

The general improvement affected all but a few districts where road conditions curtailed operations of principal industries. Unemployment was lower than a year earlier in virtually all local areas. At the end of April the labour market classification was as follows (last year's figures in brackets): in substantial surplus, 59 (74); in moderate surplus, 45 (35); in balance, 6 (1).

Canada's labour force was estimated at 6,109,000 in the week ended April 18, 1959 as compared with 6,077,000 a month earlier. Of this year's April 18 total 5,289,000 or 86.6 per cent of those in the labour force usually worked 35 hours or more at the jobs they held in the survey week; 375,000 or 6.1 per cent usually worked less than 35 hours; and 445,000 or 7.3 per cent were without jobs and seeking work. Classed as not in the labour force are such groups as those keeping house, going to school, retired or voluntarily idle, too old or unable to work, and these numbered 5,403,000.

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SCULPTURE FOR AIRPORT

Casting of "The Welcoming Birds", a group of bronze and aluminum figures which will decorate the overseas waiting room in the Department of Transport's new air terminal at Gander, Newfoundland, has been completed, the Department has announced. The work of Ottawa artist Arthur Price, a prominent figure in Canadian art and sculpture, they have been shipped to Newfoundland.

The group, done in simple and effective style, symbolizes the welcome accorded by Canada to incoming air passengers from Europe. There are seven figures, cast in rough-textured metal with polished highlights; two are of silica aluminum, silver in colour, one is of golden-toned manganese bronze, the others in ordinary bronze.

Set on a base of cast bronze, eight feet long, the figures stand nearly five feet in height and together weigh 1,500 pounds. They are well suited to harmonize with the modern decor of the Gander air terminal's interior.

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NEW UNIVERSITY

York University, a new institution of higher education, will open its doors in the autumn of 1960, as a direct affiliate of the University of Toronto. Authority to establish this new university was granted during the recent session of the Ontario Legislature, with a view to meeting the increasing need for additional places in Canadian universities.

The new university will begin by offering a three-year general course leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree. During the period of affiliation the curriculum will be under the

jurisdiction of the University of Toronto senate, on which York will be represented. All degrees granted will be University of Toronto degrees and staff appointments will be made with the approval of the President of the University of Toronto. This close association will last for a minimum of four and a maximum of eight years.

The choice of a site for York University has not yet been made.

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CONSUMPTION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS

Per capita domestic consumption of cheese, concentrated milk by-products, and ice cream was slightly higher in 1958 than in 1957, but disappearance of butter, concentrated whole milk products and fluid milk and cream was lower, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual report "Dairy Statistics".

Consumption of fluid milk and cream increased in total in 1958 to 5,100,215,000 pints from 5,013,943,000 in 1957, but the per capita figure fell to 307.06 pints from 310.21. Total consumption was higher in all provinces, while the per capita averages were lower in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

Domestic disappearance of ice cream climbed in total to 36,515,000 gallons from 35,117,000 in the preceding year and on a per capita basis to 2.14 gallons from 2.12. Total consumption was greater than in the previous year in all provinces, while the per capita averages were bigger in all provinces except Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ontario.

Domestic disappearance of cheese increased to 115,047,000 pounds from 111,802,000 in 1957 and the per capita average to 6.75 pounds from 6.74. Consumption of butter -- creamery, dairy and whey -- fell to 326,206,000 pounds from 336,356,000 a year earlier and the per capita average to 19.13 pounds from 20.28.

Total domestic disappearance of concentrated milk by-products -- skim powder, evaporated skim and condensed skim -- advanced to 152,165,000 pounds from 128,035,000 in the previous year and the per capita average to 8.93 pounds from 7.72. Total disappearance of concentrated whole milk products -- evaporated milk, condensed milk and milk powder -- rose to 348,289,000 pounds from 345,744,000, but the per capita average declined to 20.43 pounds from 20.84.

DRY SKIM MILK POWDER

Dry skim milk powder packed in consumer-size containers (24 pounds or less) totalled 5,508,001 pounds in this year's first quarter, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in a special statement. This was an increase of 623,610 pounds or 12.8 per cent from the 1958 first-quarter total of 4,884,391 pounds.