

SURPLUS RUSSIAN FLAT CARS

SOLD FOR \$4 MILLION U.S. FUNDS: Upwards of four million dollars in United States funds will come to Canada as a result of the sale by War Assets Corporation of about 1,500 wide-gauge flat cars built during the war for the Russian government and which became surplus at the end of hostilities.

In September 1,000 of these cars were sold for \$2,200,000 U.S. currency, with an option on the purchase of the remaining 500 for \$1,100,000. That option has now been exercised. The cars are destined ultimately for Argentina.

A stipulation of the sale is that conversion of the cars to Argentina's requirements will be carried out in Canada and paid for in U.S. funds.

The cars were built in Canada under Mutual Aid, and all except about 300 were at Vancouver ready for shipment to Russia when the war ended, and the order for them was cancelled. The other 300 are at Trenton, Nova Scotia. Because they are wide gauge and unsuitable for use in this country, no buyers in Canada were interested in them, and until they were purchased for Argentina, they faced the possibility of being reduced to scrap with only a very nominal return in dollars. This transaction will now bring to Canada much needed U.S. dollars in a substantial amount.

WORKERS' EARNINGS INCREASE: Information received from 6,378 manufacturers for the week of November 1, 1947, showed increases as compared with the week of October 1 in the number of their hourly-rated wage-earners, in the aggregate hours worked by such persons, and in their total hourly earnings. To a considerable extent, the improvement in the situation resulted from the settlement of industrial disputes in the meat packing industry.

The weekly wages of the workers averaged \$36.34 before deductions for income tax, unemployment insurance, etc., as compared with \$35.95 in the week of October 1, 1947, \$30.91 at November 1, 1946, \$30.31 at November 1, 1945, and \$32.55 at November 1, 1944.

MEAT FOR BRITAIN: Exports of meat by the Meat Board of Canada during the calendar year included 257,818,000 lb. of bacon, 6,591,000 lb. of pork offals, 52,031,000 lb. of beef, carcass basis, 106,000 lb. oxtails, 311,000 lb. beef offals, 4,455,000 lb. mutton and lamb, all of which went to the United Kingdom. There was also 51,598,432 lb. of canned meat exported, of which 15,035,572 went to the United Kingdom, 28,594,980 to UNRRA and the Canadian Jewish Congress and the remainder to 14 European countries.

MOVEMENT OF POPULATION

TRENDS IN SASKATCHEWAN: Of the total population of Saskatchewan five years of age and over on June 1, 1946, 151,840 or 18 per cent were residing in a different city, town, village or rural municipality than on June 1, 1941. This is revealed in figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics showing intra-provincial movements of the population and inward movements to the province based on a comparison of residences at the two dates, together with estimates of out-migration during the five-year period. For 83 per cent of the movers, the change of residence was within the province only, while 15 per cent were residents of other provinces in 1941, and the remaining two per cent were living in countries outside of Canada.

Comparison of the communities of origin and destination reveal a trend in movement from rural farm homes to homes in urban centres. Although 71,462 or 47 per cent of all migrants were living in a farm home in 1941, it was the destination of only 38,776 or 25 per cent of the migrants. On the other hand, 60,486 or 39 per cent of the migrant population came from urban centres in 1941 but it was the destination of 96,227 or more than 63 per cent of all movers. A very slight gain of less than two per cent was shown in the number of migrants moving to rural non-farm homes as compared with the 14,494 persons leaving homes in these localities.

Exact figures as to the number of out-migrants during the five-year period are not available since the 1946 Census enumeration covered only the Prairie Provinces. An estimate based on the expected population in 1946 through natural increase, as compared with the actual population, places the net decrease through migration at 123,906. Adding to this figure the number of in-migrants at 25,804, the number of out-migrants from Saskatchewan is estimated to be of the order of 150,000 for the period 1941-46. A further estimate indicates that this out-migrant population was roughly distributed as follows: 75,000 from rural farms, 25,000 from rural non-farm homes, and 50,000 from urban centres.

RETAIL PRICES FOR BUTTER: Following the announcement by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott on the reimposition of price control on butter (C.W.B., Jan. 16), the Wartime Prices and Trade Board announced the order establishing price ceilings at all levels on creamery butter, dairy and whey butter, effective Monday, January 19.

The maximum retail price to the consumer for top grade creamery butter in prints will be 73¢ per pound in Ontario and Quebec, 74¢

per pound in the Maritimes, 71¢ per pound in Manitoba and Alberta, 70¢ per pound in Saskatchewan and 72¢ per pound in British Columbia.

The trade markups are the same as those in effect during the time when butter was formerly under price control, officials said.

Maximum prices of whey and dairy butter will be at approximately the same levels as those in effect for creamery butter.

CANADIAN INDIAN OFFICER DECORATED: Lt. Dave Greyeyes, a Saskatchewan grain farmer and member of the Muskeg Lake Indian Reservation, has been awarded the Greek Military Cross, Class III, for gallantry in support of the Greek Mountain Brigade during the Italian campaign. A full blooded Cree and son of a former reservation chieftain, he is one of the few Indians to attain commissioned rank in the Canadian Army in the last war.

In all, 3,090 Canadian Indians, including 72 Indian maidens, took to the war path. This time their weapon was the tommy gun instead of the tomahawk and the prize was a medal instead of a scalp. Two hundred and thirteen were killed in action or died of wounds.

To enlist, many of them travelled hundreds of miles from their northern trap lines by canoe and on foot and for some it was their first contact with a city. Of the three services, Indians favoured the Army most. In the Army it was the infantry or the "walkemfasts" that appealed to them.

MILITARY TOWNSITES PLANNED: Plans have been completed and work has already begun on what will be Canada's first self-contained military townsites. Presently two in number, they will be at Shilo, Man., and Borden, Ont., but similar plans are in store for Petawawa, Ont., and Rivers, Man., and eventually for all Army stations across the country.

Both townsites will be most modern in design and as self-sustaining as any civilian community in Canada.

Although work on the townsite at Camp Borden is more advanced than is the case at Shilo, due to the availability of many conveniences in a near-by built-up area, Shilo is destined to be the most complete military centre in the country, according to plans made public this week at Army Headquarters. These plans, drawn up by the Army's Directorate of Works and Accommodation in Ottawa and the Shilo Development Committee, call for the erection of some 200 dwellings together with the construction of electric, water, sewer, telephone and road services. A portion of the houses to be built will be semi-prefabricated single homes while the balance will be double concrete block types.

The plan, unique in Canadian military history, is a long range one. While no definite time limit has been applied to the construction, the emphasis for the present is on living accommodation for married personnel at the

camp. Later, as materials and labour become available, a public school, shopping district, library, theatre, sports stadium and other community amenities will be built. Literally carved out of the bald prairie, the townsite will include everything from a community bandstand to a communal cemetery.

WAR ASSETS SALES NEAR \$415,000,000: Sales totalling \$5,435,500 during December have brought the grand total of receipts by War Assets Corporation from the disposal of war surplus to \$414,995,000.

Sales for the calendar year ended December 31, 1947, amounted to \$100,642,000, an average of about \$8,387,000 a month.

Aggregate of sales to the year's end, by principal commodities was, in round numbers, as follows:-

Ships and Components	\$115,715,000
Automotive Vehicles and Equipment	66,863,000
Machinery and Production Equipment	59,011,000
Lands and Buildings	45,584,000
Clothing and Textiles	33,610,000
Electrical Equipment	15,676,000
Metals	14,973,000
Scrap	10,052,000
Aircraft and Components	9,409,000
Chemicals	8,365,000
Office Furniture & Equipment	4,891,000
Other Miscellaneous Materials	30,846,000

ARMY STAFF COLLEGE

FIFTY-TWO STUDENTS SELECTED: Fifty-two students representing the armed forces of Canada, the United States, Great Britain, South Africa and France, have been selected to attend the 1948 course of the Canadian Army Staff College which opened at Kingston January 19, announces the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Brooke Claxton. The College is located at historic Fort Frontenac and the course lasts for 10 months, concluding November 26.

The majority of the students will be from the Canadian Army, but there will be two from the Royal Canadian Air Force and one from the Royal Canadian Navy, while Britain and the United States will be represented by two each and South Africa and France by one each.

The object of the course is to qualify officers for second grade staff appointments in all branches of the staff and in both field and static formations during time of peace and war. In addition, the curriculum has been designed to broaden the knowledge of officers in such ways as will be valuable to them and to the army in peacetime. For this purpose the course has been divided into theoretical and practical phases, the first emphasizing tactics and including lectures by prominent men on matters of national and international importance, and the second half concentrating on the preparation of training syllabi and tactical exercises in the field with and without troops.