

SECURITY TRANSACTIONS

Trade in outstanding Canadian securities in March led to a net sales balance or capital import of \$38.1 million, the largest such monthly balance since September 1950. Trade in outstanding foreign securities amounted to a sales balance of \$2.2 million, bringing the total capital import from these transactions to over \$40 million, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports.

Inflow of capital arising from all portfolio security transactions amounted to \$166 million in the first quarter of this year compared to \$137 million in the last quarter of 1958 and \$162 million in the first quarter of 1958. This year's first-quarter total included net sales to non-residents of \$35 million of outstanding Canadian bonds and debentures, \$33 million outstanding Canadian common and preference stocks and \$133 million of new issues of Canadian securities, offset to the extent of \$38 million by retirements of foreign-held Canadian securities; all transactions in foreign securities contributed the balance of \$3 million.

Substantial net sales to non-residents of outstanding Canadian bonds and debentures, which reappeared in the final quarter of 1958, rose further in 1959, and net sales of outstanding Canadian stocks continued on a high level. The bonds traded were largely Government of Canada direct and guaranteed issues. The trade in all outstanding Canadian issues was made up of net sales of \$47 million to the United States, net repurchases of \$3 million from the United Kingdom, and net sales of \$24 million to other overseas countries.

The sale to non-residents of \$133 million of new Canadian issues comprised \$122 million of government and municipal issues, and \$21 million of corporate bonds and stocks. More than half of the \$38 million of foreign-held bonds retired during the quarter were issues of the Government of Canada.

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CASH FARM INCOME

Cash returns to Canadian farmers (excluding Newfoundland) from the sale of farm products and from participation payments from previous years' grain crops were estimated at a near-record total of \$2,847,000,000 in 1958, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. This was 8 per cent higher than the preceding year's \$2,577,000,000 and was only slightly lower than the record \$2,900,000,000 set in 1952. The increase in 1958 over 1957 can be attributed, in the main, to larger returns from the sale of livestock and animal products. Returns from the sale of field crops were virtually the same as in 1957.

Farm cash income in 1958 was higher in all provinces as compared with 1957. In Eastern Canada receipts from field crops and livestock

and animal products contributed to the increase, whereas in Western Canada the increase was due to higher returns from sales of livestock and animal products. Total returns from the sale of field crops were lower for each of the three Prairie Provinces and for British Columbia. The decline in income from field crops in the West, however, was offset by higher returns in Eastern Canada.

FIELD CROPS

Returns from the sale of wheat were estimated at \$427,000,000 for 1958, up almost \$50,000,000 from a year earlier. Larger farm marketings, resulting from higher exports, was the principal factor affecting receipts in 1958 compared with the preceding year; average farm prices were also higher and can be attributed to quality, since the initial payments to wheat growers for specific grades in 1958 were the same as in 1957. Returns from the sale of barley and rye were also slightly above 1957 as a result of larger marketings; farm prices for these two crops were virtually the same during 1957 and 1958.

The effects of the higher returns from wheat, rye and barley were offset by lower returns from flax, oats and Canadian Wheat Board Participation payments. Reduced farm marketings in 1958 were responsible for the smaller returns from the sale of flax and oats compared with 1957. Relatively high farm flax marketings in 1957 followed the record 1956-57 flax crop; smaller flax marketings in 1958 followed the smaller 1957-58 flax crop.

In Eastern Canada, higher returns from field crops can be attributed in the main to potatoes, tobacco and sugar beets. Potato growers in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick received about one-fifth more for their potato crops in 1958 than in 1957. In Ontario the higher returns from field crops accrued largely to tobacco and sugar beet growers.

LIVESTOCK

Estimated at \$1,744,000,000 for 1958, receipts from the sale of livestock and animal products reached a record high and were 14 per cent higher than the preceding year's \$1,528,000,000. This estimate was higher in each of the nine provinces included in the national farm accounts and can be attributed in the main to larger returns from sales of cattle and calves.

For Canada as a whole, cash farm income derived from the sale of cattle and calves in 1958 was about one-quarter larger than in 1957. This increase can be attributed to the combined effects of higher prices and larger marketings. Hog producers throughout Canada received more cash from the sale of hogs in 1958 than in 1957; larger marketings offset the effects of lower prices. Estimated at \$325,000,000, the 1958 estimate was about 11 per cent higher than 1957's \$292,000,000 and was only exceeded in 1951 and 1952.