

LUMBER PRODUCTION: Canadian production of sawn lumber in April amounted to 353,349 M feet board measure compared with 409,652 M feet in the previous month and 367,291 M feet in April last year, according to estimates released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was a decrease of 3.8 per cent in the year's production, made up of a six per cent increase in production for British Columbia, and a 16.78 per cent decrease for the rest of Canada. Output for the first four months this year totalled 1,484,503 M feet compared with 1,495,805 M feet for the corresponding period of 1947.

MINISTER'S COMMENDATION: Officers and men of the Royal Canadian Navy, Army and Air Force have been warmly commended by the Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence, for their splendid work in fighting the British Columbia floods.

The Minister's congratulations are contained in a personal letter over his signature, now being published in "orders" of all active and reserve force and auxiliary units of the three services from coast to coast.

DR. T. W. GRINDLEY APPOINTED: Appointment of Dr. T. W. Grindley as Member of the Canadian Wheat Board was announced by Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, Secretary of the Canadian Wheat Board for the past ten years. Dr. Grindley is recognized as an authority on problems pertaining to the agricultural industry of western Canada.

Born on the Isle of Man, Dr. Grindley came to Canada at the age of seven and received his B.A. and B.Sc. (Agric.) degrees from the University of Alberta. He undertook post-graduate studies at the University of Minnesota receiving his M.A. degree in 1927 and his Doctorate in 1929.

Joining the staff of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in Ottawa in 1929, Dr. Grindley was made Chief of the Agricultural Branch and held that position until his appointment as Secretary of the Canadian Wheat Board in 1938. Dr. Grindley was Canadian delegate to the United Nations Food Conference at Hot Springs, Virginia, in 1943.

FRENCH VISAS NECESSARY: It has come to the attention of the Department of External Affairs that an increasing number of Canadians holding Canadian passports are arriving at French ports without French visas and are therefore being sent back to the United Kingdom by the French authorities in order to obtain the necessary visa.

Bearer of regular Canadian passports who contemplate travelling to or through France must obtain from French consular officers, before landing in France, visas authorizing their entry into France.

REAR ADMIRAL TAYLOR RETIRES: Rear Admiral Cuthbert R. H. Taylor, C.B.E., R.C.N., Flag Officer Atlantic Coast, will retire in the Spring of 1949, it was announced on June 30 by Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence.

Retirement of Rear Admiral Taylor will mark the termination of thirty-seven years of distinguished service in the Royal Canadian Navy, during which he took an active part in two World Wars. He will be succeeded in his present post by Rear Admiral E. R. Mainguy, C.B.E., R.C.N., on October 1, at which time he will proceed on retirement leave.

LEVELS OF EARNINGS: From 1939 to 1947, the gross weekly earnings of the employees of leading manufacturing establishments in Canada increased slightly over 83 per cent, rising from an average of \$23.11 in the former year to \$36.57 in the latter, according to a preliminary report on the results of a study of pre-war levels of earnings in industry by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This study is designed to provide data on pre-war levels of earnings comparable to the Bureau's monthly statistics of payrolls, collection of which was begun only in the spring of 1941.

Over the same period, the report also shows the average weekly earnings of workers in mining rose about 50 per cent from \$28.68 to \$43.02 and those of workers in logging rather more than doubled, climbing from \$17.32 in 1939 to \$35.42 in 1947. In these eight years, it is pointed out, the cost-of-living index rose approximately 50 per cent, while the rates of income tax increased and the incidence of the tax was broadened over pre-war years.

Average weekly earning figures, as shown in the report, represent the earnings of full-time, part-time and casual workers (including overtime payments), before deductions for income taxes, unemployment insurance and other purposes. The figures do not make allowance, however, for the value of board and lodging, where provided without charge or at nominal rates -- perquisites which, in the case of logging, are frequently part of the remuneration.

IN MANUFACTURING

In manufacturing, earnings in eight of the 17 main divisions shown by the Bureau in its monthly statistics showed increases in the eight years, ranging from 30 to 49 per cent, while in the other nine the advances varied from 50 to 80 per cent. Regarding these increases, the report observes that differences in the amounts by which the wage-rates have been adjusted since 1939 have been only one of several important factors contributing to the size of the increases in particular industries. Among other major factors are greater regularity of employment, together with a higher ratio of premium overtime work; changes in the methods of production during the period;