

**1948 RECORD FOREST PRODUCTION:** Canada's total forest production in 1948 was the highest ever recorded. Final estimates by the Bureau of Statistics show a cut of 3,198,179,000 cubic feet of merchantable timber valued at \$586,295,000 as compared with 3,091,086,000 cubic feet at \$519,804,000 in 1947 -- the previous peak year. Preliminary figures for 1949 indicate a decrease in volume to 3,160,469,000 cubic feet, the Bureau of Statistics has reported.

Of the estimated 1948 total, 1,250,416,000 cubic feet of merchantable timber or 39 per cent was taken out of the woods in the form of logs and bolts, chiefly for the production of lumber, 1,062,324,000 cubic feet or 33 per cent as pulpwood, and 762,361,000 cubic feet or 24 per cent as fuelwood.

Pulpwood was the most important forest product from the value standpoint with a total of \$284,656,819 in 1948, up from \$237,488,741 in the preceding year. Logs and bolts came second at \$215,108,932 compared with \$205,259,855, and fuelwood third at \$49,535,855 against \$46,206,336. Poles and piling, round mining timber, posts and hewn railway ties were next in order.

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**WORLD WHEAT CROP ESTIMATE:** Prospects for the world wheat crop in 1950 indicate that production may be around 6.4 billion bushels, some two per cent above the 1949 harvest and six per cent greater than the 1935-39 average, states the Bureau of Statistics in the September issue of its wheat review. The anticipated world crop of rye of 1,670 million bushels is about three per cent less than the 1949 output and four per cent below the 1935-39 average.

Estimated production of wheat in North America is placed at 1,523 million bushels as compared with 1,531 million in 1949, Europe 1,550 million against 1,505 million, Soviet Union 1,110 million against 1,100 million, and Asia 1,600 million against 1,475 million. Output in Africa is estimated at 150 million (158 million in 1949), South America 290 million (279 million), and Oceania 180 million (222 million).

The North American rye crop is estimated this year at 37 million bushels compared with 29 million, Europe 690 million against 710 million, Soviet Union 910 million against 950 million, Asia 22 million (13 million), Africa one million (one million), and South America 11 million (10 million).

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**RCAF ADVANCED TRAINING:** Twenty-three senior RCAF officers along with representatives of the Canadian Army, the RCN, Royal Air Force and the United States Air Force are hard at work these days waging a battle of books and lectures of the RCAF's Staff College in suburban North Toronto.

The course, lasting for ten months, was founded during the war to give advanced training to senior officers in tactics and strategy and to fit them for higher staff appointments. It also gives them a broad perspective of national and international problems and the technical fields related to wartime mobilization.

During the course the officers are taken on a ten-day Arctic tour to acquaint them with problems of northern life and operations. Exchange visits are arranged with Naval units at Halifax, and two weeks are spent at the USAF's Air University at Maxwell Field in Alabama. These visits prove of great value in both inter-service and international liaison and are a highlight of the course.

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**UNIVERSITIES ENROLMENTS DOWN:** Enrolments in Canadian universities for 1950-1951 have shown a downward trend, according to an announcement by the Minister of Labour, Mr. Gregg.

The Minister made this announcement in reviewing a quarterly bulletin of the Technical Personnel Division of the Department of Labour. The bulletin showed that enrolment in the class of 1950-51 was more than 2,000 lower than the number who graduated in 1950. The Minister pointed out that this was expected with the graduation of the majority of war veteran students.

For the past few years university classes had been swollen for beyond normal capacity by the many thousands of war veterans who sought higher learning after their discharge from the armed services, explained Mr. Gregg.

"Now" he continued, "The majority of these young ex-servicemen and women had completed their training and the enrolment was tapering off to more normal levels."

The Bulletin showed that the annual number of all graduates with bachelor degrees or the equivalent, had risen from below 4,000 in 1920 to above 18,000 in 1950. The sharpest rise was in the postwar years 1945-1950. It was anticipated that the downward trend would continue to about 11,000 in 1956 when a slight upward trend, the normal long term trend, might be expected.

The annual number of engineering graduates had risen from about 400 in 1921 to approximately 3,600 in 1950. It was estimated that this figure would decline to about 1,100 in 1955, then a gradual increase might be expected to reach about 1,200 in 1960, the Minister stated.

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**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS:** Claims for unemployment insurance benefits filed in local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission in August totalled 61,545, showing an increase of 40 per cent over the July figure of 43,929, and a rise of about 22 per cent