

**SOIL SURVEY:** This summer some 450 square miles or approximately 290 thousand acres of land along the Hudson Bay Railroad stretching from Pipun to Armstrong Lake in northern Manitoba are being surveyed by a party of 12 soil specialists. The survey is a joint effort on the part of the Canada Department of Agriculture, the Manitoba Department of Mines and Natural Resources and the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, to gain information as to the arability of this northern area.

The survey will cover a strip, four miles wide, two miles on each side of the railroad, running a distance of approximately 110 miles. On-the-spot observations will be recorded every quarter mile and soil samples and profiles will be taken back to laboratories in Winnipeg for further study. Analysis of samples will provide information on deficiencies and excesses of certain essential soil elements. Upon the completion of this investigation a detailed map of the area will be compiled supplemented by aerial photographs.

The use of aerial photographs will enable this team of soil scientists to determine the nature of a far larger area than that actually surveyed by land. Types of vegetation, and bogs are indicative of certain soil types especially so when actual results of a land survey of a representative section of the country are available.

For the past two years the Canada Department of Agriculture has been experimenting near this locality at Wabowden and although the project is only in its early stages it is felt that the land will produce under proper management, providing frost is not too great a hazard. However, this work will have to be continued for several years yet before the potential of the region can be accurately determined.

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**FRUIT CROPS LARGER:** Yields of all main fruit crops, except pears and strawberries, will range from slightly-to-substantially larger this year than last, according to the first estimate of fruit production by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Yields of pears and strawberries are estimated to be 25 per cent and 20 per cent smaller, respectively.

Estimated total Canadian production is as follows (in thousands): apples, 12,718 bushels (12,424 bushels in 1956); pears, 1,027 bushels (1,375); plums and prunes, 552 bushels (534); peaches, 2,391 bushels (1,667); apricots, 287 bushels (84); sweet and sour cherries, 459 bushels (388); strawberries, 15,055 quarts (19,111); raspberries, 10,672 quarts (6,656); loganberries, 1,026 pounds (279); and grapes, 80,858 pounds (80,274).

Output of apples in British Columbia--the largest producer--is estimated at 5,575,000 bushels compared to 1956's 4,131,000, in Ontario at 2,738,000 versus 2,992,000, in Quebec at 2,080,000 versus 2,820,000, and in Nova

Scotia at 1,950,000 versus 2,206,000. Peach production is estimated to be up in Ontario to 1,832,000 bushels from 1,367,000 and in British Columbia to 559,000 from 300,000. Sweet and sour cherries in Ontario are placed at 373,000 bushels versus 330,000 and in British Columbia at 86,000 versus 58,000. Grape production is expected to be unchanged in Ontario at 79,814,000 pounds but is estimated to be substantially larger in British Columbia at 1,044,000 pounds against 460,000.

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**DEMANDS ON COLLEGES:** Demands upon the capacity of Canadian universities during the next 10 years will be much greater than had been anticipated, in the opinion of the Conference of Learned Societies which met in Ottawa recently.

Two years ago Dr. E. S. Sheffield, of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, presented a paper to the National Conference of Canadian Universities, comprising the heads of Canada's 32 degree-granting institutions, in which he predicted that judging by the number of births 18 to 21 years earlier enrolments would probably rise from about 64,000 in 1954-55 to about 123,000 in 1964-65. It was this prediction which started the university administrators on their present expansion plans.

At the recent meeting, however, a revision by Dr. Sheffield of his earlier estimate suggested that it might be far too low. Enrolment figures for the past two years were, respectively, two per cent and six per cent higher than had been anticipated. This would be consistent with enrolments of 170,000 to 180,000 students by 1964-65.

Dr. Claude T. Bissell, president of Carleton University, suggested that Canadian enrolments, which are now seven to nine per cent of the 18 to 21 age group, may be moving in the direction of those in the United States, which are 30 per cent of the group at present, and are expected to rise to 50 per cent. At the 30 per cent level attendance by 1964-65 would be 370,000 students, and at the 50 per cent level 600,000 students.

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**UNIONISTS FROM ABROAD:** More than 80 union members from 35 different countries will make up the student body of a world seminar being held in Canada in September by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in co-operation with the Canadian Labour Congress.

Canadian unions are assisting the visitors from abroad to attend the seminar by providing \$1,200 scholarships to them to defray their expenses.

The seminar will be held at the Banff School of Fine Arts, September 8 to 22. It will be followed by trips by the visitors to various centres in Canada where they will live with Canadian union members, and be shown the conditions under which they work.