

upper atmosphere when the sun's radiation is cut off by the moon.

Information obtained from the rocket-borne instruments will be augmented by radio wave propagation measurements taken from ground stations. One of these will be at the launching site and others at the Defence Research Telecommunications Establishment in Ottawa.

The reason that the launch site will be located in the Port Dufferin area is that it is on about the same parallel of latitude as Ottawa, making it possible to correlate the measurements taken in the two areas.

Preparation of the site will begin in the summer of 1969. All arrangements for the launchings are being made by NRC's Space Research Facilities Branch.

WORLD POST FOR NRC PR MAN

Ralph E. McBurney, Chief of the National Research Council's Technical Information Service, has been elected President of the International Federation for Documentation (FID) for a term of three years. Dr. Jack E. Brown, Chief Librarian of NRC's National Science Library, was re-elected to the FID Council for a term of four years.

The elections took place during the thirty-fourth FID Conference held in The Hague in December. The two Vice-Presidents, who were elected at the meeting are Professor A.I. Mikhailov, Director of Russia's Institute for Scientific Information, and Dr. H. Arntz, Chairman of the Society for Documentation in West Germany.

The International Federation for Documentation, founded in 1895, is the oldest and major international non-governmental organization dealing with all aspects of scientific and technical information and documentation. The membership of FID consists of national scientific documentation and information organizations and individuals in 43 countries.

The organization's prime concern is to promote the development of new ideas and techniques which will facilitate the processing and dissemination of information at both the national and international level.

LABOUR FORCE

Both the Canadian labour force and employment in Canada showed larger declines than usual for the season from November to December. The labour force decreased by 75,000 to 7,940,000, while employment declined by 110,000 to 7,567,000. Unemployment increased by 35,000 to 373,000, as is usual for that time of year.

The labour force was higher by 243,000, or 3.2 per cent, than in December 1967. Employment rose by 223,000, or 3.0 per cent; unemployment was up by 20,000.

EMPLOYMENT

Farm employment decreased by 56,000 during the month. Non-farm employment declined by 54,000. An increase of 36,000 in employment, transportation, communication and other utilities was more than offset by decreases in construction (34,000), public administration (21,000) and manufacturing (17,000).

With the exception of British Columbia, where employment increased slightly, all regions contributed to the decline in total employment from November to December. The largest decrease took place in Ontario (53,000), followed by Quebec (31,000), the Prairie Provinces (23,000), and the Atlantic Provinces (14,000).

Compared to that recorded a year earlier, farm employment went down by 20,000, and non-farm employment increased by 243,000. By far the largest gain in non-farm employment occurred in community, business and personal service (104,000). Smaller gains were registered in manufacturing (53,000), trade (27,000), public administration (23,000), transportation, communication and other utilities (18,000), construction (14,000), and finance, insurance and real estate (12,000).

The year-over-year increase in employment was shared by all regions except the Atlantic region, where there was little change. The largest increase took place in Ontario (103,000), followed by the Prairie Provinces (60,000), British Columbia (43,000), and Quebec (25,000).

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment increased by 35,000 from November to December. Compared to December 1967 figures, unemployment was up by 20,000.

Of the 373,000 unemployed in December, 38 per cent had been unemployed for less than one month, 38 per cent for one to three months, and 24 per cent for four months or more.

Unemployment in December represented 4.7 per cent of the labour force, compared to 4.6 per cent in December 1967, and 3.6 per cent in December 1966. The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate in December 1968 was 4.8 per cent.

SAFETY COUNCIL CONFERENCE

The first annual conference of the Canada Safety Council will be opened in Ottawa on May 4 by Governor-General Roland Michener.

The CSC came into being last September with the merger of the Canadian Highway Safety Council, the National Safety League and the Canadian Industrial Safety Association.

There will be 15 workshops on various aspects of safety, embracing the areas of activity formerly divided among the three constituent groups. General sessions will concentrate on topics such as medical aspects of safety, communication, and voluntary compliance with safety rules and practices.