

**JOBS FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS:** The Minister of Labour, Mr. Gregg, announced on August 20 that of more than 12,000 students who had graduated from Canadian universities this year only 254, about 2 per cent, were still registered at the National Employment Service offices at the end of July as looking for work. A fair percentage of these 254 graduates were actually working, but were still registered with NES because they were seeking more suitable jobs. He said that in addition to this, practically all of the university undergraduates, nearly 42,000, had found summer employment of one kind or another. He described as "excellent" the results of this year's campaign to find jobs for university students.

Mr. Gregg made the announcement after reviewing the 1953 report on placement of university students which was produced by the Executive and Professional Division of the National Employment Service. The employment campaign was a three-way effort on the part of employers, universities, and the Executive and Professional Division.

As in past years, there were some university faculties where there were not enough graduates to meet the demand. The shortages were most in evidence in the engineering faculties.

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**RAIL COSTS CLIMB:** With operating expenses climbing faster than revenues, Canadian railways reported an operating income of \$4,436,713 for May, a drop of \$1,101,453 from May last year and well under the same month in 1951 and 1950. Revenues advanced by \$3,379,703 or 3.4 per cent in the year to \$103,193,726, a new high for the month, but operating expenses rose by \$6,241,984 or seven per cent to \$95,765,173 with wage rates higher. Total operating income in the first five months of the year was down to \$10,160,142 a year earlier.

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**WHEAT SUPPLIES UP:** Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at the end of the 1952/53 crop year amounted to 268,099,811 bushels, steeply above last year's year-end total of 195,622,919, according to the Bureau's weekly statement. During the crop year farmers increased their wheat marketings to 516,519,973 bushels as compared with 455,315,002 the year before, while overseas export clearances rose to 306,128,857 bushels as compared with 266,038,126.

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Canada was the world's third largest trading country in 1952, and was one of the few leading world traders to increase the volume of both exports and imports in the year. Canada's total trade amounted to \$581 per head of population, a figure only exceeded by New Zealand.

**GRAIN CARRYOVER HIGH:** Total carryover stocks of the five major Canadian grains in all North American positions as at July 31, 1953 were estimated at 625,000,000 bushels, second only to the record 832,000,000 on hand at July 31, 1943, and about 82 per cent above the 1943-52 average of 343,000,000 bushels. Data for these estimates were obtained from the Bureau's annual July 31 survey of grain held on farms, from mill returns, and from information supplied by the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, relative to stocks of grain in commercial positions.

Total stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions at July 31, 1953 were estimated at 362,700,000 bushels, compared with 217,200,000 on the same date last year, and were the highest since the record 594,600,000 in 1943. An estimated 92,000,000 bushels of this year's total were still on farms while 137,200,000 of the off-farm stocks were in country elevators. Rye stocks, estimated at 16,400,000 bushels, set a new record for July 31, exceeding by 1,100,000 bushels the previous high of 15,300,000 set in 1943.

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**FOURTH WOMAN ELECTED:** Miss Margaret Aitken, Progressive Conservative candidate in the federal election of August 10 in the Ontario riding of York Humber, has been declared elected in the official count of votes. She is the fourth woman to be elected to the House of Commons in the recent contest. Her election gives the Progressive Conservatives 51 seats in the 265-member House of Commons and reduces the Liberal Government's following to 170 members.

The official count of ballots from the riding was announced on August 18 to be 11,175 for Miss Aitken, 11,097 for the Liberal candidate, Mr. Ken Thompson, with the C.C.F. candidate well out of the running. The unofficial count on election night had given the Liberal candidate a margin of 36 votes over Miss Aitken.

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**LABOUR'S RECORD INCOME:** Total wages, salaries and supplementary labour income reached a new monthly peak in May of \$969,000,000, a gain of \$20,000,000 over the preceding month and a rise of \$94,000,000 or 10.7 per cent over the May, 1952 total, according to the Bureau's monthly estimates. This brought the cumulative total for the first five months of 1953 to \$4,690,000,000 compared with \$4,267,000,000 a year earlier.

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Preparations are well under way for the establishment of the Federal Civil Defence College at Arnprior, Ont., in the Fall.