

SEA HARVEST LOWER: Canada's coastal fishermen hauled in 110,283,000 pounds of fish valued at \$7,895,000 in June, a drop of 17.8 per cent in quantity and 7.1 per cent in value from the June, 1952 catch of 134,102,000 pounds valued at \$8,497,000. This brought the half-year total to 380,683,000 pounds valued at \$23,291,000, a drop of 38 per cent in landings and 11.7 per cent in landed values from the 614,483,000 pounds valued at \$26,385,000 landed in the first six months of last year.

The Atlantic Coast catch was 21.1 per cent smaller this June at 92,147,000 pounds as against 116,824,000 last year, with the value down 7.4 per cent to \$5,234,000 from \$5,650,000.

The Pacific Coast catch was five per cent bigger this June at 18,136,000 pounds as against 17,278,000 a year earlier, but was 6.5 per cent less valuable at \$2,661,000 as against \$2,847,000.

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PRICE INDEX RISES: The consumer price index for July 2 of 115.4 stood 0.4 per cent above the June 1 index of 114.9. This latest change was largely due to seasonal increases in eggs and fresh fruits and vegetables, which were the principal factors advancing the food index from 111.4 to 112.7.

An increase in the clothing index from 110.1 to 110.3 was mainly attributable to higher quotations for knitting yarns, overalls and workshirts. The household operation component advanced from 116.6 to 117.0, reflecting increases in coal, gas and household help in a number of centres. The shelter index increased from 123.6 to 123.9, following advances in both the rent and home-ownership sub-groups.

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EMPLOYMENT PEAK: There was a substantial increase in industrial employment at the beginning of June, and the Bureau's index, at 188.1 -- a new peak for June -- was 2.5 per cent higher than at May 1, and 3.1 per cent above June 1, 1952. The index number of pay-rolls rose 2.9 per cent as compared with May 1 and was 10 per cent above its level of a year earlier. The general figure of per capita earnings also climbed to a new peak figure of \$57.70 compared with \$57.51 at May 1 and \$54.08 a year earlier.

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\$3,893,900,000 INVENTORIES: Total value of inventories held by Canadian manufacturers at the end of May was \$3,893,900,000, up one per cent over the April value of \$3,857,900,000, and a rise of nearly six per cent over last year's May total of \$3,692,500,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Shipments during the month were up four per cent from April and 3.5 per cent from May last year.

MORE ARMS FOR ALLIES: Italy and Portugal will receive further shipments of Canadian Army equipment early in August, Canadian Army Headquarters announced on August 4.

Trucks and wireless equipment are slated for these August shipments which are sponsored by the Mutual Aid Agreement of the North Atlantic Organization.

Fifty-eight Ford 3-ton trucks are being sent to Naples for the use of the Italian Army the first week in August. This consignment will be made in two shipments: one aboard the M.S. "Cape Miseno" from Montreal and the other aboard the M.S. "Kollbryn" from Hamilton.

The Portuguese Army will receive 240 military wireless sets which will be shipped from Montreal to Lisbon aboard the M.V. "Polycrest" about the middle of August.

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SERVICES COLLEGES: Applications for entry next September to the three Canadian Services Colleges are sharply up over last year, the Department of National Defence has announced.

This year there were 567 applicants for the Colleges at Royal Roads, B.C., and Kingston, Ont., while applications for the College Militaire Royal de Saint-Jean, Quebec, totalled 639, of which 407 came from English-speaking applicants and 232 were by applicants of French origin.

The total number of firm applications received was 1,209, representing a thirty per cent increase over the corresponding figure of 734 last year. For entry in September 1953 there are 295 vacancies.

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WHOLESALE PRICES: Wholesale prices in Canada moved up 0.7 per cent between May and June, but declined 2.1 per cent as compared with a year earlier, according to the Bureau's monthly report on prices and price indexes. As compared with May, higher prices were concentrated mainly in animal products, although advances were noted in five other major groups.

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WHEAT STOCKS UP: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at July 16 totalled 237,813,000 bushels, an increase of 24.6 per cent over last year's corresponding total of 190,809,000 bushels, according to the Bureau's weekly statement.

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TO U.N. OBSERVER GROUP: Lt.-Col. S.W. Thomson, DSO, MC, of Salmon Arm, B.C., commanding officer of the Rocky Mountain Rangers (RF), has been selected as a member of the United Nations Military Observer Group for India and Pakistan, Canadian Army Headquarters has announced.