

REINSTATEMENT OF VETERANS: The Minister of Labour, Mr. M.F. Gregg, has congratulated Canadian employers on the high degree of public spirit they have shown in the manner in which they have co-operated in reinstating veterans of the Armed Forces in their former employment in accordance with the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act.

The Reinstatement Act currently applies to everyone who enlisted in the regular forces after July 5, 1950, and who served for a term not exceeding three years. Since 1951, the present application of this Act has been extended each year and at the last session of Parliament it was extended until the last day of the first session of Parliament in 1954.

Under the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, a person discharged from the Forces may claim reinstatement with his former employer. The Act provides that the employee must be reinstated under conditions not less favourable than he would have enjoyed if he had continued with the company instead of joining the Forces. This means that the employee's period of service in the Forces must be taken into account when considering seniority rights, pension rights, vacation with pay and other benefits.

LEADING MINERALS: There were large increases in the first four months of this year as compared with a year earlier in the production of cement, clay products, gypsum, iron ore, lead, natural gas, petroleum, silver, and zinc, according to the Bureau's monthly summary.

Natural gas production in the January-April period climbed to 39,288,545 M cubic feet from 36,186,975 M; petroleum to 20,444,598 barrels from 14,920,417; silver to 10,224,099 fine ounces from 8,404,394; nickel to 47,088 tons from 46,981; zinc to 135,801 tons from 115,484; copper to 90,957 tons from 87,609; and gold to 1,474,521 fine ounces from 1,435,066.

PRICE INDEX RISE: The consumer price index for June 1 registered an increase of 0.4 per cent to reach 114.9 as compared to the May 1 figure of 114.4. This movement follows a decline dating from last November when the index was 116.1. Higher prices for foods were principally responsible for the change. The food index advanced from 110.1 to 111.4.

Canadian automobile parts manufacturers produced nearly 21,000,000 spark plugs in 1951, valued at \$6,000,000.

Canadian manufacturers annually produce about 23,250,000 paper writing pads and tablets.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION UP: Canada's index number of industrial production for April stood at 256.1, up 11 per cent from April last year, according to the June issue of the Canadian Statistical Review. This favourable comparison resulted partly from the somewhat low activity in early 1952, but the index was also well above its standing for the later part of the year.

The index for manufactures production for April reached a new peak of 272.6, exceeding that for March by 7.3 points. Within the durable manufactures some large advances were made in the January-April comparison to bring the sector 15 per cent above last year. Transportation equipment, including motor vehicle production, contributed to this increase, being approximately 32 per cent higher this year. Activity in the electrical apparatus and supplies industry was also at a very high level. Non-ferrous metal products, non-metallic mineral products, such as cement, as well as wood products also made particularly large gains.

JULY 1 IN WAR ZONE: On Board HMCS Iroquois -- The Canadian destroyer Iroquois was back fighting in the naval war in Korea waters this week after visiting Tokyo, Japan, for three days of goodwill formalities marking the 86th anniversary of Canadian Confederation.

Special Dominion Day messages were carried in Japanese newspapers and over the various radio networks on July 1. The spotlight was turned on the Canadian armed forces and reviewed the roles they have played in two world war and in the current Korean conflict.

The Armed Forces Far East Network beamed a special 15-minute Dominion Day broadcast to ships at sea and troops in Korea. It featured brief messages from the Canadian Ambassador to Japan, Mr. Robert W. Mayhew, Vice-Admiral E.R. Mainguy, Chief of the Naval Staff, and Brigadier R.E.A. Morton, Commander Canadian Military Mission, Far East.

AUTO SALES STILL RISE: Sales of new motor vehicles continued upward in May but the rate of increase over 1952 was much lower than in earlier months of this year. At the same time the number of sales of new vehicles financed declined slightly but the financed value continued to rise. Used vehicle financing fell both in number and amount for the first time in the past year.

There were 52,850 new motor vehicles sold for \$133,171,195 in May, an increase of 5.4 per cent in number and 8.0 per cent in retail value over the 50,143 sold for \$123,352,108 in the same month last year. This brought the cumulative total for the January-May period to 227,590 vehicles sold for \$570,329,067 as compared with 169,395 sold for \$431,067,399 a year earlier.