

SURPLUS \$609,900,000: The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott on January 15 released the statement of the Comptroller of the Treasury covering revenues and expenditures of the Government of Canada for the period April 1 - December 31, 1948.

According to this statement the total revenues of the Government for the month of December, 1948, amounted to \$220.2 millions, while total expenditures amounted to \$170.3 millions, resulting in a surplus of revenues over expenditures for the month of \$49.9 millions. This brings the Government's total "budgetary surplus" for the first nine months of the current fiscal year up to a figure of \$609.9 millions, which compares with a similar surplus of \$646.2 millions accumulated by this same date a year ago.

INTERIM STATISTICS

Commenting on the Comptroller's statement, Mr. Abbott again stressed the interim nature of these monthly figures and pointed out that although further increases in the "budgetary surplus" are expected in each succeeding month between now and next March it is likely that such increases will be wholly or at least largely offset by certain expenditures of substantial amount which are ordinarily not recorded in the Government's accounts until right at the end of the year.

Mr. Abbott also referred to the ways in which the cash funds provided by the current year's budgetary surplus are being utilized.

"In the first place," said Mr. Abbott, "these funds constitute the principal source of cash for financing certain large demands upon our cash resources over and above the regular budgetary expenditures. Among the largest of these are the advances which the Government is currently making to the Foreign Exchange Control Board to finance increases in Canada's exchange reserves. During the nine-month period April 1 - December 31, 1948, the Government's advances to the Board on this account totalled no less than \$275 millions in Canadian dollars. These advances are in addition to the \$100 millions in U.S. dollars which we turned over to the Board during this period out of the proceeds of certain New York loans."

Mr. Abbott also noted that during the period April 1 - December 31, 1948, the Government's net cash requirements for ordinary loans, advances, and investments (including loans to farmers, veterans, and the C.N.R., and loans for housing and export credit purposes) totalled \$140 millions. "It can be seen, therefore," he said, "that during the first nine months of the current fiscal year the Government's total cash outlay in respect of all these items amounted to some \$415 millions."

Mr. Abbott went on to say that the funds provided by the current year's budgetary surplus, together with certain cash funds becoming available from other sources, should also enable the Government to effect further reduc-

tions in its outstanding funded debt. He remarked, however, that the other demands upon the Government's cash resources (i.e. the advances to the F.E.C.B. and the ordinary loans, advances, and investments referred to above) must be met first, and it was only after taking care of these that the Government could apply any of its surplus cash to debt reduction.

ICAO TRAINEE PROGRAM: Six men have been chosen from the International Civil Aviation Organization's 51 member nations to participate in ICAO's second trainee program. Dr. Albert Roper, Secretary General, announced at Montreal on January 17. The successful candidates will report to ICAO headquarters in Montreal Jan. 17 and will spend a six-month period studying and taking part in the work of the Organization. Upon completion of the half-year term, they will return to the service of their home governments, and there will help in maintaining liaison with ICAO.

The new trainees are:

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| Bolivia: | V.E. Soliz Rodriguez, now chief of the Commercial Section of the Bolivian Directorate-General of Civil and Commercial Aeronautics. |
| Denmark: | Einer Rasmussen, Secretary to the Danish Directorate of Civil Aviation. |
| Dominican Republic: | Juan B. Cambiaso V., Meteorological Member of the Dominican Civil Aeronautical Commission. |
| Haiti: | Gérard J. Nau, attached to the Economic and Commercial Division of the Haitian Department of Foreign Affairs. |
| India: | T.K.S. Murthy, Aviation Student. |
| Italy: | Paoletti Arcangelo, Airport Director, L'Urbe Airport, Rome. |

The first trainee program conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization was completed in June, 1948, and included trainees from Argentina, Bolivia, France, Greece and the Netherlands.

UNEMPLOYMENT UP BY 40,000: Total non-agricultural employment in Canada increased about 75,000 from the first week of September to the week ending November 20, while, as a result of the seasonal decline in farm activity, employment in agriculture fell about 260,000. Unemployment reached 106,000, about 40,000 higher than in early September. At the same time the civilian labour force, made up of the employed and unemployed, declined about 45,000, dropping below 5,000,000 for the first

time since the survey in February, 1948, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

These figures are based on the Bureau's quarterly sample survey of a scientifically selected sample of the civilian population of Canada, 14 years of age and over, living outside of institutions. The survey started on November 22 and continued during the rest of November and early December. The main aim of the survey is to provide breakdowns of the total population to show the level of employment and unemployment on the basis of the activity of individuals.

Summary figures of the survey show the civilian labour force totalling 4,964,000 as compared with 5,109,000 in September and 4,934,000 in November, 1947. Total employed last November was 4,858,000 as against 4,847,000 a year earlier, and total unemployed 106,000 compared with 87,000. Aggregate number not in the labour force -- persons going to school, keeping house, retired, too old or unable to work -- increased to 4,229,000 from 4,051,000 in September and 4,069,000 in November, 1947.

AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

Agricultural employment fell to 986,000 in the week ending November 20, a decrease of about 80,000 from the first week in November, 1947. Between September 4 and November 20, the number of men employed in agriculture fell from 1,063,000 to 909,000, and of women from 184,000 to 77,000.

Employment outside of agriculture rose from 3,795,000 in the first week of September to 3,872,000 in the week ending November 20, a pattern similar to that observed in 1946 and 1947. Total nonagricultural employment amounted to 3,779,000 in November, 1947. It has increased from 3,268,000 in November, 1945, first year of the survey, by a little more than 600,000.

The estimates of total employment in the different regions for November of 1945, 1946, 1947 and 1948 show that total employment in Canada has been increasing continuously, although the growth in the last year has been small. With the exception of a small drop in the Prairies, compensated for by an increase in British Columbia, the changes in regional employment since November, 1947, are remarkably small.

FOREIGN VEHICLES RECORD: The number of foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits in 1948 was 1,824,000, a new record for this type of traffic and 10 per cent higher than the previous high mark established in 1947. All provinces shared in the increase over the preceding year except British Columbia which suffered from the effects of floods in May and June, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

Foreign entries on permits in December totalled 47,500, an increase of 26 per cent

over the same month in 1947, whereas similar traffic in December, 1947 showed a decrease of five per cent from the year before.

Ontario showed the largest absolute gain in tourist car entries in 1948, the total rising from 1,005,194 in 1947 to 1,125,956, Quebec being next in order, the year's total increasing from 300,914 to 335,236. Entries into British Columbia fell from 205,216 to 191,572.

New Brunswick had 102,819 entries as compared with 91,298, Alberta 27,662 compared with 23,476, Manitoba 24,516 compared with 24,407, Saskatchewan 11,663 compared with 9,702, Yukon Territory 2,401 compared with 1,527, and Nova Scotia 2,163 compared with 2,119.

VEGETABLE OIL INDUSTRY: Gross value of products turned out by the vegetable oil industry of Canada showed a further sharp increase in 1947, rising to \$38,348,000 from \$25,453,000 in 1946 and \$20,098,000 in 1945. The cost of materials used rose from \$20,441,000 in 1946 to \$32,769,000, while salary and wage payments increased from \$1,304,000 to \$1,514,000.

Linseed oil is the principal item of production, the output in 1947 amounting to 10,362,951 gallons valued at \$14,662,084 as compared with 11,310,076 gallons valued at \$8,976,619 in the preceding year. Linseed oilcake and meal had an output of 86,116 tons and a value of \$3,482,908 as against 90,386 tons valued at \$3,549,155.

Production of soybean oil amounted to 12,071 tons as compared with 8,038, with respective values of \$4,391,579 and \$2,322,232. Output of other oils -- coconut, peanut, rapeseed, sunflower and mustard seed -- totalled 30,068 tons valued at \$11,367,661 compared with 32,574 tons valued at \$7,126,632.

Flaxseed comprises the most important material used by the industry, accounting for almost 46 per cent of the total value of materials. Before the war, large quantities of imported flaxseed were used. Fifty-three per cent of the total flaxseed used in 1939 was imported but since 1942 all flaxseed used has been of domestic origin.

CANADIAN SERVICES COLLEGES: Aspirants for careers as officers in any of the three services have until March 31 to apply for admission to the Canadian Services Colleges at Royal Roads and Kingston for the year 1949-50.

In 1948, the Naval and Air Force College at Royal Roads and also the Royal Military College at Kingston became joint services colleges with courses designed to train officer cadets for the Active and Reserve forces of the Navy, Army and Air Force. The duration of the course at Royal Roads is two years and that of RMC is four. With the exception of the fourth year at RMC, which has no summer term, each year consists of eleven months of instruction. The year is divided into three terms: Fall, Winter and Summer.