

DEAF ENGAGED IN AMAZING VARIETY OF OCCUPATIONS

Survey Reveals Those with Handicapped Hearing Perform Any One of 250 Kinds of Work To Earn Their Living

(By Frederic J. Haskin)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 6.—Thomas A. Edison, probably the world's greatest inventor, used to say that he regarded his deafness as an advantage. He was not totally deaf, but sufficiently so to be shut out from the usual noises of office or even workshop. He frequently declared that this infirmity made it possible for him to concentrate on his studies and laboratory experiments to a greater degree than if he had been subject to the usual distracting sounds.

But Edison was a man in a hundred million, in more ways than one. It is doubtful whether, as a young man, he would have felt deafness to be an advantage. The fact that there are in the United States many thousands of deaf persons still young raises a problem in occupation that efforts are being made to solve. With some millions of hale persons unemployed, the person with any physical infirmity is especially handicapped. The United States office of education has seen fit to make a special study of opportunities for occupation among the deaf and the hard of hearing.

For purposes of its own classification, the office groups those who are profoundly deaf as deaf and those whose hearing has not gone entirely but is impaired as the hard of hear-

ing. No effort was made to survey all the deaf people in the United States, but nearly 20,000, located in many states were surveyed, about two-thirds of them men and one-third women.

The persons covered in the survey ranged in age from 16 to 70 years, and lived in 27 states. Half of them were between 30 and 50 years of age. Half of the total had not gone beyond elementary schools. Half had gone to high school and 12 per cent. had attended college. Thirty per cent had attended schools for the deaf or other occupational institutes.

At the time of the survey, 53.7 per cent. were employed. However, if those who had voluntarily left the jobs which they had been holding be subtracted, the percentage rises to 55.6. It is especially interesting to note that a study of the causes of loss of employment during the depression years reveals that the defect in hearing comes fourth on the list. Reduction of force, closing down of factories or other places of occupation, and the general effects of depression caused loss of employment to four times as many deaf and hard of hearing persons as their infirmity. In employment some of the hard of hearing relied upon loud speaking or earphone instruments in communication with employers or others;

others communicated by writing and having messages written to them; and a relatively small proportion had advanced far enough in lip-reading to serve their purposes. When it is considered how great the reduction of employment was among persons with no infirmity of any kind, the proportionate loss of work by the deaf and hard of hearing does not seem large. It is possible that in some cases preference would be shown these afflicted persons but, in large factories and the like, the chances are they would be the first to go. All would depend upon personalities of employers and personnel managers. An overwhelming majority were or are employed in private industry and offices.

The variety of occupations which deaf and hard of hearing persons have followed is amazing. The survey showed persons with this infirmity engaged in no less than 250 types of work. The largest group among men was found in manufacturing trades, while among women domestic service and clerical occupations led. Bakers, boiler-makers, bookbinders, carpenters, printers, dyers, electricians, plumbers, machinists—the list goes on.

One point is not mentioned which is of interest. It has been demonstrated that some persons have been made deaf or hard of hearing by their occupations and have developed an inverted hearing. For example, it is not unknown experience that a man who has worked a great many years in a boiler-maker's shop or a machine shop, amidst a constant and deafening din, has readjusted his senses of hearing so that, in the midst of the shop noise he can hear words spoken in a normal voice whereas, away from the shop in quiet surroundings, he is deaf. In such cases, of course, there would be no occupational handicap but only a leisure period handicap.

A substantial number of deaf persons are employed in the transportation field. While no locomotive engineers are listed, ship captains, masters mates and pilots are, and also chauffeurs, and truck drivers where one would think ability to hear would be essential. Draymen and mail carriers are found among those afflicted and also postmasters and ticket agents. Not a few people have, doubtless, encountered postmasters and ticket agents who appeared completely to ignore requests of those appearing at the windows. Perhaps they were among the hard of hearing. With even greater force that statement might be applied to the bankers listed among the deaf. There is scarcely a line of trade which does not have the deaf and hard of hearing represented. Even newsboys are included, and this may, in part, account for their raucous shouts which, to them, may sound no louder than whispers.

The professions are not exactly crowded with the deaf, but an astonishing number of professional persons are afflicted. College professors and presidents, school teachers, editors and reporters, lawyers and judges engineers, actors and authors and, strangely enough, musicians. Yet it can not be forgotten that Ludwig von Beethoven continued his compositions of great music after he had become deaf; indeed, in early stages he was able to keep his deafness a secret from his friends.

It is difficult to assume whether the compensation of the deaf and hard of hearing would be greater were it not for the infirmity. Doubtless, in many cases, little difference would be noted. However, the largest employed group covered earned less than \$20 a week. Only about 1000 out of 10,000 surveyed as to compensation received more than \$40 a week

COMPLETE PLANS RE CORONATION

The various committees in charge of arrangements in connection with the Coronation Day celebration met with the general committee last evening to complete plans regarding the programme to be carried out on May 12. The route of the parade was decided and an addition was made to the prize list. Ald. F. S. Mundie, presided at the meeting and the chairmen of the different sub-committees were present.

Oscar Harris, chairman of the floats committee, reported that plans are about completed regarding the floats and decorated cars to take part in the parade. The following groups and business organizations will enter floats or cars: Sgoalay Israel Synagogue; Universal Sales; Ryan & Son, Ltd.; Indian Reserve (Kingsclear); city schools and the Marysville school; Creighton & Smith, Limited; J. Clark & Son; A. T. Swede; Valley Motors; Capital Garage; Eastern Bakery, Limited; Harvey Studio; Imperial Oil, Limited; York and Sunbury Historical Society. A float will also be entered by the colored people of the community. The Indians at Oromocto and Devon are also expected to take part in the procession.

Other units in the parade will include Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, St. Andrew's Society, two groups of decorated bicycles and at least two comic units. The Fredericton and Devon fire departments will also take part.

Mounted Policemen

There was some discussion regarding the part to be taken by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. It was decided, after Inspector Gray had been consulted, that two officers on horseback would lead the procession.

Three bands will take part in the procession. J. H. Malcom, chairman of the music committee, announced that special coronation music would be played. The bands will include the Knights of Pythias Band, the York Regiment Band and the Pipe Band of St. Andrew's Society.

Other routine matters were taken up at last night's meeting and plans regarding the day's programme are practically completed. The celebra-

Attention was given to the degree of efficiency and success of the afflicted. Data were obtained on 5,312 men and 2,271 women. Where possible, employers' ratings were obtained. In some establishments where the deaf were employed, no rating system was in effect. Where such systems prevailed, it was found that half of the deaf and the hard of hearing were classified as excellent at their work and another 30 per cent. as succeeding fairly well. Only three per cent. were definitely marked as failures.

In this connection a significant fact was developed. There was a definite relation between the degree of success and the degree of education, vocational or otherwise. This, presumably, would apply to any person, afflicted by deafness or not. Inability to hear well is an obvious handicap to any student, and some connection between impaired hearing and inadequate education must be recognized.

The survey is believed by authorities to show that the handicap of deafness can largely be overcome, so far as employment is concerned, by better methods and broader opportunities in the educational field.

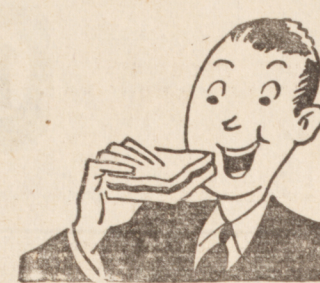
ALL CANADA IS READY FOR CELEBRATIONS

Coronation Day Will Be Fittingly Observed Across Dominion

OTTAWA, May 6.—Communications to the Department of State indicate the wisest kind of celebration of the Coronation next Wednesday. Each city, town and village will run its own show, but the inquiries indicate that they will be very much the same, with particular prominence given to school children, patriotic songs and exercises. In cities there will be considerable military display and much color, but speeches do not enter into the programme generally.

It will be a national holiday. This means that all public institutions, Government offices, schools and banks will be closed. The extent to which it will be observed in industry and business will depend wholly upon the extent to which they are disposed to observe it. Coronation Day will be a holiday like Armistice Day. If it is not observed, it will not be a penal offence, but the belief is that largely it will be celebrated.

tion has every indication of being one of the finest affairs of that nature ever held in the city. It is expected that hundreds of visitors will flock here on May 12 from all sections of the adjoining counties.



REALLY GOOD FOOD!

Served in pleasant surroundings is something that appeals to everyone.

And that is the sort of service we offer.

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And just as the easy-to-open tin gives you delight so does ACADIA Baking Powder bring you economy. Because ACADIA is double acting it assures baking success, and you need smaller quantities than with ordinary brands. One level teaspoonful to each cup of sifted flour is the correct proportion. You owe it to your budget to try ACADIA.

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All made from Pacific Dairies Ice Cream
Also put up in sanitary containers to take out.

PINTS	25c	QUARTS	50c
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CORONATION BRICKS 25c

Special Turkey Dinner served on Sunday with all the fixings 50c

Served from 12 a.m. to 7 p.m.
PRIVATE PARTIES OR BANQUETS CAN BE ARRANGED FOR ON SHORT NOTICE

607 QUEEN STREET PHONE 492-11

EUREKA GRILL

Mr. Picobac's Advice to Anglers

"I WANT you to put a piece in the paper where everybody will see it," said Mr. Picobac to his friend, Herb Smith, editor of the Essex Centre Gazette and County Advertiser (circulation guaranteed). "It'll save me a lot of time writing letters in answer to correspondents."

"Sure," said Herb, feeling for the pencil behind his ear.

"It's poetry," confessed Mr. Picobac, handing it over.

The editor read it aloud:

"Angler's Calendar for April"

"Give your good trout, rod a coat of shellac,
"Glue up the ferrules if any be slack;
"Test all your tapers, silk, linen or cotton,
"Cut off the ends of all such as be rotten;
"Take last summer's leaders now fraggled and worn,
"All moth-eaten trout flies, tattered and torn,
"Make one last cast with them—throw them away,
"Stock up with new stuff for Trout Opening Day."

"Sounds like an ad," said the editor. "What about the smokes?"

"Picobac, of course," said Mr. Picobac briefly. "In handy seal-tight pouches."

HANDY SEAL-TIGHT POUCH 15c.
1/2-Lb. "LOK-TOP" TIN 60c.
also packed in Pocket Tins

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