

N. R. C. OFFERS JOBS: "Employment Opportunities" is the title of a booklet just issued by the National Research Council of Canada. Purpose of the announcement is to bring to the attention of young scientists and engineers the opportunities that exist for careers in the laboratories of the National Research Council.

Information is given on the Council's general requirements, the advantage of employment in the laboratories, salary ranges, how to complete applications and how appointments are made. The booklet also contains brief descriptive notes on each of the Laboratory Divisions including Applied Biology, Atomic Energy, Building Research, Pure Chemistry, Applied Chemistry, Information Services, Mechanical Engineering, Physics, Prairie Regional Laboratory (Saskatoon), Radio and Electrical Engineering. There is also a note on postdoctorate fellowships available in certain Divisions.

Distribution of the booklet has been made to science and engineering departments in all Canadian universities, registrars and placement officers, postgraduate schools of 32 American universities and 12 British universities, to all science students receiving D.V.A. assistance at universities outside of Canada and to Government departments employing science graduates.

NATIONAL PARKS APPOINTMENT: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon, announced the appointment of J.A. Wood, at present Superintendent of Jasper National Park, Alberta, to the position of Assistant Controller, National Parks Service, Ottawa.

Mr. Wood, who graduated from McGill University in electrical engineering in 1913, and in mechanical engineering the following year, spent about two years in the practice of his profession before entering the Federal Civil Service on February 22, 1915 with the Post Office Department at Ottawa. On May 6, 1920, he transferred to the National Parks Branch of the Department of the Interior and was assigned to Banff National Park, Alberta as Park Engineer. When Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan was established in 1927, Mr. Wood was appointed its first Superintendent, and he served in this capacity until his promotion to the important superintendency of Jasper National Park on October 3, 1938.

LESS JUVENILE DELINQUENCY: Measured by the number of juveniles brought before the courts and the number of convictions for offences against the law, juvenile delinquency in Canada during 1947 showed a continuation of the downward trend indicated since 1943, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

The number of children brought before the courts during 1947 fell to 8,265 from the preceding year's total of 8,707, a decline of

slightly more than five per cent. Convictions also were lower, totalling 7,545 in 1947 as compared with 7,856.

Young offenders charged with major offences decreased from 5,409 in the preceding year to 5,152 in 1947, a decline of 4.8 per cent, while the convictions fell from 4,949 to 4,683, or by 5.4 per cent. The number charged with minor offences and disposed of by the courts was 3,113 compared with 3,298, a decrease of 5.6 per cent, while the convictions fell from 2,907 to 2,862.

MAJOR OFFENCES LOWER

An outstanding point of interest lies in the fact that the total number of major offences in 1947 for all delinquents is lower than any figure reported since 1924. The reductions in 1947, which account for this improvement, are to be found in fewer cases than in 1946 of aggravated assault and wounding, endangering life on railway, theft and receiving stolen goods, wilful damage to property and immorality.

In 1947 it was the younger children who showed an increase in the number of major offences over those of 1946. They were of both sexes, seven and eight years of age, 10-year old girls and 11 and 12-year old boys.

Over 37 per cent of major offences involving boys were committed by lads of 12 years of age and younger. Juveniles of 14 and 15 years of age were responsible for 55.8 per cent of the convictions for major offences committed by girls and 45.8 per cent of those committed by boys.

Over a 10-year period, only about one in four of the juveniles brought before the court for major offences failed to profit by the warning given to them and made at least a second appearance. The figures in 1947 show 72.1 per cent were first offenders, 14.4 per cent appeared in court a second time, seven per cent a third time, 2.9 per cent a fourth time and 3.6 per cent five or more times.

IRON AND STEEL: Canadian production of pig iron, ferro-alloys and steel ingots and castings increased during October over September, with ferro-alloys reaching a peak figure for the last two years and ingots and castings at the highest level since May this year.

Output of pig iron during the month, according to figures released by the Bureau of Statistics, amounted to 186,424 tons compared with 182,465 tons in September and 163,335 tons in October last year. Cumulative total for the 10 months this year rose to 1,779,905 tons as against 1,630,149 tons in 1947. The October output consisted of 164,184 tons of basic iron, 15,760 tons of foundry iron and 6,480 tons of malleable iron.

Ferro-alloy production jumped sharply in October to 19,489 tons from 12,318 tons in September and was well above last year's October figure of 14,691 tons. Previous monthly

peak was 18,436 tons in May this year. During the 10 months ending October, production aggregated 147,099 tons compared with 127,393 tons last year.

October production of steel ingots and castings combined was 281,866 tons as compared with 257,865 in the preceding month and 256,461 tons a year ago. The month's output was the third highest this year, being exceeded in May and March. Cumulative output for the 10 months was 2,643,253 as compared with 2,440,025 tons in the corresponding 1947 period.

CARLOADINGS: Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended December 4 declined to 81,306 cars from 85,313 cars for the preceding week and 81,860 cars for the corresponding week last year. The decline was seasonal and probably will continue for the next four weeks.

The cumulative total for the 49 weeks at 3,861,432 cars exceeds the high record established in 1947 by almost 124,000 cars, or 3.3 per cent. The year's total will likely pass the 4,000,000 mark for the first time.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES: Cost-of-living index numbers for eight regional cities of Canada presented divergent tendencies between October 1 and November 1, due mainly to the effect of seasonal factors on food price changes. Clothing, home furnishings and services were higher at all centres.

Indexes for five of the eight cities registered declines during the month, Montreal, showing a decrease of 0.6 points and Halifax, Saint John, Toronto and Vancouver identical decreases of 0.2 points. Indexes for the three cities in the Prairie Provinces showed gains, that for Saskatoon being up 0.5 points, Edmonton 0.3 and Winnipeg 0.2 points.

8,164 DWELLING UNITS: During October an estimated 8,164 dwelling units were completed in Canada, bringing the estimated total for the 10 months this year to 58,402 units, the Bureau of Statistics reports. October completions were the highest for any month this year, as builders shifted their emphasis from starts to completions.

During the 10 months this year construction was commenced on 78,553 units and at the end of October the number under construction stood at 62,890. For the first time since April, completions in October exceeded starts. At the same time, although below the level of April to September, starts in October numbering 7,437 were at a high rate for the time of year, and the carryover into 1949 of dwelling units under construction will probably exceed 50,000 as compared with 42,215 units at the beginning of this year.

The average length of time required to build the dwellings completed in October was 6.1 months, showing an increase over the low of

5.4 months in September. This is attributed to a shift in emphasis from starts to completions, the Bureau pointing out that many units under construction for some time are now being completed to get them ready for winter occupancy.

DEFENCE RESEARCH CONFERENCE: Members and staff of the Defence Research Board and many prominent scientists from Canadian universities and Canadian, British and United States scientific organizations are conferring in Ottawa for three days, December 15 to 17, on matters affecting defence research and progress made in this field during the past year.

Announcement of the conference was made December 13 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, who said that the meetings will give scientists and researchers an opportunity to discuss in detail and exchange ideas on the work being carried out in Canada, at Defence Research Board establishments and the universities.

Among those attending will be Dr. O.M. Solandt, Chairman of the Defence Research Board; Sir Charles Wright, scientific advisor to the British Joint Services Staff (Naval Staff), Washington; Dr. C.H. Best, University of Toronto; Dr. P.E. Gagnon, Laval University; Dr. J.H. Johnstone, Dalhousie University; Dr. Otto Maass, scientific advisor to the Chief of the General Staff, McGill University; Dr. G.M. Shrum, University of British Columbia; Dr. W. Line, University of Toronto; Dr. H.L. Keenleyside, Department of Mines and Resources; Dr. E.A. Flood, National Research Council; Dr. W.E. van Steenburgh, Department of Agriculture; Dr. R.F. Farquharson, University of Toronto, and Air Vice Marshal E.W. Stedman, air advisor to the Defence Research Board.

Also expected are representatives of the United States Research and Development Board and of the United States Army, Navy and Air Force.

RAF SURVIVAL TRAINING SCHOOL: Latest RCAF establishment, an Air Force Survival training school, is being set up at Fort Nelson, B.C., and Cambridge Bay, N.W.T., to instruct aircrew in methods of bush and Arctic survival, it has been announced in Ottawa. The school, which will open this winter, will be staffed by experienced RCAF personnel and will include Eskimos and Indians on the instructional staff. Ultimate aim of the school is to train all RCAF aircrew actively engaged in northern flying, in survival techniques.

Because of the hazardous terrain and rigorous climate encountered by RCAF crews, whose normal flights cover most of Canada's uninhabited areas, it was decided that survival training was essential for all aircrew. Case histories of forced-landings in isolated areas show that in many cases a lack of knowledge of self-preservation can result in undue hardships and often in needless fatalities. Sur-