

**HISTORIC MILITARY CEREMONY:** An historic ceremony commemorating the services of British and Canadian Armed Forces at Fort Henry, one of Canada's oldest military fortifications, was held in Kingston, Ontario, on September 8.

A bronze plaque bearing the names of 41 British and Canadian regiments which garrisoned the fort between 1812 and 1940, was unveiled by Lt.-Gen. Sir Archibald Nye, GCSI, GCMG, United Kingdom High Commissioner to Canada. It was erected by the Government of Ontario which operates the fort as a tourist attraction.

The plaque also bears the inscription: "They also serve who only stand and wait". The motto is an apt one since, through the turn of events, Fort Henry never became the scene of wartime operations even though it held prisoners of war during two world wars.

Sir Archibald once served as a subaltern officer with the Leincester Regiment (Royal Canadians) which was formed in this country in 1858 and later was stationed in the Kingston area.

During the ceremonies he inspected a formation of representatives and representative detachments from most of the British and Canadian units or Canadian affiliated units concerned.

Concluding the ceremony, the Fort Henry Guards, attired in the scarlet tunic livery of the 19th Century, presented a display of footdrill peculiar to that period. The old artillery pieces lining the walls of the fort were fired and a mock attack was made on the stronghold.

Many of the British units were directly represented, since a large number of their officers are now resident in Canada.

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**STORE STOCKS:** Stocks on hand in Canada's 151,611 retail stores of all kinds at the end of 1951 were valued (at cost) at \$1,476,743,200, a jump of \$935,879,300 or 173 per cent over the \$540,863,900 worth held by 137,331 stores at the close of 1941, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported in its second bulletin containing final detailed figures on retail trade from the 1951 Census of Distribution. Average year-end stocks per store climbed more than 147 per cent to approximately \$9,740 from \$3,938 in the ten-year period.

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**SEA-FISH CATCH:** Canadian sea-fishermen landed 146,318,000 pounds of fish valued at \$12,045,000 in July, a decrease of 12.5 per cent in quantity and 10.1 per cent in value from the July, 1952 catch of 167,159,000 pounds valued at \$13,394,000. This brought the January-July catch to 530,956,000 pounds valued at \$35,236,000, a drop of 32.2 per cent in landings and 11.2 per cent in landed value from the 782,632,000 pounds valued at \$39,675,000 a year ago.

**AID TO NATO:** It was announced on September 5 that seven shiploads of Canadian Army supplies and equipment would leave the ports of Toronto, Hamilton and Montreal early in the month destined for four European armies of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The goods were to be earmarked for France, Italy, Denmark and Portugal. The shipment, one of the largest to leave Canada this year under the mutual aid agreement of NATO, included heavy general service trucks, wireless sets and maintenance equipment for field and anti-aircraft artillery pieces. All seven cargoes were scheduled to leave Canada by the middle of this month.

France would receive the bulk of the supplies comprising sixty 3-ton trucks. The Canadian Army was in the process of replacing this type vehicle with a newer variety. The French shipment would leave Hamilton bound for the Port of Cherbourg within the next ten days.

Two hundred and sixty wireless sets would go to the Portuguese Army as well as equipment for 20-millimeter anti-aircraft guns. Also leaving Montreal within the same period would be 1,820 cases of the same type equipment for the Italian Army bound for the Port of Naples.

The remainder was to go to the Royal Danish Army and includes 87 crates of maintenance parts for 17-pounder guns. This shipment is already on its way to the Port of Aarhus, Denmark.

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**INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS DEFICIT:** Canada's current receipts from international transactions in the first half of this year were down moderately from the total for the first half of 1952, while current payments were substantially higher, the result being a current deficit as compared to a small surplus a year ago, according to the first of a regular series of quarterly estimates of the Canadian balance of international payments released by the Bureau.

Current receipts during the six months amounted to \$2,613,000,000, down \$78,000,000 from \$2,691,000,000 in the same period last year, and current payments totalled \$2,978,000,000, up \$356,000,000 from \$2,622,000,000. These opposite movements in receipts and payments led to a current deficit of \$365,000,000, indicating a net import of capital, as compared to a small current surplus of \$69,000,000 in the first half of 1952 and a current surplus of \$151,000,000 for the full year 1952. This year's current deficit for the six months, however, is substantially less than the deficit of \$588,000,000 occurring in the first half of 1951 and compares with a current deficit of \$150,000,000 in the like 1950 period.

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Canadians spent \$760.48 per capita in retail stores of all kinds in 1951 as compared with \$299.03 per capita in 1941.