

FARM LAND VALUES UP: The average value of occupied farm land in Canada in 1948 is reported at \$39.00 per acre, an increase of 11 per cent over the average indicated in 1947, and an increase of 62 per cent over the 1935-39 average, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Increases over 1947 levels were reported in all provinces with the exception of New Brunswick.

The upward trend in farm land values from pre-war levels reflects, at least in part, the relative changes which have occurred in the price levels of farm products and of the things which farmers buy. The Bureau's index of farm prices of agricultural products for 1948 was 144 per cent above the 1935-39 level, while for the same year the index of prices of commodities and services used by farmers, including living costs, had advanced 83 per cent from the 1935-39 base-period level.

TELEPHONE INSTALLATIONS: Reflecting heavy demands both for business and residential telephone service, the number of telephones installed in Canada in 1947 reached an all-time high figure of 204,479, according to the Bureau of Statistics. This raised the total in use to 2,230,597, an increase of 10 per cent over the preceding year, and an increase of slightly more than 64 per cent in the past decade. Total telephones per hundred population increased from 12.1 in 1938 and 16.5 in 1946 to 17.7 in 1947.

The number of business telephones rose from 585,982 in 1946 to 645,154, or by 10 per cent; residence telephones from 1,079,769 to 1,194,-

840, or by 10.7 per cent; and rural and public pay telephones showed corresponding increases. Automatic or dial telephones increased by 132,857, or by almost twice the increase for those on manual switchboards.

NEW NATIONAL ATLAS: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon, announced on March 2 that plans are under way to provide a new National Atlas of Canada. This Atlas is required to meet a world-wide demand for authentic information on the geography, resources and economy of Canada.

Since the production of the revised Atlas of Canada, in 1915, remarkable progress has been made in the exploration and development of northern and western Canada. Extended surveys of natural resources have been undertaken and industry and commerce have been greatly expanded.

In December, 1948, Cabinet approved the production of the new Atlas under the aegis of the Geographical Bureau of the Department of Mines and Resources. The Bureau has already made a preliminary survey of the project.

LUMBER PRODUCTION: Production and stocks of sawn lumber in British Columbia showed increases in November over the corresponding month of 1947, while the shipments were at a lower level, according to the Bureau of Statistics. The month's output amounted to 222,174 M feet as compared with 196,005 M; shipments, 199,663 M compared with 215,728 M; and stocks, 296,982 M compared with 236,365 M.