

Job situation not bright

Students: Do it now

If you're a student seeking a summer job, and the early forecast is that the job market this summer will be "tight", don't wait to register your skills until the 11th of June when Canada Manpower will open a one-a-week Student Employment Centre in Georgetown.

Do it now at your school's guidance office, where manpower has registration cards they pick up about once a week, or, better still, go to Manpower's Student Centre in Brampton and do it there.

So says Glenn Belanger, one of two Georgetown residents, working with five others in the Brampton offices, at 14A Nelson St. In a recent interview with the Herald Mr. Belanger stressed how much more of a chance a student had of getting a job if he, or

she, registered as soon as possible. "The basic idea we want to get across," he said, "is to get employers to come to us. We probably have the most complete file of students." By April 29, the last date for which figures are available, 1,228 students had registered and 58 had got jobs, he said. "Most placements are post secondary students," he said.

Of the total registered, 289 were community college and university students (who finish school with a head start on high schoolers as far as the job market is concerned) and 939 were secondary students, he said.

Of the high school students, "some will get jobs on their own this summer." But of those who don't and are willing to work for a day or a week at a

time as a car washer, baby sitter, orderly, shipper, lifeguard, typist, grass cutter, camp cook or counsellor, sales clerk, labourer or chauffeur (if you have the licence) Manpower will be opening a job placement center at the CMC office on James St. in Georgetown Friday, June 11 and subsequent Fridays, he said.

He admits that 50 placements out of 1,228 registrations is not a figure to get enthusiastic about. "The placement ratio is out of killer now because it's still early in the season," he said. "It's likely more jobs will become available later on, although "It's too early to forecast," he added.

What's the economic picture? According to J. Nieweglowksi, acting manager at CMC's Brampton office which will be setting up student centres in Shelburne and Orangeville as well as in Georgetown, the economy hasn't recovered enough and isn't expected to "until the later part of summer, just missing the students."

He added that even though "overall indications appear to be that jobs may be tight," on a local, economic scene, like Halton Hills, the recovery of the economy might be a little faster for students. As far as matching jobs and students, "We are ahead of last year's pace."

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"Most students want to work"

Is Canada Manpower all it's cracked up to be as far as getting a job is concerned? The Herald asked two students in the guidance office of Georgetown District High School that question.

Michael McHale, 18, who is in his final year at the high school and is looking for a career in underwater photography and the money to finance college education to that end, replied that Manpower is "kind of slow."

"I've applied all over," Mike said. "I've got applications in every place in Georgetown."

Ron Mills, also 18, and in his final year at the high school, is trying to decide between a career as a policeman or getting a few more years of education at a college.

"How it goes is the best educated get the jobs," he said. Students who can't get a job in Georgetown find themselves in a double bind situation because they can't earn the money to buy a car so that they can get a job out of town, Ron said.

Any students who wait until the end of high school, Wednesday, June 23 to find a job, "Will have no chance if he looks then," Mike said.

"You have to look almost a year in advance," Ron added. Last summer through Manpower he got two jobs, one of which was for a single day and the other for two weeks, he said. "There's nothing much in the paper."

"It's not what you know but

who you know," Mike said, although he did admit that with Manpower, "it might take awhile but eventually they'll come through."

In the guidance office at the Georgetown High School were about 50 Manpower applications already filled out, said Mrs. M.A. Patterson, head of the guidance department.

She said in an interview that some employers call the school directly with jobs which the department posts on a daily bulletin board. Calls of this kind amount to about 100 jobs a year, she said.

"Most students want to work," she said, even in part-time jobs. "There are very few actually who don't work. A good many have got jobs on their own."

She said that in addition to the Manpower registration forms and the job requests coming to the school directly from employers, application forms were also available for Ontario Experience '76, the Ontario government's special summer employment programme.

But unfortunately for students, application deadlines for the programme have passed. April 29 was the final date for applying for 9,100 jobs, 1300 more than listed in the pamphlet.

Derrick Classen a spokesman at Ontario Youth Secretariat in Queen's Park, said in a telephone interview. More than 100,000 applications had been received from across Ontario he said.

The programme costs \$12.3 million a year, 14 percent of which is used in support costs and the rest going to wages, he added.

But the deadline for accepting applications has passed, he said, and the various ministries which will be taking on student help this summer are now in the process of screening applicants.

Over at Acton High School, a "goodly number of students have applied," for Ontario

Experience '76, reported Mrs. Audrey Pendleton, secretary of the guidance department.

In addition, there were over 100 registration cards awaiting pick up by Canada Manpower, she added.

She said that in Acton about 25 to 30 different industries "do certainly take on summer help when it's needed."

A number of students at the high school were already working a full shift as well as going to school, she said.

Be neat and be nice

Sandra Gopsill, who graduated from Georgetown District High School and now is in her third year of sociology studies at Western University, is one of seven student placement officers working at Manpower's Student Centre office based in Brampton.

After a student filled out a registration card and spots on the job bulletin board a job he thinks he can get, he takes the job number to Sandra, or one of the other job placement officers, to get the vital facts like: who is offering the job and where's the work?

The registration forms are used to categorize: level of education, time available for employment, preferred occupations, future educational plans, special skills or hobbies, previous employment and a number of other questions.

The job placement board is a stand at which under various categories are placed cards outlining the requirements of a job and a referral number.

This week Sandra will be visiting employers in Georgetown and later on employers in Acton to find out what student help they can

take on during the summer. Although a schedule of visits has not yet been decided on, it's likely to be more than once a week, she said.

Sandra, who herself got her summer job through Canada Manpower in Georgetown, said the most important thing was to make a good impression on the prospective employer and neat appearance helped.

Students should go to job interviews suitably dressed, she said. What you wear for a possible job in a factory is not the same as what you wear for



SANDRA GOPSILL looks over a student registration card with Glenn Belanger. They say the best chance of finding a job this summer is to register early.

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Lions lottery winners

The winners in the May 4 Lions Club Lottery draw were: Bill Crawford, Lois Ritchie, Bernice Majeury and Rita Zorge of Georgetown and E.J. McCulloch of Toronto.

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