

assembly comprising the present assembly of ACFAS. The SCITEC council will include 22 members from the congress and seven from the assembly.

Dr. Quittenton said that the main difference between SCITEC and the Science Council of Canada (the body that advises the Government on scientific matters) was that the former was a private organization, whereas the latter was a creation of government. The chairman of the Science Council, Dr. Ormond Solandt, who addressed the SCITEC founding conference, said that his organization welcomed the creation of the new body.

The membership of SCITEC includes scientists, doctors, engineers, social scientists and technicians. According to Dr. Betts, the membership may grow eventually to as many as 100,000.

ACFAS, the French-Canadian counterpart of SCITEC, expressed its enthusiasm on joining the new organization by offering \$1,000 to the starting fund and also by making available the temporary or permanent use of its own secretariat.

### CYPRUS TROOP SWITCH

The 1st Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment, will replace the 2nd Battalion, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada in Cyprus at the end of March 1970. This rotation follows a recent announcement that the United Nations mandate for UN forces in Cyprus has been extended to June 15, 1970.

Some 524 members, including support troops, of the RCR from Canadian Forces Base London, Ontario, will be flown to Cyprus by *Yukon* and *Hercules* aircraft.

Returning to CFB Gagetown, New Brunswick, will be 511 Black Watch.

The Canadian contingent is responsible for an area in the Kyrenia district of Cyprus of 55 square miles, which extends from the capital, Nicosia, north to the Mediterranean coast.

Canadian troops have been engaged in peace-keeping operations in Cyprus since the UN contingent first went to the island in 1964. Troops have been rotated twice yearly since that time.

### COPPER CONTROLS

All forms of copper and copper-scrap have been placed under export control to all destinations, effective January 13. This measure had become necessary because the price of refined copper in Canada has dropped lower than that obtaining in any other country. The control is designed to prevent any abnormal flow of Canadian copper required for consumption in Canada to higher-priced markets in other countries.

### LABOR FORCE

Employment declined less than is usual at this season last November and December; the unemployed estimate for December was 7,712,000, 49,000 fewer than in November. Unemployment rose less than usual during the month; the unemployment estimate in December was 383,000, up 29,000 from November. The labor force decreased 20,000 to 8,095,000. Compared to that of a year ago, the labor force was up by 155,000, or 2.0 per cent. Employment increased by 145,000, or 1.9 per cent. There were 10,000 more unemployed persons than there were a year earlier.

### INDUSTRIES

Employment developments in most major industry groups did not diverge significantly during the month from the usual seasonal patterns. Employment declined by 34,000 in agriculture from November to December. In non-farm employment, decreases in manufacturing (39,000) and construction (28,000) more than offset increases in other industries, the largest of which occurred in trade (24,000), transportation, communication and other utilities (17,000), and public administration (15,000). The employment decreases in the Atlantic region, Quebec and British Columbia were of about the normal size for this time of year. There was little change in the number employed in Ontario and the Prairie region, whereas there are usually small decreases between November and December. Compared to that of a year earlier, employment in community, business and personal service showed by far the largest increase (98,000); employment in trade was up by 33,000, and in finance, insurance and real estate by 27,000. Farm employment was down by 10,000. Regionally, the largest relative year-to-year increase in employment was recorded in British Columbia (3.1 per cent). This compares to gains of 2.6 per cent in Ontario, 1.7 per cent in Quebec and 1.2 per cent in the Atlantic region. Employment in the Prairies was virtually unchanged from last year.

The number of unemployed persons in December was 383,000, or 29,000 more than in November. Nearly half (13,000) of this increase was in Ontario. Compared to that of a year earlier, the number of unemployed persons was up by 10,000 for Canada as a whole. Of the total unemployed in December, 139,000, or 36 per cent, had been unemployed for less than one month, 39 per cent for one to three months, and 25 per cent for four months or more. Unemployment in December 1969 represented 4.7 per cent of the labor force, the same as in December 1968. In December 1967 it was 4.6 per cent of the labor force. The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate in December 1969 was 4.8 per cent.