



# CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

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## WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

**MR. HOWE'S U.K. VISIT:** At a press conference in Ottawa on May 9, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe, who returned from London on May 8 made the following statement:-

"During my visit to the United Kingdom, the purpose of which was to take part in the opening of the British Industries Fair, I discussed with United Kingdom authorities a number of trade matters of immediate concern to Canada.

"I found on all sides the desire on the part of the United Kingdom to purchase Canadian products. The difficulty is to find the means of payment. Any real solution toward providing the means for greater purchases in Canada must depend upon greater purchases of British goods by dollar countries. I have assured the United Kingdom Government that we in Canada will lend every effort in support of the vigorous export drive which the United Kingdom are now undertaking.

"Despite their serious dollar difficulties the United Kingdom are planning additional purchases, provided agreement can be reached on prices. I have told the United Kingdom that there need be no doubt of the ability of Canadian suppliers to meet competition from any part of the world."

The following are the details given by Mr. Howe concerning the additional purchases planned by the United Kingdom.

### CANNED SALMON

Between 300 and 400 thousand cases (depending on price) for delivery before the end of 1949. A representative of the United Kingdom Ministry of Food is proceeding to Canada to open negotiations.

### TIMBER

Special purchases to the approximate value of \$10 million from the United States and Canada; the contracts to be awarded on the basis of commercial considerations. Specifications are already in the hands of the trade. These purchases will be over and above the amounts of West Coast lumber to be bought by the United Kingdom in the last half of 1949, arrangements for which will be settled in the near future.

### FLOUR

A quantity of 400 thousand tons during the crop year 1949-50. This amount, which is somewhat less than that supplied by Canadian millers last year, is 100 thousand tons above the minimum amount provided for in the Canada-United Kingdom Wheat Agreement. It is in fact about double the pre-war level of Canadian flour shipments to the United Kingdom.