

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS: Canada's refineries produced a record amount of refined petroleum products in 1956 at 234,331,436 barrels, a rise of almost 20 per cent from 1955's previous high of 195,992,634 barrels, according to Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Receipts of crude oil advanced nearly 21 per cent in the year to 231,897,606 barrels from 191,801,691, domestic crude rising nearly 23 per cent to 125,592,074 barrels from 105,050,563 and imported crude nearly 23 per cent to 106,305,532 barrels from 86,751,128.

Year's production was greater for all major fuels except aviation gasoline. Output of motor gasoline increased to 82,399,508 barrels from 75,860,661 in 1955, heavy fuel oil to 48,311,553 from 38,649,765, light fuel oil to 35,572,056 from 28,425,608, diesel fuel to 22,011,927 from 16,284,641, kerosene and stove oil to 13,507,968 from 10,724,042, aviation turbine fuel to 4,026,539 from 2,621,560, and tractor fuel to 708,391 from 558,990. Output of aviation gasoline fell to 804,387 barrels from 933,482.

Alberta fields accounted for the major share of domestic crude received by refineries in the year at 111,081,494 barrels versus 93,558,527 a year earlier. Saskatchewan was next, accounting for 8,390,601 barrels against 5,874,868 followed by Manitoba at 5,101,446 versus 4,647,648, Ontario at 593,294 versus 565,285, Northwest Territories at 420,742 versus 404,235, and New Brunswick at 4,497 versus nil.

Imported crude oil from Venezuela climbed to 78,007,336 barrels from 68,425,876 in the previous year. Saudi Arabia to 11,877,403 from 8,423,767, Kuwait to 6,256,272 from nil, Trinidad to 3,338,547 from 2,773,759, and Iran-Iraq to 1,096,732 from nil. Imports from the United States dropped to 5,503,153 barrels from 7,277,726.

CITY HOMES: A larger proportion of Canada's population resided in incorporated urban places on June 1, 1956 than on the same date in 1951, according to a report based on the last national census. On June 1 last year the figure was 57.7 per cent versus 56.6 per cent in 1951.

Number of incorporated cities, towns and villages increased from 1,783 in 1951 to 1,873 in 1956 and their total population from 7,941,222 to 9,286,126. The report lists the incorporated centres alphabetically, with their populations at the 1956 and 1951 Censuses, and shows also the census subdivision (township, municipality, etc.), census division, and province in which each is located.

Provincially, the proportions of the population residing in cities, towns, or villages ranged from 33.4 per cent in Newfoundland to 69.9 per cent in Quebec. Proportions for the other provinces were: Prince Edward Island, 37.8 per cent; Nova Scotia, 45.7 per cent; New

Brunswick, 35.2 per cent; Ontario, 56.7 per cent; Manitoba, 53.1 per cent; Saskatchewan, 51.0 per cent; Alberta, 60.3 per cent; and British Columbia, 50.2 per cent.

Eleven centres were in the size group of 100,000 population and over in 1956 (10 in 1951), 823 were between 1,000 and 100,000 (724), and 1,039 were under 1,000 (1,049).

Included in the report are tables showing the 1956 population totals with comparative figures for 1951, of 15 Census metropolitan areas and of 19 localities classed in the census as "other" major urban areas. The last group possess characteristics of metropolitan areas, but in most cases the cities are smaller in size.

ARTS FESTIVAL: The Nova Scotia Festival of Arts at Tatamagouche from August 9 to 12 inclusive, this year will feature interpretation of all the arts - drama, ballet, vocal and instrumental, painting and photography, handicrafts, and old-time folk singing and dancing. Thousands of visitors are expected to attend this outstanding summer event.

Tatamagouche, midway between Picton and Oxford, Nova Scotia, was first settled by French Acadians who were expelled by the British in 1755. Visitors may still see relics of the old settlement including wells, dykes, a mill dam and a cemetery.

WREN CHIEF RETIRES: Commander (W) Isabel Janet Macneill, OBE, RCN(R), of Halifax, N.S. the first Canadian Wren officer to be decorated and the first and only woman in the Royal Canadian Navy to hold a command, will return to civilian life on July 31, 1957. Cdr. Macneill has been Staff Officer (Wrens) on the staff of the Chief of Naval Personnel since the summer of 1954.

Succeeding Cdr. Macneill as Staff Officer (Wrens) will be Lt.-Cdr. (W) Jean Crawford-Smith, RCN, of Toronto.

EXPORTS CLIMB: Canada's domestic exports increased slightly more than 2 per cent in May to \$437,600,000 from \$428,500,000 in the corresponding month last year, Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in its regular monthly summary. The January-May value was 3 per cent larger than a year earlier at \$1,900,100,000 versus \$1,846,300,000. Volume accounted for practically all of the rise in May.

Larger exports to the United States, the United Kingdom, Latin American countries and "other" foreign countries more than offset reduced shipments to the rest of the Commonwealth and Europe. In the January-May period larger shipments to the United States, Latin American countries, Europe, and "other" foreign countries more than counterbalanced smaller exports to the United Kingdom and the rest of the Commonwealth.