

**EXERCISE "BULL DOG" III:** Members of the Army and RCAF Mobile Striking Force will move into the Canadian sub-Arctic in February for the second major joint training exercise of the winter. Defence Minister Ralph Campney announced January 18.

Exercise "Bull Dog III" will be conducted in the Yellowknife area of northwestern Canada between February 23 and March 8. The manoeuvres call for an airborne assault by troops and planes against the airfield and installations at Yellowknife, 610 air miles north of Edmonton.

"Bull Dog III" has been planned on the theory that an enemy force has landed in the sub-Arctic and has taken over the airfield at Yellowknife. A similar problem was set in the Churchill, Man., area in the recent Exercise "Bull Dog II".

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**CHEQUE CASHINGS RISE:** Cheques cashed in Canadian clearing centres in November totalled \$14,045,000,000, nearly 5% above the preceding year's \$13,425,000,000. This put the total for the first 11 months of 1954 at \$138,950,000,000, 7% larger than 1953's January-November total of \$129,630,000,000.

Increases were shown both in the month and cumulative period in the Atlantic Provinces, Quebec and Ontario. Prairie Province totals were down from a year earlier, while in British Columbia there was a decrease in the month but a small increase in the cumulative period.

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**INVESTMENT IN INVENTORY:** Manufacturers' investment in inventory in November totalled \$3,418,400,000, down from October's \$3,424,000,000 and 1953's corresponding total of \$3,595,300,000, according to preliminary figures.

Showing the first increase in 1954 the value of shipments in November rose 1% over both the preceding month and November, 1953.

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**DRB MEMBER:** Mr. Reginald M. Brophy, of Toronto, prominent industrialist and former Deputy Minister of the Department of Defence Production, has accepted an appointment as a Member of the Defence Research Board, it was announced January 14. Mr. Brophy succeeds Mr. A. Hartley Zimmerman, former DDP representative on the Board, named recently as DRB Vice Chairman.

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**GOLD PRODUCTION UP:** Canadian production of gold climbed to 379,521 fine ounces in October from 373,889 in the preceding month and 284,868 in October, 1953, according to the Bureau's monthly statement. This brought the cumulative total for the January-October period to 3,595,951 fine ounces versus 3,520,591 a year earlier.

**EMPLOYMENT REPORT:** The usual decrease in employment took place during December, but at a much slower rate than a year earlier. In the week ending December 11, 1954, a total of 5,167,000 people held jobs, 36,000 fewer than in November, but 51,000 more than a year earlier. The civilian labour force also showed an increase of 107,000 during the year so that unemployment continued above the comparable 1953 levels, the Department of Labour announced on January 19.

Employment during December remained high in the logging, mining, trade and service industries. Seasonal declines occurred in agriculture, construction, transportation and some manufacturing industries. Activity in some of the durable goods manufacturing industries has recently strengthened and this trend continued in December.

The strike of about 8,000 workers in Ford plants at Windsor, Oakville and Toronto, however, caused some new lay-offs in December and prolonged others in related industries in Ontario. Labour surpluses in most local markets increased during the month.

At January 1, 1954, 34 areas were in the substantial labour surplus category compared with 36 a year ago; 67 were in the moderate surplus category compared with 54; and eight were in balance compared with 19 a year earlier.

The civilian labour force totalled 5,414,000 in the week ended December 11, 1954, compared with 5,417,000 in the week ended November 20, 1954.

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**WHOLESALE SALES RISE:** Sales of wholesalers in nine lines of trade in November averaged 6.9% above the corresponding month in 1953 and the value of month-end inventories was up a moderate 0.2%. The general index of sales, on the 1935-39 base, stood at 385.3 versus 361.7.

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**TO RETIRE AS T. S. ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR:** Sir Ernest MacMillan, conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra for 25 years, will resign at the end of next season provided a satisfactory successor has been found, he announced in Toronto this week.

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In a single generation tuberculosis has dwindled dramatically as a cause of death among Canadians. Although 1,800 died of TB in 1953, an additional 10,000 would have died if the death rate of 25 years ago had still prevailed.

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Domestic disappearance of cheese (including process cheese) in Canada in 1953 worked out at six pounds per capita, almost as high as that of Australia and higher than that of New Zealand.