Example of Précis Work..

 This clipping is taken from the start of an article printed in New Scientist; Tel: 0181-652 4444, Fax: 0181-652 4422,

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 The bold, underlined phrases are examples of things to include in a précis of this article. Having read the article through it is a good idea to go through it again and highlight the important pieces, as above.

YOU COULD BE ON THE WANTED LIST! by Neil Harris.

 **Many employers claim they are having a hard time finding suitable recruits, and scientists and engineers are at the top of their “wanted” list***.* A recent survey of 264 companies by the Association of Graduate Recruiters (AGR) reveals that employers are finding it difficult to fill many of their vacancies. **Industrial employers are experiencing severe problems recruiting, 58% of them being unable to fill all their vacancies. And 47% of service sector recruiters say they have the same problems.**

 The situation is dire for 8% of organisations unsuccessful in filling more than half their graduate vacancies, and nearly two thirds say that their shortfall is up to 20%. **Firms believe that high-quality graduates are simply not entering the labour market,** preferring other options such as postgraduate study. **Recruiters complain that they are experiencing greater difficulty finding the “best” graduates among the large numbers of applications they receive: competition for high-calibre people is intense.**

 **Scientists and engineers were singled out for special criticism.** “while these graduates might have a high level of technical competence and a good subject knowledge, most still lack the interpersonal skills and commercial awareness now regarded as essential even in technical areas,” says the report.

 Not surprising, **as employers have been very choosy about their recruits, they now face the difficulty in finding scientists and engineers who meet their exacting specification. 17% of recruiters included in the survey had not reached their recruitment targets for scientists and engineers and particularly for graduates to work on research and development project.** Oil firms and pharmaceuticals companies are now touring the universities in search of talent. Esso, for example, has around 50 vacancies in refining, manufacturing, research, sales, logistics and IT. telecommunications companies and electronics manufacturers are currently among the biggest recruiters. BT, for example, is trying to fill more than 500 vacancies. British Aerospace is also competing hard for a similar number of recruits with a large range of technological skills. The National Physical Laboratory, recently released from the Civil Service, is back on the recruitment trail, seeking scientists for research and development positions.