industry will need better skilled men to carry out the increasingly complex programme of work ahead. More comprehensive training programmes are the obvious answer to both these problems in our industry as in others."

Mr. Soules said that for many years the number of young Canadians entering the job market was relatively stable. "The situation began to change markedly in 1957, however, and it has been estimated that there will be 1,470,000 in the 15-19 age group by this summer. As was the case last summer, this means an increase of over 100,000 in a year's time. Whereas the problem in the past has been to provide classrooms for our school-age children, the problem in the future may well be to provide them with jobs. Students who are only looking for summer vacation work are also running into greater difficulties in obtaining employment."

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INDIAN EXHIBIT AT STRATFORD

The largest exhibition of West Coast Indian arts and crafts ever presented in Canada has been prepared by the National Museum of Canada for this year's Shakespearean Festival at Stratford, Ontario.

More than 300 articles collected since the mid-nineteenth century by museum anthropologists will be displayed in the Stratford Arena during the period of the Festival. Most of the articles have never before been exhibited to the public, either in the National Museum or elsewhere.

All the distinctive arts and crafts of the tribes of the Pacific Coast are included. Visitors to Stratford will see totem-poles and house-posts, delicately engraved silver bracelets and slate dishes, grotesque masks, Chilkat blankets of goat's wool and cedar bark, ancient shaman charms and a wide selection of weapons, tools and utensils.

NORTHERN FIELD STUDIES

Last winter's snow may be all but forgotten by most Canadians, but its influence on the economy of the far north is year-long. Its effect on the migration of the barren-ground caribou is one of the 114 different studies on the field programme of the Canadian Wildlife Service this summer.

The Service, a division of the National Parks Branch, Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, will have more than 30 scientists in the field this season. Working closely with other federal, provincial and United States agencies and with universities and similar institutions, they will be probing into the secrets of Canadian animals, ranging from muskrats in Point Pelee National Park to polar bears in the Arctic archipelago, and from Dall sheep in the Yukon mountains to Brunnich's murre on the cliffs of Newfoundland.

NORTHERN FAUNA

The greatest effort will again be concentrated in Canada's northland, where wildlife is a direct source of livelihood for many residents. Airborne observers will count the calves in caribou herds, and biologists will be working towards a clearer understanding of changes in caribou population. They will try to find out if forest fires are robbing the animals of a square meal in winter, and if wolves are perhaps too efficient in eliminating the old and the weak.

Many other mammals, both in the north and in the National Parks, will be visited, observed, and studied, but the project of perhaps the most immediate interest to Canadians across the country will be the annual survey of waterfowl populations. Bird-census takers will again be asking questions on numbers, ages, living conditions, and family size of such fine Canadian residents as black mallard, pintails and other ducks, black brant and white-fronted, lesser snow and Canada geese. The results of this work will determine how many migratory birds Canadian hunters may shoot this autumn.

In some parts of the country the ducks are not welcome visitors, especially when they trample swaths of grain. A large-scale experiment this year will investigate the effectiveness of automatic exploders - noisy but harmless - in driving the ducks back from the fields to the marshes. The experiment is being undertaken in co-operation with provincial, state, and private agencies.

Better and more diversified fishing will be in prospect when the biologists descend on National Parks lakes and streams to plant fish, control blackflies and weeds, and eliminate coarse fish. All this should improve conditions this year and in the future but it will remain for the angler - and not the scientist - to get the fish out of the water and into the creel.