

duct seminars and to become familiar with research and scientific institutions engaged in research in various problems of science. The country sending the group will propose the names of lecturers and subjects of lectures; if acceptable, the receiving country will make all necessary arrangements for the visits.

Also, fourteen research workers will be sent from each country for periods up to nine months for the purpose of conducting research or of acquainting the visiting scientists with current research in the receiving country. The subjects of specialization in which the scientists intend to work will be decided between the two bodies.

LABOUR FORCE

Canadian employment was maintained during September and October, whereas in previous years it had usually declined during this period. An estimated 7,324,000 persons were employed in October, and 7,311,000 in September. Unemployment decreased by an estimated 10,000, to 195,000, during the month, whereas there is usually an increase at this time of year.

At 7,519,000 in October, the labour force was 340,000 or 4.7 percent higher than a year earlier. Employment was up 316,000, or 4.5 percent, over the year. Unemployment was 24,000 higher than a year earlier.

EMPLOYMENT

During September and October, non-farm employment showed an above-average increase, offsetting the usual large seasonal drop in farm employment. In non-farm industries, employment rose by 55,000 which compares to an average increase in September-October of 20,000 during the past five years.

The September-to-October increase in non-farm employment was concentrated in trade and manufacturing. In all other non-farm industries, employment levels remained virtually unchanged.

Non-farm employment was up 387,000, or 6.1 percent from October 1965; the largest gains were in manufacturing, in community, business and personal service and in trade. Farm employment, at 561,000, was 71,000 lower than a year earlier.

In Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia, employment levels were noticeably higher this year; in the Atlantic and Prairie regions, the year-to-year employment gains were relatively small.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment decreased by an estimated 10,000, to 195,000, during September and October. In comparison, the change in unemployment over the past five years has varied from an increase of 40,000 to a decrease of 5,000. The October estimate was 24,000 higher than the figure recorded a year earlier.

About three-quarters, or 144,000, of the total number of unemployed had been out of work for three months or less. Some 24,000 had been seeking work

from four to six months, and 27,000 for seven months or more.

Unemployment in October represented 2.6 per cent of the labour force, compared to 2.4 per cent in October 1965 and 3.7 per cent in October 1964. Seasonally adjusted, the October 1966 unemployment rate was 3.5 per cent.

SPORTS GOODS BOOM IN EUROPE

Canadian sporting goods manufacturers have recently scored heavily in the European market. Direct sales of \$180,000 and orders expected to total a further \$3 million are the result of the participation of 18 Canadian companies in Europe's largest sporting-goods trade show, SPOGA (Internationalen Fachmesse fur Sportartikel, Campingbedarf und Gartenmobil) in Cologne, Germany last month.

The Canadian exhibit, sponsored by the Department of Trade and Commerce, included winter-sporting goods, archery equipment and fishing tackle, camping equipment, barbecues, outboard motors, Scuba-diving equipment and hunting-knives. Of particular interest to the European buyers were Canadian-made motorized tobaggans. "Snowmobiling", which is well established in North America, is becoming a popular sport in Europe.

SPOGA attracts over 18,000 buyers annually from Europe and many from the United States. This was the third consecutive year that the Department had sponsored a Canadian exhibit at the trade fair.

OLD AGE SECURITY

Since 1952, when it was first instituted, the old age security pension has been of inestimable value to thousands of elderly Canadians. By its very existence, the pension is an assurance of the nation's concern for the welfare of its senior citizens. As its title suggests, the pension helps to bring security to the aged in a time when security is a matter of major concern.

LOWERED AGE REQUIREMENT

In order to make the pension available to Canadians at their average retirement age, the Canadian Parliament, in 1965, approved legislation to lower the pensionable age from 70 to 65. Beginning in January 1966, the pension of \$75 a month became payable to those aged 69 and able to meet residence requirements. Next January, it will be payable to those aged 68; in 1968, to those aged 67, and so on until in 1970, the pension will be payable at age 65.

COSTS INVOLVED

The cost of this reduction in age is considerable — the yearly budget for old age security is being increased by approximately \$100 million as each year about 100,000 pensioners are added to those who