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Export of Softwood Lumber: The existing system of control governing the export of softwood lumber produced in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes, and which has been in effect during the year 1947, will be continued during 1948, but with changes having far reaching effects for the producers, wholesalers and exporters in those areas, it was announced Sunday by Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe.

In releasing the Government's 1948 export policy for softwood lumber produced in Eastern Canada, Mr. Howe said:

"The free export quotas authorized a year ago totalled 290 million feet of softwood lumber for shipment during 1947; the largest portion of which was for shipment to the United Kingdom. However, because of the severity of the dollar shortage in the United Kingdom, and consequent delay in receiving orders from that country for softwood lumber, provision is now made in the 1948 programme for the free export of an overall quantity of 290 million feet of softwood lumber to any country with which trading is allowed under Canadian laws."

"Under this provision an exporter may ship to all markets a total amount not exceeding his original 1947 free export quota allocation. In addition to these free export quotas, further quantities of lumber can be exported through export credits earned by shipments into the domestic market," said Mr. Howe. "It is hoped that under this new arrangement efforts will be made by exporters to obtain payment for their lumber in United States dollars, thus assisting our current campaign in building up our own dollar shortage."

The Minister also stated that as soon as reports of softwood production in Eastern Canada for 1948 were available, consideration would be given to increasing the overall free export quota set for 1948.

On the question of continued restrictions and controls on the export of softwood lumber and lumber products, Mr. Howe said that these were still necessary in order to insure sufficient requirements for domestic needs.

"The Timber Controller is continually studying the complexities involved in our lumber industry, and only recently it was found possible to increase export quotas on certain grades of softwoods in Western Canada," he said. "Further relaxations to existing export quotas must be considered from the standpoint of domestic requirements."

Canada at I.L.O.: It was announced Saturday by the Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour, that Canada will be represented at the 103rd Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization, which opens in Geneva on December 6th, by Dr. P.E. Renaud, Canadian Charge d'Affaires, Berne, Switzerland, and by Paul Goulet, O.B.E., Assistant to the Deputy Minister of Labour and Director of the Department's I.L.O. Branch, Ottawa.

By reason of her industrial importance, Canada holds one of the eight permanent seats on the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization, which is now one of the specialized agencies of the United Nations.