

some relaxation of restrictions against dollar goods. At the same time, production levels, particularly in European countries and other industrialized areas, have been showing substantial gains. The result of these developments has been a marked increase in the demand for raw and processed materials from Canada.

"We can probably look forward to some improvement in exports, both because of more active foreign demand, as well as increased availability for export of such items as iron ore from Knob Lake, aluminum from Kitimat and oil from the Western Prairies.

"As for investment prospects, it is not possible to give any reliable indication of the actual characteristics of next year's investment programme. It is known, however, that as major projects, such as the Trans-Canada Gas Pipe Line and St. Lawrence Seaway, get underway still other plans start taking shape on the horizon. As long as this rapid development of our basic resources continues, any significant abatement in the overall expansion of capital facilities seems unlikely.

"Given fairly good prospects for both exports and investment, conditions in general are likely to remain favourable. There will, however, be some continuing drags on the general level of activity. As I have already suggested, there is no quick or easy solution to some of the difficulties now being encountered in various manufacturing industries. Industrial output may not, therefore, re-gain for some time the peak levels reached last year. Net incomes of western farmers will be lower as a result of poorer crops this year. However, much of last year's crop is still in the hands of the farmer and his cash returns will benefit from any pick-up in export sales of grain from this point on.

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PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN: The Department of External Affairs announced on September 21 that Mr. Shigeru Yoshida, Prime Minister of Japan, is scheduled to arrive in Vancouver on September 26, to spend a few days in Canada as a guest of the Government. He will be welcomed at the Vancouver airport by the Honourable R. W. Mayhew, P.C., present Canadian Ambassador to Japan, on behalf of the Prime Minister of Canada.

The welcoming party will also include the Honourable Thomas C. Davis, Q.C., Ambassador designate to Japan, His Excellency Dr. Koto Matsudaira, Japanese Ambassador to Canada, and Mr. A. R. Menzies, Head of the Far Eastern Division of the Department of External Affairs.

Mr. Yoshida will be accompanied by his daughter Mrs. Aso, his son-in-law Mr. T. Aso, a member of the House of Representatives, and a group of senior officials.

That afternoon the Prime Minister of Japan will make a scenic drive around Vancouver in the course of which he will lay a wreath at

the Japanese Memorial and will visit the University of British Columbia where he will be greeted by the President. That evening Mr. Mayhew will entertain informally in his honour at dinner.

The Prime Minister of Japan and his party will board a special R.C.A.F. aircraft and fly overnight to Ottawa. Upon arrival, September 27, he will be met by the Prime Minister of Canada and a group including other Cabinet Ministers and diplomats. Later he will call on Mr. St. Laurent and afterwards visit the Parliament Building before proceeding to the Parliamentary Press Gallery for a press conference. In the evening the Prime Minister of Canada will give a dinner in his honour.

The morning of September 28, has been reserved for any necessary additional conversations with members of the Canadian Government. The Ambassador of Japan will give a formal lunch at the Country Club and later Mr. Yoshida and his party will leave by train for New York.

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SIGNS OF STABILITY: Signs of stability were becoming evident in the over-all employment situation in August, the Department of Labour announced on September 21. Employment in construction and in trade and services gained strength, although manufacturing employment showed no indication of an upturn. Reflecting this, the number of persons with jobs, though slightly lower than last year, increased about 10,000 during the month ending August 21. Last year it decreased about 10,000.

As was the case in August last year, the level of unemployment showed no change during the month. However, while total labour requirements were only slightly under those of 1953, the labour force increased about 27,000 over last year's, thus making the labour supply situation much easier.

This is revealed by comparing the monthly survey of 109 labour market areas at September 1st this year and a year ago. This year, 68 areas, comprising 68 per cent of the labour force, were in the balanced category compared with 86 areas, comprising 83 per cent of the labour force last year; one area, comprising one per cent of the labour force was in the labour shortage category this year, compared with 9 areas, comprising 7 per cent last year; 38 areas, accounting for 29 per cent of the labour force, were in the moderate surplus category this year, compared with 14 areas, comprising 10 per cent, last year; two areas, accounting for three per cent of the labour force were in the substantial surplus category this year whereas last year there were no areas in this category.

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A record \$30,545,000 worth of oilcloth, linoleum and coated fabrics was made in Canada in 1952, almost twice as much as in 1946.