

perimental Farm at Nappan. A system of corrals and a squeeze large enough for 1,000 cattle was in operation. It is patterned after the plans in the community pastures of Saskatchewan.

A number of cattle, mainly Holstein steers and cross-bred Holstein and Shorthorn, being shipped to market at this time weighed around 1,000 pounds and were only fair to plain in quality. Apparently the pasture would grow, but not fatten, the steers. Many rolling fat breeding cows and heifers were also seen.

In the opinion of the representatives, this pasture has a great potential and is excellent for the practical application of marshland management projects. Reasonably good catches of grass and clover were also observed on marshlands that, a year ago, were under two feet of salt water.

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### IMPORTS DOWN SLIGHTLY

Falling below year-earlier levels for the third successive month, the value of Canada's imports was slightly lower in August at \$471,300,000 versus \$473,700,000 in the corresponding month last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in its regular monthly summary. Increases in the first five months of the year more than offset the June-August reduction and total imports for the January-August period increased to \$3,855,400,000 from \$3,801,500,000.

Purchases from the United States declined in August to \$321,319,000 from \$329,683,000 a year earlier, but the eight-month total rose narrowly to \$2,792,308,000 from \$2,788,603,000.

Imports from the United Kingdom rose in August to \$47,200,000 from \$42,801,000 and in the January-August period to \$352,779,000 from \$327,461,000.

Purchases from the rest of the Commonwealth fell in August to \$20,511,000 from \$21,096,000 a year earlier but the cumulative value rose to \$149,760,000 from \$141,243,000.

Imports from Latin American countries rose in August to \$39,792,000 from \$35,030,000 and in the January-August period to \$263,380,000 from \$247,166,000.

Imports from European countries increased in August to \$28,325,000 from \$26,361,000 and in the January-August period to \$201,933,000 from \$182,875,000.

Purchases from all other foreign countries dropped in August to \$13,067,000 from \$17,667,000 and in the January-August period to \$89,228,000 from \$107,996,000.

### ARTS FESTIVAL IN VANCOUVER

Bruno Walter will conduct the opening concert of the first annual Vancouver Festival of the Arts, Festival director Nicholas Goldschmidt has announced. Maureen Forrester, Canadian contralto, will perform as soloist with him. Festival dates are July 19 to August 16.

Mr. Walter has been associated with the New York Philharmonic-Symphony, since his American debut in 1923. He conducted the Philharmonic in its performances at the Edinburgh Festival in 1951.

Long before he came to the United States, Bruno Walter had won renown in Europe, beginning as a young conductor at the Royal Opera in Berlin and rising to prominence in the music capitals of the Continent where his performances won him repeated standing ovations.

The famous conductor has always hoped that America would have a festival corresponding in spirit to the pre-war Salzburg Festival, which he helped to organize.

"I do not mean," he says, "that America should imitate Salzburg. Each country has its own character and traditions. All you must have is the spirit of 'festival' and the will to have one".

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### RETAIL SALES RISE

Sales of Canadian retailers increased 9 per cent in dollar value in 1956 to a record \$14,297,600,000 from 1955's previous peak of \$13,111,900,000, according to advance figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. All trades and all provinces reported gains in 1956 compared to the preceding year.

Value totals for the 10 leading trades in 1956 were as follows (in millions): grocery and combination stores, \$2,639.0 (\$2,429.6 in 1955); motor vehicle dealers, \$2,541.7 (\$2,370.1); department stores, \$1,242.2 (\$1,150.5); other foods and beverages stores, \$1,044.1 (\$949.6); garage and filling stations, \$821.6 (\$717.9); furniture, radio and appliance stores, \$584.3 (\$540.6); general stores, \$568.4 (\$529.8); restaurants, \$508.2 (\$467.6); lumber and building material dealers, \$483.5 (\$450.7); and drug stores, \$329.0 (\$300.3).

Provincially, sales in 1956 were valued as follows (in millions): Atlantic Provinces, \$1,127.1 in 1955); Quebec, \$3,322.2 (\$3,005.7); Ontario, \$5,498.6 (\$5,115.2); Manitoba, \$700.1 (\$669.3); Saskatchewan, \$812.3 (\$748.0); Alberta, \$1,159.0 (\$1,035.0); and British Columbia - including Yukon and North-west Territories - \$1,594.3 (\$1,411.6).