

ing, a considerable amount of experimenting with magnetic compasses has been carried out by personnel of the Detachment. Barometric Pressure readings have also been observed to determine the heights of various points of land in the area.

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EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: The Minister of Labour, Mr. Gregg, on August 23 issued the following statement on the employment situation in Canada as of August 3:

Canada is experiencing a period of unparalleled prosperity. At present, 97 out of every 100 workers have jobs, with weekly earnings that average the highest on record. Since the first week of April, the number of persons in Canada with jobs has increased by about 300,000. Over the same period, applications for employment on hand at National Employment Service offices have declined by over 278,000.

These facts confirm the views expressed last winter that much of the unemployment which then existed was seasonal and temporary. Several months ago, the late Minister of Labour, Mr. Mitchell, then predicted that there would be a shortage of labour by the middle of this summer. Such is now the case in some industries and areas.

CONSUMER INCOME LEVELS

The employment situation at the beginning of August reflected the continuing high levels of consumer income, the heavy demand for Canadian products in the United States, and the large investment programme, as well as the additional stimulus provided by the defense preparations in both Canada and the United States. In the three weeks ending August 3, the total number of registrations for employment on file with the National Employment Service fell by some 25,000 to 158,100. Although total registrations on hand for Canada as a whole are still some 19,000 above the figure for last year, the increase is only 2,000 in registrations from men. In some areas, the number of men registering with the local employment office is below that of last year. In the Pacific region, the total number of registrations is almost 9,000 below last year's.

Registrations from women, on the other hand, were almost 17,000 higher than at this time last year. In the Ontario region, the increase in total registrations over the comparable week in 1949 is entirely accounted for by the greater number of women registering for work. This increase in the number of women registering is related in part to the somewhat lower level of employment in industries such as textiles and hotels and restaurants which employ large numbers of women workers.

Latest figures indicate that employment in the eight leading industries of Canada is above that of last year. Manufacturing industries such as primary iron and steel, automobiles and electrical apparatus are producing at capacity, and in metal mines, pulp and

paper plants and sawmills, employment is being maintained at close to last year's levels in answer to the heavy demand both domestic and from the United States. In some industries such as primary iron and steel, construction and agriculture, employers are finding some difficulty in obtaining the type of skilled labour required to meet their needs.

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AIR ATTACHÉ TO YUGOSLAVIA. Wing Commander G.A. Folkins, AFC, of Trenton, Ont., and Calgary, Alta., has been appointed assistant Air Attaché to Yugoslavia, it was announced by Air Force Headquarters on August 25.

W/C Folkins, 44, was born in Calgary and there received his early education at the Central Collegiate Institute. Prior to joining the Regular Air Force in 1939, he served with the RCAF Auxiliary. He earned his pilot's wings and served as flying instructor at various stations across Canada including Trenton and Patricia Bay.

He attended the RCAF Staff College in Toronto and later the Empire Central Flying School in England. Later he commanded Air Force Stations at Fort Nelson and Whitehorse, Y.T. For the past year he has been at Trenton as Officer Commanding the Central Flying School.

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VOCATIONAL TRAINING REPORT: Publication of the Annual Report on Canadian Vocational Training for the fiscal year 1949 to 1950 was announced on August 24 by the Minister of Labour, Mr. Gregg.

The Report covers the activities of the Training Branch of the Department of Labour which is responsible for administering the various projects authorized by the Vocational Training Co-Ordination Act of 1942. The various projects are carried out by means of agreements between the federal Government and the Provinces. These federal provincial agreements provide federal financial assistance to the Provinces for the operation and development of vocational training.

The Report shows that the Training Branch administered \$7,321,850 of federal funds during the last fiscal year.

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WHEAT STOCKS: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on August 10 amounted to 93,521,444 bushels compared with 97,809,705 on August 3 and 52,892,678 on the corresponding date last year. Farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 206,505 bushels of wheat during the week ending August 10, a sharp decline from last year's corresponding total of 2,248,255 bushels. Cumulative total for the 10 days of the new crop year was 942,807 bushels as against 3,589,265 in the like period of the preceding crop year.