

## EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

Canada's foreign trade expanded in the summer months, both exports and imports showing significant increases from last year's totals, according to preliminary figures released recently by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total exports for the third quarter of 1963 amounted to \$1,767.2 million, an increase of 9.9 per cent over the total of \$1,608.3 million in the same period of the preceding year. Imports also advanced, rising to \$1,656.3 million, a gain of 6.9 per cent above the figure of \$1,549.3 for July-September 1962. Total trade thus reached a record for the third quarter of any year and the export balance for the third quarter of 1963 stood at \$111 million as compared to \$59 million for the same three months of last year.

For the first nine months of 1963, total exports amounted to \$5,000.4 million, an 8.2 per cent gain over the figure for the same period of last year. Exports have increased irregularly but continuously during the year rising over 6 per cent in each of the first two quarters above the comparable 1962 totals. Total exports in September amounted to \$602.1 million, an advance of 22.4 per cent over the \$492.1 million figure for September of last year. Imports, which fell 3.8 per cent in the first quarter gained 1.2 per cent in the second, and with the advance in the current quarter, showed a total increase of 1.5 per cent for the first nine months of 1963 at \$4,767.5 million. September imports amounted to \$546.2 million, an advance of 16.5 per cent over the September 1962 total. The surplus of exports over imports rose to \$55.9 million as compared with \$23.2 million in September 1962 and for the first nine months of this year totalled \$232.9 million as against an import trade balance of \$74.8 million for January-September 1962.

Total exports to the United States rose both in the third quarter and the first nine months of 1963. These were valued at \$1,010.1 million for July-September and at \$2,894.2 million for January-September 1963, and represented an increase of 5.1 per cent for the quarter and of 4.6 per cent for the nine months over the corresponding totals of last year. Imports from the United States, which had decreased in the first half of the year, picked up by 4.6 per cent in the third quarter to reach \$1,084.9 million and for the nine months totalled \$3,273.8 million, a fractional gain of 0.5 per cent above January-September of last year. The import balance of trade with the United States stood at \$379.6 million, over \$100 million less than at this point in 1962.

Trade with Britain showed continued gains in the export field and some levelling-out in the long decline in imports. During the third quarter, total exports rose 14.1 per cent to \$275.3 million and for the nine months reached \$750.1 million, a gain of 12.3 per cent. Imports for July-September dropped 3.4 per

cent to \$137.2 million but, due to the sharper declines in the earlier quarters of the year, totalled \$383.1 million for nine months, a decrease of 11.3 per cent from the figure for January-September 1962. Our export trade balance with Britain increased to \$367.1 million at the end of this September.

There were considerable increases in our trade with other Commonwealth and preferential rate countries. Total exports rose 16.6 per cent to \$100.3 million in the third quarter and for the nine months reached \$294.6 million, a gain of 25.7 per cent over the same period of last year. Imports advanced by 33.2 per cent to \$117.9 million in the quarter and by 20.1 per cent for January-September to reach \$276.4 million. There was, therefore, an import balance of \$17.6 million in the quarter but, over the nine months, exports exceeded imports by \$18.2 million.

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## ELECTRONICS MARKET EXPLORED

A seven-man Canadian Communications and Electronic Products Trade Mission will visit Britain, the United Arab Republic, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Iran to explore the market for electronic products. The Mission includes five members from the Canadian electronics industry, one member from Labour, and an officer of the Department of Trade and Commerce. It left Canada on November 8 and will return on December 10.

The Mission's primary objectives are to undertake market surveys in the countries visited and to acquaint prospective purchasers with the wide range of communications and electronic products and services available from Canada. Mission members will also become familiar with local buying conditions, procedures and prices.

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## INDUSTRIAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Almost 17 per cent of all Canadian industrial establishments reported some organized training programmes in the year ended May 31, 1963, with an incidence of 8 per cent for establishments employing 15 to 50 persons and 25 per cent for those employing more than 50, according to preliminary figures from a survey conducted jointly by the Department of Labour and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In public utilities, 41.8 per cent of all establishments reported training programmes, followed by manufacturing at 16.6 per cent, mining, quarrying and oil wells at 16.2 per cent, and transportation and communication at 14.6 per cent.

Out of almost 2,000 establishments reporting organized training programmes, 66 per cent had apprenticeship training programmes, 36 per cent had other programmes at the skilled tradesman level, 30 per cent at the first-line supervisor level, and 18 per cent at the technician level.

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