

As soon as supplies are available in service clothing stores gratuitous issues of the new badges will be made to cadets and men. Officers will purchase necessary supplies from the same source.

Priority in the issue of "Canada" badges will be given to the officers and men of ships proceeding to foreign waters.

AIR TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND U.S.: Air travel between the United States and Canada showed a marked gain in 1949, according to figures covering the first 10 months of the year released by the Bureau of Statistics. At the same time, fewer United States visitors entered Canada by rail, bus, and boat, but increased numbers of Canadians returning to this country used these services.

During the period, 119,288 travellers from the United States used air services as compared with 100,774 in the similar period of 1948, an increase of 18.3 per cent. Canadians returning from the United States by plane numbered 78,988, as compared with 60,496 in 1948, an increase of 30.5 per cent.

In the first 10 months of 1949, 481,596 travellers from the United States entered Canada by rail as compared with 512,866 in the previous year, 397,318 by bus as compared with 456,208, and 295,253 by boat compared with 328,171. Canadians returning from the United States by rail numbered 460,649 compared with 406,652, by bus 498,101 compared with 378,008, and by boat 99,953 compared with 91,622.

REVIEW OF FOREIGN TRADE: Some of the principal developments in the volume and value of Canada's foreign trade in the first six months of 1949 are reviewed in a 79-page bulletin released today by the Bureau of Statistics. Divided into six chapters, the bulletin contains textual matter as well as supporting tables.

Chapter I is devoted to a broad discussion of trends in imports, exports, and trade balances, while chapter II reviews Canada's foreign trade with leading countries. Chapter III deals with trade with significant regions and groups of countries. Leading commodities in foreign trade are discussed in chapter IV, and chapter V deals with price and volume movements.

Among the subjects dealt with in chapter VI are the methods of collecting trade statistics, non-commercial items in Canadian trade, gold in Canadian trade, and Newfoundland in Canadian trade statistics.

WHOLESALE PRICES LOWER: Wholesale prices showed a slight decline in December, according to the general index number compiled by the Bureau of Statistics. The December index, on the base 1926=100, stood at 156.8, down 0.2

points from the November figure of 157.0, and 2.8 points below the high figure of 159.6 reached in December, 1948.

CARLOADINGS: Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ended January 21 continued to be affected by unusual weather conditions, particularly in the western division where embargoes on perishables and automobiles were advised. Loadings for all Canada, including Newfoundland, were 64,127 cars, down 11.2 per cent or 8,085 cars from the 72,212 cars reported for the third week of last year.

STORE SALES AT NEW PEAK: Swelled by heavy Christmas buying, department store sales reached a new monthly peak value of \$114,467,000 in December, showing a gain of 4.5 per cent over the December 1948 total of \$109,540,000. Despite the large dollar volume of sales in the month, the advance fell short of the overall rise for the year when cumulative sales moved up seven per cent to \$856,441,000 from \$803,092,000 in 1948.

Most departments registered moderately increased sales in December and the year, the principal exception being food departments. December sales were higher in all provinces except Quebec, while advances were Canada-wide in the year. In December British Columbia and Manitoba had the largest percentage sales advance. In the 12 months, Alberta, the Maritimes, and Manitoba were the leaders.

RAIL REVENUES AND EXPENSES: The principal Canadian railways reported operating revenues of \$80,570,000 for October, a decline of 2.7 per cent from the record for the month established in 1948. Operating expenses were reduced \$605,000 or less than one per cent from \$69,655,000 to \$69,050,000, and the operating income for the month stood at \$8,775,000 against \$9,864,000.

1949 RECORD AUTO PRODUCTION: Canadian manufacturers of motor vehicles established a new record in 1949, when they shipped out a larger total of units -- new passenger cars, trucks and other commercial vehicles -- than in any previous year.

Total shipments for 1949 aggregated 290,634 units as compared with 264,178 in 1948, an increase of 10 per cent. Previous high mark was 270,191 units in 1941, largely commercial vehicles for war use, while the fourth highest year's output was 262,625 units in 1929.

Last year's increase over 1948 was due to larger shipments of passenger cars, which advanced to 192,458 units from 166,935 the previous year. Total number of trucks increased slightly to 97,680 units from 96,388.