

FINAL EXPORT FIGURES FOR 1958

According to final and detailed figures released recently by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Canadian domestic exports were valued at \$4,830,400,000 in 1958 - as prices fell sufficiently to reduce the value total notwithstanding a fractional increase in volume - and were thus very slightly lower than in 1957. Exports of foreign produce, at \$98,100,000 were some 3 per cent higher than in 1957. In December 1958 domestic exports totalled \$440,900,000 and exports of foreign produce \$8,900,000. The latest figures confirm the advance release of January 27 which reported total exports as being \$449,800,000 in December 1958 and \$4,928,500,000 in the year.

The proportion of Canadian exports going to the United Kingdom and Europe in 1958 rose moderately to 16.1 per cent and 12.0 per cent, respectively, and the proportion going to the Commonwealth rose somewhat more sharply to 5.9 per cent. The proportion marketed in the United States, Latin America and other countries as a group fell somewhat to 59.0 per cent, 3.7 per cent, and 3.4 per cent, respectively. In the fourth quarter of 1958, the proportion of exports going to the United States, the United Kingdom and other countries as a group increased - to the United States moderately, the United Kingdom more significantly, and to other countries slightly - from the same quarter of 1957 to 59.7 per cent, 16.9 per cent and 3.6 per cent, respectively. Exports to the Commonwealth and Latin America fell slightly and to Europe more sharply to a respective 5.2 per cent, 3.8 per cent and 10.8 per cent.

Among the leading commodities exported in 1958, there were very large value increases in uranium, aircraft and parts, wheat, beef cattle, farm implements and machinery, canned fish, natural gas, planks and boards and barley. Exports of wheat flour, whisky and fresh and frozen fish also increased, but by more moderate amounts. A few very large decreases and a larger number of smaller declines more than offset the gains recorded above, and among the more important commodities there were considerable reductions in the exports of petroleum, iron ore, nickel, copper, newsprint paper, flaxseed, asbestos, pulpwood, non-farm machinery and zinc.

In the fourth quarter of 1958, changes among the leading commodity exports showed some contrast with the changes recorded in the year as a whole. Among commodities for which there were large annual increases, exports of aircraft and parts declined by some 5 per cent in the final quarter of 1958, as compared to the same period of 1957 (when the total had been unusually high), and those of barley declined by some 3 per cent between the same periods. On the other hand, exports of newsprint paper, flaxseed and zinc increased in

the fourth quarter - by about 6 per cent, 33 per cent and 5 per cent, respectively - in contrast to declines in each of the other three quarters of 1958 and in the year as a whole. Among commodities which moved in the same direction in the final quarter and the year, the rate of increase of beef cattle and wheat exports was comparatively reduced in the fourth quarter, that of planks and boards was somewhat increased and that of canned fish greatly increased. The reductions in exports of iron ore, copper and asbestos were less marked in the final quarter than in the twelve-month period, while exports of nickel, due to a labour dispute, fell by some 64 per cent in the fourth quarter.

Exports to the United States were valued at \$2,832,200,000 in 1958. This was about 1 per cent less than in 1957 and compared to an increase of some 2 per cent as between the fourth quarter of 1957 and the fourth quarter of 1958 - the only quarter of the year which showed an increase. In the year as a whole, large increases in cattle and uranium exports, which both more than doubled, and in exports of planks and boards and farm implements and machinery, were insufficient to offset widespread declines including those recorded in petroleum exports, which were almost halved, and in exports of newsprint paper, nickel, copper, pulpwood, abrasives, barley and zinc.

At \$775,900,000, exports to the United Kingdom were some 5 per cent higher in 1958 than in 1957, and, after declining in the first, rising in the second and declining again in the third quarter of 1958, they increased by almost 12 per cent in the fourth quarter of the year. Large increases in the exports of wheat (which increased by about one-sixth), barley, (which more than doubled), canned fish (which increased fourfold) and uranium, (which rose from \$1,000 to \$13,500,000), and smaller increases in wheat flour, soybeans, cheese, plywoods and veneers, newsprint paper and nickel were sufficient in the year as a whole to more than offset reductions in exports of oilseed, copper, aluminum, iron ore, planks and boards, wood pulp, platinum metals, zinc and lead.

As a result of considerable increases in the first three quarters and a slight decline in the fourth quarter, exports to the Commonwealth increased by some 21 per cent in 1958 and were valued at \$282,700,000. The higher total for the year was largely due to large shipments of Canadian-financed wheat to India and Pakistan - mainly in the first six months - and, on account of a drought in that country, commercial shipments of wheat to Australia and railway rails to the Union of South Africa.

Exports to Europe were valued at \$578,800,000 in 1958. This was some 4 per cent higher

(Over)