

over the 50,291 claims filed in August, 1949. The more-than-seasonal increase over July was likely due to lay-offs of non-striking workers in industries which experienced a curtailment of operations due to the nation-wide railway strike in the latter part of August.

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NAVAL CHIEF VISITS SEOUL AREA: Vice-Admiral H.T.W. Grant, C.B.E., D.S.O., R.C.N., Canada's Chief of the Naval Staff, visited the Inchon-Seoul area on October 9 after arriving at Inchon in the Canadian destroyer H.M.C.S. Cayuga.

Admiral Grant paid official calls on United Nations military and naval commanders in the area and, during a visit to Seoul, called informally on Syngman Rhee, President of the Korean Republic.

Admiral Grant, who is on an inspection visit to the Canadian naval forces in the Korean theatre, was accompanied by Captain Jeffrey Brock, D.S.C., R.C.N., commander of the Canadian Destroyer Division operating with the United Nations forces, and by his secretary, Cdr. (S) F.D. Elcock, R.C.N.

VISIT WITH PRESIDENT RHEE

Following the calls and the visit with President Rhee, the party drove through parts of Seoul on a brief inspection of the city.

Admiral Grant sailed in the Cayuga from a south Japan naval base to Inchon on an operational trip.

The other Canadian destroyers, Sioux and Athabaskan, accompanied the Cayuga, and on Sunday the three ships took time out from the tasks of one war to remember another.

As the three ships steamed through the waters of the Yellow Sea, their crews gathered to observe Battle of the Atlantic Sunday and pay homage to those who served and gave their lives in that earlier conflict.

On board the Cayuga, a brief and moving non-demonstrational service was held on the sunlit quarterdeck. Taking part were men who served on the North Atlantic during the Second World War and well remembered the grim, relentless battle with the U-boats. Alongside them were others, still in or barely past their 'teens, who were knowing war for the first time.

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COST OF LIVING RISES: With the exception of Edmonton, regional city cost-of-living indexes moved higher in August. For Edmonton, sharp seasonal declines in fresh vegetables, notably potatoes, were sufficient to balance higher quotations for meats, coffee, sugar and butter. At other centres, foods advanced as did other main groups. Rents, which were surveyed in August, were higher for six of the eight cities -- Saint John and Saskatoon remaining unchanged. An increase in automobile tires was principally responsible for narrow gains in the miscellaneous items indexes.

TRADE PACT WITH VENEZUELA: The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe, announced on October 11 that a commercial modus vivendi between Canada and Venezuela was signed on that date at Caracas by the Canadian delegation at present visiting a number of Latin American countries.

This agreement, to be valid for one year from date of signature unless terminated on three months' notice, provides for the exchange of most-favoured-nation treatment between the two countries in all matters concerning customs duties or charges, as well as in all matters relating to the concession of foreign exchange for commercial transactions and to the assignment of import and exchange quotas. This agreement may be renewed from year to year.

As in the previous agreement, which lapsed in 1949, Canada undertakes to accord to Venezuela most-favoured-nation treatment and will be entitled to receive most-favoured-nation treatment from Venezuela. As a result of this agreement, Canadian goods will on importation into Venezuela be subject to the same customs duties and other charges which are levied on goods from other countries, such as the United Kingdom and the United States.

TARIFF REDUCTIONS

Any tariff reductions, which either Canada or Venezuela may grant in the future to a third country, will automatically be extended to the other. For example, although Venezuela is not a party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, any tariff reductions that Canada may grant as a result of the G.A.T.T. negotiations now in progress in Torquay, will apply equally to Venezuela.

Mr. Howe pointed out that among the Canadian goods that will now benefit from reduced rates of duty are the following: canned salmon; canned fruits and vegetables; cigarettes; hosiery of pure silk or mixtures; Douglas fir timber and lumber; lanterns, both wick and pressure. Other goods, which were subject to general tariff duties that were no higher than the most-favoured-nation rates, will benefit by the guarantee that no duties may now be levied on them in excess of the most-favoured-nation rates.

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WHEAT STOCKS: There was a heavy movement of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending September 28, and overseas export clearances were moderately higher. Visible supplies were lower than at the same time last year.

Deliveries of wheat from western farms during the week amounted to 36,817,488 bushels as compared with 19,678,814 in the corresponding week last year. Overseas export clearances totalled 4,130,014 bushels as against 3,910,995, and the visible supplies on September 28 amounted to 158,408,084 bushels against 162,961,023.