

lion in 1971, largely as a result of higher world prices for a wide range of products.

The resulting agricultural trade balance for 1972 of \$597 million accounted for 78 per cent of Canada's total merchandise trade surplus.

### Exports

Wheat exports in 1972 were valued at \$917 million compared to \$830 million in 1971. (The record for Canadian wheat exports of \$1,059 million was set in 1966.) Significant increases in exports to the Soviet Union (up \$126 million) and China (up \$37 million) offset the drop of \$44 million in wheat exports to India and smaller decreases to several other countries. Exports to Britain and Japan rose marginally.

Exports of wheat flour declined to \$45 million in 1972 from \$54 million in 1971.

Barley exports increased 11 per cent in 1972, establishing a new record of \$217 million, compared to the previous record, in 1971, of \$195 million. Much of this increase was owing to larger sales of barley to Eastern Europe, the United States and Japan. Sales to Britain and the original six European Economic Community members were slightly lower.

Rapeseed exports totalled \$125 million in 1972, compared to \$148 million in 1971.

Flaxseed exports increased by \$5 million in 1972 to \$69 million.

Exports of live cattle increased to \$67 million in 1972 from \$51 million in 1971. Fresh or frozen Canadian pork exports totalled \$58 million in 1972, up from \$37 million in 1971. The Japanese market accounted for almost all of this increase, taking \$19 million more for a total of \$29 million in 1972. Fresh or frozen beef and veal exports, however, declined to \$39 million in 1972 from \$47 million in 1971, to lower sales to the U.S. which dropped to \$37 million from \$45 million in 1971.

Canadian furs, hides and skins exports increased sharply to \$71 million in 1972 from \$41 million in 1971.

Exports of dairy products were down in 1972 to \$49 million from \$66 million in 1971, skim milk powder and cheese accounted for most of this decline, dropping \$9 million and \$4 million respectively from 1971 exports.

Small export increases occurred in 1972 for potatoes, other vegetables, maple products and animal feeds excluding oilcake and meal; small decreases occurred in exports of poultry, eggs and fresh apples.

### Imports

Much of the increased value of imports was caused by higher world prices for many commodities, rather than an increased volume of imports.

Corn imports increased sharply to \$25 million in 1972 from an unusually low figure of \$14 million in 1971.

The only agricultural import to show a significant decline in 1972 was soybeans, dropping to \$39 million in 1972 from \$50 million in 1971.

Imports of fresh or frozen beef and veal increased to \$89 million in 1972 from \$58 million in 1971. Higher prices accounted for about half of this increase. Fresh or frozen pork imports increased to \$14 million from \$4 million. Fresh or frozen mutton and lamb imports increased to \$21 million from \$15 million.

Higher prices caused by a world shortage of raw cattle hides accounted for the increase of hides, furs and skins imports — \$53 million in 1972 compared to \$36 million in 1971.

Wool imports went up to \$21 million from \$15 million.

Imported dairy products totalled \$34 million, up from \$25 million, with higher cheese and butter imports accounting for most of this increase.

Imports of fruit and nuts increased substantially — to \$322 million from \$287 million, mostly attributed to higher imports of canned or processed fruits and fruit juices.

Vegetable imports (excluding potatoes) went up to \$151 million from \$129 million, fresh vegetable imports accounting for about half of this increase — \$106 million from \$94 million in 1971.

Sugar imports reached \$133 million, up from \$99 million, due to higher world sugar prices.

Cotton imports were up to \$52 million from \$46 million.

Imports of spices, flavourings and confectionery rose \$10 million to \$40 million.

### Another Yukon gold rush?

Summer visitors to Dawson City in Canada's Yukon Territory might witness a second gold rush right where the first Klondike Gold Rush started in 1898, according to the Canadian Government Travel Bureau. With the price of gold increasing on the international market, the sluicing of long-deserted creeks feeding the Klondike River has suddenly begun to look very profitable says Mayor Mike Comandino. "We're going to have a mini-stampede," he asserts. "If I were 40 years younger, I'd get a pick and pan — and a bulldozer — and hit the creeks myself."

Coincidentally, the territory is also celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Klondike Rush of 1898, when over 40,000 gold-seekers invaded the Yukon after the first strike on nearby Bonanza Creek two years before.

There are now some 800 staked placer gold claims in the area, of which about 100 are being worked on a part-time or full-time basis by about 75 local miners.

A highlight of the anniversary celebration will be the Klondike '73 canoe pageant to be held in August.

The pageant will involve short sprints for prize money at various locations along the Yukon River, a climb over the historic Chilkoot Pass, and several "hootchinanies" (a hootchinany is a combination of "hoote-nany" and "hootznahoo", a Tlingit Indian word, meaning "big Yukon party"). Served at the party is "Yukon Hootch" a rum drink sold exclusively in the Yukon. The name comes from the Indian word "hootznahoo", the rum mixture introduced during the Klondike Gold Rush.

*Canada Weekly* is published by the Information Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2. An index appears quarterly.

Material may be freely reprinted, for the use of which credit would be appreciated; photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to (Mrs) Miki Sheldon, Editor.

*Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.*