

Canadian tourists abroad allowed to bring back after July 1 duty-free purchases of up to \$300 a year, lumping in one trip present allowance of \$100 every four months.

Tax deductibility provided for husband paying for support of wife or dependent children under court order.

Emergency gold mining assistance boosted by 25 per cent to about \$12,000,000 annually, starting with 1958.

Excise tax of 20 per cent on advertising in special Canadian editions of non-Canadian periodicals repealed, effective immediately.

Period for claiming tax refunds extended to four from two years from end of taxation year.

Tariffs on imports of wool cloth from Britain boosted from present 50 cents a pound to 55 and 60, effective immediately.

Government to tighten anti-dumping laws sharply.

Tariffs revised upward and downward on basic iron and steel, pipes and tubes, zinc and other products.

Additional farm and building materials exempted from sales tax, effective immediately.

Interest on tax overpayments increased to three from two per cent, effective 1958 tax year.

Municipalities given \$5,000,000 annual relief from 10 per cent sales tax on some purchases, effective immediately.

* * * *

RECORD CONSTRUCTION FOR 1958

Canada's 1958 construction programme is estimated at a record value of \$7,136,000,000, an increase of 1.3 per cent over the preceding year's peak of \$7,048,000,000, according to estimates published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

It is estimated that 614,067 full-time workers would be required to carry out the 1958 construction programme and that the value of this labour would be \$2,371,000,000 or 33 per cent of the total value of work. The estimated cost of materials required for the programme is \$3,439,000,000, about 48 per cent of the total. This proportion has remained relatively constant over the past five years.

Volume of construction carried out in 1956 increased almost 15 per cent over 1955. Preliminary estimates for 1957 indicate an increase of 7.8 per cent, smaller than for the previous year but still a substantial advance. In both current and constant dollars most of the increases have occurred in new construction, repair work showing relatively little change.

Value of new construction is estimated at \$5,991,000,000 in 1958, up from \$5,919,000,000 in the preceding year and the value of repair construction is placed at \$1,145,000,000, up from \$1,129,000,000. New construction undertaken by contract is estimated at \$4,986,000,000 versus \$4,924,000,000 and repair construction at \$451,000,000 versus \$439,000,000.

New construction undertaken by the labour forces of utilities, manufacturing, mining and logging firms and government departments, home owner-builders and other persons or firms not primarily engaged in the construction industry totalled \$1,005,000,000 versus \$995,000,000, and repair construction totalled \$694,000,000 versus \$690,000,000

Projected value of residential construction is expected to rise in 1958 to \$1,922,000,000 from \$1,685,000,000 in the preceding year and institutions to \$576,000,000 from \$503,000,000. Total for industrial building is expected to fall to some \$423,000,000 from \$617,000,000, and commercial building to \$675,000,000 from \$710,000,000. Projected value for "other" building is placed at \$277,000,000 versus \$260,000,000.

In the engineering category the following are the estimated values for 1958: marine construction, \$155,000,000 (\$157,000,000 in 1957); road, highway and aerodrome construction, \$740,000,000 (\$742,000,000); waterworks and sewage systems, \$261,000,000 (\$202,000,000); dams and irrigation, \$44,000,000 (\$64,000,000); electric power construction, \$565,000,000 (\$564,000,000); railway, telephone and telegraph construction, \$431,000,000 (\$411,000,000); gas and oil facilities, \$726,000,000 (\$807,000,000); and "other" engineering construction, \$341,000,000 (\$326,000,000).

Projected values of construction work for 1958 follows by provinces: Newfoundland, \$91,200,000 (\$81,800,000 in 1957); Prince Edward Island, \$21,900,000 (\$17,300,000); Nova Scotia, \$180,600,000 (\$152,200,000); New Brunswick, \$152,800,000 (\$147,100,000); Quebec, \$1,636,100,000 (\$1,662,400,000); Ontario, \$2,705,700,000 (\$2,522,600,000); Manitoba, \$345,500,000 (\$334,200,000); Saskatchewan, \$372,700,000 (\$379,300,000); Alberta, \$804,700,000 (\$713,300,000); and British Columbia, \$825,500,000 (\$1,038,100,000).

* * * *

MANITOBA ELECTION

On Monday, June 16, Manitoba elected its first Conservative Government since 1915.

The Progressive Conservative Party won 26 of the legislature's 57 seats, with 19 going to the Liberal-Progressives. The CCF Party more than doubled its representation of five seats in the last House, electing 11 members. One independent was successful.

The final party standing was reported as follows:

	1958	1953
Prog.-Cons.	26	12
Lib.-Prog.	19	32
CCF	11	5
Social Credit	0	2
Independent	1	4
Ind.-Cons.	0	1
Lab.-P.	0	1
Total	57	57