

READILY ABSORB WAR LABOR

Department and Large Employers Will Help Every Way Possible

NO W A G E REDUCTION

Bureaus in All Provinces — Many **Foreigners** Will be Leaving

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Ottawa, Nov. 20. — The Department of Labor is rapidly preparing to assist in every way possible in placing men and women who are deprived of their employment by reason of the closing down of our war industries. Weeks ago a careful survey was taken of all munitions plants as to probable reductions in staff when war should cease. This investigation, conducted by the Canada Registration Board, of which Hon. Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor, is Chairman, showed that three-fourths of all the munitions workers in **Canada** were in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec. Outside these two Provinces the demand will probably absorb all the labor released. In Ontario and Quebec strenuous efforts are being made to cope with the situation. Conferences with representatives of the Manufacturers' Association, lumber men, pulp and paper manufacturers, and railways, have resulted in those large employers rendering all aid possible.

No Reduction in Wages.

Senator Robertson expresses satisfaction over the fact that employers generally endorse the suggestion, and agree that there must not, for the present at least, be any reduction in wages. One of these large interests to-day issued notice to its affiliated firms that it had guaranteed to absorb 10,000 men and to maintain present standards of wages voluntarily.

Employment Bureaus.

The Province of Ontario has established eleven employment bureaus, and the Province of Quebec three, under the provisions of the Employment Office Co-ordination Act, passed at the last session of Parliament. A conference with Provincial representatives began yesterday in the office of the Labor Department, with a view to extending these Government bureaus to all Provinces, and to materially aid in assisting to find employment for both the civilian and the returned soldier. Under the legislation referred to, the Federal Government bears equally with the Provinces the cost of operation, and has a voice in policy and control. Each Province has a direct administration, and a central clearing house is to be maintained at Ottawa under the direction of the Department of Labor.

Railways, lumbering and mining industries, manufacturing plants, banks and large department stores are being canvassed to ascertain the number of employees enlisted overseas, whether they are to be re-employed on return, and to what extent present employees will be displaced.

Many **Foreigners** Will Leave.

Thousands of our foreign laborers who have families in Europe and were unable to return during the war, are now anxious to depart in search of their relatives, from whom they have not heard for years. This exodus will further relieve the labor situation.

The amazing success of the Victory Loan indicates the determination of the Canadian people to carry on still more vigorously the production of foods and manufactured articles, to stimulate industry and employ labor.