Dawn of Tomorrow

Published in the interests of and for the Advancement of the colored people of Canada.

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Women Could be Used

A comprehensive report demonstrating where womanpower can be efficiently used in jobs normally held by men, based on a study of a typical American railroad, is now ready for distribution, the Office of Defense Transportation announced today.

As many as 164,000 women, the report said, could be employed on Class 1 railroads before the end of 1944—61,000 more than they now have—if all such roads would increase the number of women employees to 12 per cent of their total payroll. On four of the nation's major railroads the proportion of women employed is already 12 per cent or more, but the percentages on all Class 1 roads range from a high of 13.3 to a low of 2.8.

The survey undertaken to form a realistic basis for increased utilization of women workers on railroads, contains descriptions of the various departments of the railroad observed, the positions suitable in each, general observations on the employment of women on steam railroads, and a listing of occupations customarily performed by men that women could fill.

In a preface by Otto S. Beyer, director of the ODT's Division of Transport Personnel, it is pointed out that since the replacement of men by women in railroad occupations was first urged by the ODT the need for such replacements has become acute.

"Though a good beginning has been made, places for many more will have to be found if imminent manpower crises in many localities are to be averted," Mr. Beyer's statement as-

The survey was conducted by Miss Dorothy Sells, chief, Personnel Supply Section, ODT, and Miss Olive Dennis, engineer of service, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. In reviewing the jobs, they kept in mind the physical limitations of women and their lack of skill and experience with To overcome mechanical devices. these lmitations where they might affect the employment of women, the survey indicates how specific occupations can be broken down into processes and where mechanical adjustments can be made or safety devices introduced.

Findings of the survey were checked before publication against expert opinion, against lists of rail jobs filled by women on other roads, and sub-

mitted to both labor and management groups for comment.

Copies of the publication, entitled "Survey of Jobs Suitable for Women on Railroad A." may be obtained without charge from the Office of Information, Office of Defense Transportation, Washington 25, D.C.

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