

IN PARLIAMENT

CONTROLS BILLS PASSED: Two Bills to give the Government power to impose controls on certain materials and services and instalment selling were debated and approved by the House of Commons early this week.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe, explained in respect of the first measure that the power to impose controls would apply only on articles the prices of which were increased as a result of heavy defence purchasing.

He explained:

"It will not be difficult to determine whether defence purchases of any particular article have the effect of increasing the price of the article, and if that is the effect, the purpose of the present legislation is to give the Government authority to freeze the price and thus prevent public exploitation arising out of government defence purchases."

The second measure seeks to regulate instalment selling, charge accounts and the repayment of loans which are made to finance the purchase of consumer goods.

ON WAR FOOTING: Canada's armed forces have been placed on a war footing and its Korean commitment increased to permit the sending of a total of 15,000 men to aid in restoring peace in Korea. The announcement was made in the House of Commons on September 9 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, as follows:

"Mr. Speaker, by virtue of section 32 of the National Defence Act, as amended by the Bill enacted today, an Order in Council was passed this afternoon which hon. members would wish to have placed before them at the earliest possible moment. It is P.C. 4365 dated September 9, 1950, and it reads:

"In order that officers and men of the Canadian forces, not exceeding 15,000 in number at any one time, may most effectively participate in action undertaken by the United Nations to restore peace in the Republic of Korea, the components of the Royal Canadian Navy, Canadian Army and Royal Canadian Air Force that are referred to in the National Defence Act as the regular forces are hereby placed on active service."

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AUTO SHIPMENTS REMAIN HIGH: Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles were maintained at a high level in July, amounting to 40,131 units as compared with 41,383 units in June -- the monthly peak for recent years -- and 25,383 in the corresponding month last year. This raised the cumulative total for the first seven months of the year to 231,896 units from 165,498 in the similar period of 1949.

Shipments of vehicles imported from the United States totalled 1,475 units in July, and in the seven months amounted to 11,825

units. Sales of British-made vehicles in the month numbered 6,882 units, and in the seven-month period aggregated 43,267.

Passenger cars continued to account for a large part of the gain in the shipments of Canadian-made vehicles. The month's total rose to 28,720 units from 17,324, and in the seven-month period advanced to 167,284 units from 104,794.

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FIFTH SERIES, SAVINGS BONDS: The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, announced on September 13 that the Fifth Series of Canada Savings Bonds will be placed on sale on Monday, October 16.

The new bonds will be dated November 1, 1950 and will bear interest at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ % a year for ten years. Every bond will be registered in the owner's name, thus affording protection against loss or destruction. They may be redeemed at any time at any bank in Canada for full face value plus interest.

No more than \$1,000 of Fifth Series Canada Savings Bonds may be registered in any one name. Bonds may be bought in the name of each member of a family, whether adult or child, up to this limit. They will come in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000.

Arrangements for the sale of the Fifth Series are being made by the Bank of Canada. Regional Directors for the sales under the Payroll Savings Plan have already been named, and they are currently at work organizing to give assistance to establishments in the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia. It is expected that in all some 12,000 business and industrial establishments will enable their employees to purchase the bonds on the Payroll Savings Plan. Purchases under this plan in the Fourth Series showed a 19% increase over the previous offering.

Investment firms, chartered banks and other savings institutions comprise the facilities for sales to the general public and are now making arrangements to ensure prompt and efficient service.

In making this announcement, Mr. Abbott said that the Government's decision to make a Fifth Series available was based on the results of the previous offering. Sales of the Fourth Series amounted to \$318,263,050 he said, and afforded the best possible proof of continuing public demand for Canada Savings Bonds.

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1950 CANADA YEAR BOOK: The 1950 edition of the Canada Year Book is now available. This volume is the official statistical annual of the country and contains data on the physiography, demography, health, welfare, education, labour, national income, resources, production, trade, transportation, communications, finance -- in fact, on every important subject that has a bearing on the national economy.