

POLAR EXPEDITION DISCOVERS TRACES OF FORMER EXPLORERS

valued at \$2,500,000 a year ago.

A significant increase in the production of frozen fillets of groundfish on both coasts is noted. It is evident also that a somewhat larger proportion than last year of the British Columbia salmon catch to date has been utilized for canning. Smaller quantities of Atlantic fish, other than sardine herring, are being canned.

OLD AGE PENSIONS BOARD: Hon. John H. Sturdy of Regina, Minister of Social Welfare for Saskatchewan, and Hon. A.W. Matheson of Charlottetown, Minister of Health and Welfare for Prince Edward Island, have been appointed to the interprovincial old age pensions board, according to an announcement made in Ottawa on September 29 by Hon. Paul Martin, Minister of National Health and Welfare.

The board, consisting of representatives of each province and the federal government, meets from time to time to study and revise regulations affecting payment of pensions to the aged and the civilian blind.

Mr. Sturdy replaces Hon. O.W. Valleau, formerly Saskatchewan's Minister of Social Welfare, and Mr. Matheson takes over from P.S. Fielding, Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare for Prince Edward Island.

McKEE TRANS CANADA TROPHY: The Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence, announced yesterday that presentation of the McKee Trans-Canada Trophy for 1947 will be made on Saturday, October 2, in Winnipeg to Captain B.A. Rawson, director of Flight Development Trans-Canada Airlines. Presentation will be made by Air Vice Marshal K.M. Guthrie, CB, CBE, Air Officer Commanding, North West Air Command, on behalf of the Minister. Announcement of the award to Capt. Rawson was made last May "in recognition of his outstanding contribution to advancement in the field of aviation during 1947, backed by an excellent record of achievement during a 22-year period of association with aviation development in general".

The McKee trophy has been awarded annually since 1927 for meritorious service in advancement of aviation in Canada. The award to Capt. Rawson marked the first time the trophy had been made to a member of TCA.

COST OF LIVING SURVEY: How much does it cost you to live, and what are the items that make up that total? That is the question 15,000 Canadians from coast to coast will be asked when 250 Bureau of Statistics interviewers embark next week on a new venture, a survey of family expenditures.

It is all part of a plan to bring up to date the Bureau's information on what the average Canadian family spends. As Herbert

Marshall, The Dominion Statistician, puts it, "The survey is being made to find out more about the budgets of Canadian families of all types, both the not-so-wealthy and the wealthy."

The interviewers have been carefully chosen and sworn to secrecy. The information they gather will be placed in a huge statistical melting pot, and the results will come out as national totals and averages. When completed, the survey will be used to overhaul the cost of living index, which at present is based on the 1938 family budget.

INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT: Employment and payrolls in leading establishments in the principal industrial groups at the first of August show a further upward movement in all provinces except Ontario, according to an advance tabulation by the Bureau of Statistics. The increases in the reported staffs varied from one per cent in Saskatchewan to 3.7 per cent in Quebec, while the decline in Ontario amounted to 0.6 per cent.

Based on the 1926 average as 100, the index number of employment reached a new all-time high level, standing at 200.7, as compared with 198.0 at July 1, and 192.6 at August 1, 1947, previously the peak figure for mid-summer. During the war, the maximum index for August 1 was 185.9, in 1943.

The advance index number of payrolls at August 1 showed a gain of 1.8 per cent as compared with July 1. The advance figure of per capita weekly earnings of persons employed by leading firms in the eight major industrial divisions stood at \$40.66, a new high in the record dating from June 1, 1941. The figure at July 1 this year was \$40.48, and that at August 1, 1947, \$36.53.

During the month of September, employment in Canada reached its seasonal peak in most parts of the Country, Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour, announced in his monthly statement on the manpower picture.

The Minister explained that although a slight levelling off would occur with slackening in the summer-active industries, the outlook for the rest of the year was one of generally sustained production with consequent high employment.

Unemployed applicants registered at National Employment Service offices throughout Canada at September 16 totalled 86,000 as compared to 91,000 at August 19. During the same period, unfilled vacancies increased by 14,000; at September 16, there were 71,000 job openings on file.

The continued high demand in both domestic and foreign markets for manufactured goods will likely sustain employment at its present high level throughout the remainder of the year. Demand for workers in manufacturing industries has increased during the past month but much of this is due to the need for replacements for students returning to school.

ARCTIC SUPPLY VOYAGE: It was announced in Ottawa and Washington on June 4 that three U.S. Navy and Coast Guard vessels, with Canadian representatives aboard, would shortly be sailing to Canadian Arctic waters in support of the joint weather station programme which is being carried out by the Governments of Canada and the United States. These three ships -- the U.S.S. "Edisto", icebreaker, and the U.S.S. "Wyandot", cargo vessel, have now returned to Boston.

During the summer they resupplied the joint weather stations established in 1947 at Eureka Sound, Ellesmere Island and at Resolute Bay, Cornwallis Island. They also made a preliminary investigation of the possibility of establishing a further joint station in the vicinity of Winter Harbour, Melville Island. In the course of reconnoitering a site for an additional joint station on Ellesmere Island, the U.S.S. "Edisto" and the U.S.C.G. "Eastwind" managed to reach, via Robeson Channel, the Cape Sheridan area at the north of that island.

While near Cape Sheridan, a landing party from the supply mission located a cairn which contained records of two famous Arctic expeditions. The first was that of Sir George Nares, of the Royal Navy, whose ship, the "Alert", sailed north, in 1875, between Canada and Greenland, to Cape Sheridan. In July 1876, after exploring the Ellesmere coast westward to Cape Alfred Ernest, Nares' expedition left a record of its activities in a cairn near Cape Sheridan. While on a polar expedition, Admiral Robert E. Reary, the U.S. explorer, subsequently visited the same region, in 1905-06 and, as usual among Arctic explorers, he opened Nares' cairn, took the original note, left a copy of it in the cairn, and added a record of his own activities.

When at Cape Sheridan, the recent supply mission again opened the cairn, removed the notes in it and left copies of them together with a note on the 1948 visit.

The texts of the notes brought back this summer are given below:

ARCTIC EXPEDITION 25 July - 1876

H.M.S. "Alert" at Floe-berg Beach (Lat. 82° 27' North Long. 61° 22' West)

H.M.S. "Alert" wintered off this coast inside the grounded ice 1875-1876. H.M.S. "Discovery", her consort, passed the same winter in a well sheltered harbour in Lat. 81° 44' north, Long. 66 5' west.

The sledge crews after a very severe journey over the ice succeeded in attaining Lat. 83° 20' 30" N. No land has been sighted to the north'd. Another division explored the coast line to the northward and westward to Lat. 82° 23' N. Long. 84° 56' W. Cape Columbia the northernmost Cape being in Lat. 83° 7' N. Long.

70° 30' W. Sledge parties from the "Discovery" have explored the Greenland Shore for some distance to the Northward and Eastward, but the result of the examination is not yet known to me. Scurvy attacked nearly all the men employed in sledge travelling. Two deaths have occurred: Neils C. Paterson from the effects of a severe frost-bite (which necessitated a part of each foot being amputated) followed by exhaustion and scorbutic taint; - and George Porter, Gunner R.M.A. who died from scurvy and general debility when absent on a sledge journey; and was buried on floe in Lat 82° 41' N.

The ice in the Polar Sea broke up on July 20 - when it permits us to move, the "Alert" will proceed south and join company with "Discovery", both ships will then sail for Port Foulke, and most probably thence to England.

G. S. Nares
Captain R.N.
Commanding Arctic Expedition

Cape Sheridan, September 5, 1905.

The Peary Arctic Club's "Roosevelt" arrived here from New York at 7 A.M. and made fast to the ice foot under the point of the cape awaiting the turn of the tide to proceed to Cape Hecla.

The Roosevelt left New York July 16, Sidney, Cape Breton, July 26, arrived Cape York August 7, and left Etah August 17. Her last stopping place was the ice foot south of Cape Union which left at 3.30 this morning.

Personally visited the Alert's Cairn at Floberg Beach and took there from Alert's Record, copy of which accompanies this. Roster of the Roosevelt's Company is also enclosed.

(Signed)

"R. E. Peary, U.S.N."
Commanding the Expedition.

The U.S.S. "Edisto" and the U.S.C.G. "Eastwind" returned to the Atlantic coast through Fury and Hecla Strait, between the Melville Peninsula and Baffin Island.

The ships which participated in the supply mission were under the command of Captain George J. Dufek, U.S. Navy, embarked on the U.S.S. "Edisto". The "Edisto" was commanded by Commander E.C. Folger, U.S. Navy; the "Wyandot" by Captain J.D. Dickey, U.S. Navy; and the "Eastwind" by Captain J.A. Flynn, U.S.C.G. Among the principal Canadian representatives who participated in the supply mission were Mr. J. Ivor Griffiths of the Meteorological Division, Department of Transport, and Captain