

CANADIAN COMMODITY PRODUCTION

Net value of Canadian commodity production climbed 11.7 per cent in 1955 to a record \$15,838,100,000 from \$14,177,500,000 in 1954 and was 8.6 per cent greater than the previous all-time high of \$14,588,100,000 reached in 1953, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics annual survey of production.

Among the major expansionary forces were the rise in personal expenditure on consumer goods and services and the sharp increase in residential construction. Other contributing factors were the strong recovery of exports (principally of forestry and mining products) and of business outlays for plant, machinery and equipment. Additional expansionary factors in 1955 were the rise in government expenditures for goods and services, the larger grain crop and the swing in business inventories from liquidation in 1954 to net accumulation in 1955.

Preliminary data for 1956 indicate a further increase of more than 10 per cent as compared to 1955. This continued strong expansion of economic activity was principally the result of the very large advance of 33 per cent in business investment outlays for new construction, machinery and equipment. In addition, both consumer expenditures and exports continued to show strong gains as compared with the preceding year. By contrast, investment in residential construction recorded only a small increase. This strength in end-product demand was reflected in the expansion of most commodity-producing industries.

Advance data indicate that in 1956 agricultural output rose by 10 per cent over 1955. Mining production showed an appreciable increase of 15 per cent. Forestry, fisheries and electric power industries also recorded advances over the high levels of 1955. Net value of manufacturing industries rose by about 10

per cent, as substantial gains were recorded by most durable industries, especially iron and steel products. The construction industry showed the largest increase among the commodity groups in 1956; net value rose by more than 20 per cent as compared to 1955.

Canada's manufacturing industries accounted for over half the total net value of commodity production in 1955, rising to a record \$8,753,500,000 from \$7,902,100,000 in 1954. Construction was next, with a substantial rise to \$2,769,700,000 from \$2,528,600,000 and agriculture followed with an increase to \$1,937,200,000 from \$1,665,900,000.

Net value of production for the mining industry climbed to \$1,061,400,000 from 1954's total of \$900,600,000, the forestry group to \$664,700,000 from \$584,300,000, electric power to \$543,300,000 from \$488,600,000 and trapping to \$17,400,000 from \$9,800,000. Net value of production for the fisheries group declined to \$90,900,000 from \$97,500,000.

Ontario remained Canada's most productive province, with its net value rising to \$6,479,600,000 in 1955 from \$5,812,500,000 in the preceding year. Next in order was Quebec with a net value of production of \$4,205,100,000 compared to \$3,888,600,000, followed by British Columbia with \$1,577,900,000 versus \$1,364,100,000 and Alberta with \$1,273,200,000 against \$1,117,700,000.

Totals for the other provinces in 1955 were as follows: Saskatchewan, \$795,100,000 (\$605,700,000 in 1954); Manitoba, \$590,500,000 (\$539,000,000); Nova Scotia, \$349,000,000 (\$345,000,000); New Brunswick, \$301,500,000 (\$265,600,000); Newfoundland, \$189,800,000 (\$163,900,000); Prince Edward Island, \$39,600,000 (\$37,600,000); and Yukon and Northwest Territories, \$36,900,000 (\$37,900,000).

TRIBUTE TO CANADIANS

The commander of the British Army's 1st Corps in Germany, Lt.-Gen. Sir Harold E. Pyman, has paid high tribute to the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group.

The occasion was his farewell visit to the 5,500-man NATO formation and the close of a three-day senior officers study exercise at the Brigade's Headquarters in Soest, Germany.

As the study came to an end General Pyman stated, "this is the fifth exercise of this type Canadian formations in Germany have carried out. I have attended four of them. I have had Canadian soldiers under my command formerly as a Divisional Commander and now as a Corps Commander, and I would like to say before leaving to take up my new appointment, that I am inspired by my Canadian contacts and comradeship."

He went on to say, "today, I have heard new

military words you have originated to describe battle actions, such as 'hellahooting' and 'orbiting'. They are very apt expressions. And gentlemen, from what I have seen and heard in your discussions today, and from previous visits to Canadian formations in Germany, I shall be very much surprised if the Canadian Army does not originate many more new ideas in the coming years."

General Pyman is scheduled to leave Germany next month to take over his new appointment as Deputy Chief of the Imperial General Staff. The conference, which was attended by about 60 senior officers from units of the Canadian NATO Brigade Group, was held to discuss operational training planned for the coming year. Under the Brigade's commander, Brigadier Donald C. Cameron of Alexandria, Ontario, the unit officers studied tactical and administrative problems connected with their operational roles.