

NEWFOUNDLAND HEALTH GRANT: The first payment to Newfoundland under the federal Government's National Health Program has been made to meet the expenses of a complete survey of the Province's present health services and future needs the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, announced on July 15.

Newfoundland is entitled to \$119,779 for health survey purposes, with progress payments being made as the survey goes forward.

A Central Health Planning Committee has been formed, consisting of the heads of the main divisions and the superintendents of the principal institutions operated by the provincial Department of Public Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin explained. This committee will study and make recommendations on the problem of providing medical care; the best ways of increasing the present number of hospital beds; improved methods of tuberculosis control; the need for preventive medical services and their relationship to existing or planned facilities for medical care and hospitalization; the development of health education; the need for medical, nursing and dental personnel; the provision of maternal and child health services with special consideration to pre-natal care and hospitalization for expectant mothers; and the relationship of the provincial health department to voluntary health agencies.

The survey is being undertaken under the direction of Dr. Leonard Miller, Director of Medical Services for Newfoundland, assisted by specialists supplied by the federal Department in Ottawa.

CROP PROSPECTS: Crop prospects for all of Canada's more important field crops, except oats and sugar beets, were less favourable at June 30 this year than a year ago, according to the report on numerical condition of field crops at that date by the Bureau of Statistics. While conditions varied in different parts of the country, the all-Canada prospects for all major crops were also for yields below the long-time averages.

For wheat, the numerical condition, expressed as a percentage of the long-time average yield, was placed at 72 per cent at June 30, as compared with 95 per cent at June 30 last year. Adverse temperature and moisture conditions in the fall wheat belt of Ontario and in much of the spring wheat area of western Canada account largely for the low level of this year's wheat condition figure.

The dry, hot spring and lack of pre-seasonal rainfall in the major rye-growing areas of the West affected the development of the rye crop to such an extent that at 54 per cent, this crop had the lowest over-all condition figure of any Canadian field crop this year. At the same date last year the figure was 78 per cent.

The numerical figure for oats stands at 81 per cent as compared with 80 a year ago; barley, 76 compared with 78; peas, 81 (90);

beans, 89 (96); buckwheat, 86 (96); mixed grains, 76 (96); flaxseed, 80 (83); corn for husking, 90 (94); potatoes, 89 (95); turnips, etc., 83 (93); hay and clover, 76 (94); alfalfa, 68 (92); fodder corn, 88 (94); sugar beets, 98 (90); pastures, 80 (97).

In the Prairie Provinces, the condition of the principal cereal crops at the end of June was reported as follows: figures for June 30, 1948 being in brackets: Manitoba -- wheat, 108 (113); oats, 95 (88); barley, 94 (87); rye, 90 (92); flaxseed, 91 (90). Saskatchewan -- wheat, 70 (93); oats, 82 (68); barley, 74 (72); rye, 45 (73); flaxseed, 71 (75). Alberta -- wheat, 61 (94); oats, 62 (76); barley, 61 (76); rye, 53 (85); flaxseed, 65 (82).

EMPLOYMENT HIGHER: The trend of employment in the major industrial divisions was upward at the first of May as compared with April 1, advances being shown in Quebec and the four western provinces, and declines in the remaining provinces. The increase was seasonal in character and was accompanied by a small rise in the sums disbursed in weekly salaries and wages.

According to information furnished the Bureau of Statistics by 20,204 leading establishments, their staffs at May 1 rose 0.6 per cent over April 1. Based on the 1926 average as 100, the index number of employment stood at 188.6 -- a new high for the time of year -- as compared with 187.6 for April 1, and 186.5 for May 1, 1948.

Industrially, there were general increases in employment in all major groups except logging, in which there was a seasonal loss of 31.4 per cent. The gains in manufacturing and mining were slight, in each case amounting only to 0.1 per cent. These advances were below-average for May 1. The additions to the staffs reported in the other divisions ranged from 1.3 per cent in trade to two per cent in communications and 9.7 per cent in construction.

The reported earnings averaged \$43.16 per person in recorded employment in the week of May 1 as compared with \$43.35 at April 1 and \$39.70 in the corresponding week last year.

MR. CHEVRIER TO LONDON: The Minister of Transport, Mr. Chevrier, left for London on July 17 to represent Canada at a civil aviation conference. He was accompanied by John R. Baldwin, Chairman of the Air Transport Board, A.S. MacDonald, legal adviser to the Board and a representative of the Department of External Affairs.

The meeting is being held in order to review and co-ordinate existing civil aviation agreements between Canada and the United Kingdom. The discussions will include matters relating to trans-oceanic aviation services, both Atlantic and Pacific.

10-YEAR SURVEY OF TRADE VOLUME

ALMOST DOUBLE 1938 QUANTITY: While the value of Canadian exports rose 267 per cent from 1938 to 1948, the physical volume rose only 73 per cent in the same period, measured by indexes of quantum and prices just completed by the Bureau of Statistics. Total value of imports rose by 290 per cent in the same period, while the physical volume rose 81 per cent.

In terms of currency, the physical volume of Canadian exports on the basis of constant 1938 dollars rose from \$848 million in 1938 to \$1,464 million in 1948, as compared with \$3,110 million for 1948 on the basis of current values. In the case of imports, physical volume rose from \$678 million in 1938 to \$1,223 million in terms of 1938 dollars, the latter comparing with the actual dollar value of \$2,637 million in the trade returns.

According to the Bureau's indexes of prices of exports and imports, prices of exports had risen in 1948 by 112 per cent over 1938, and the prices of imports nearly 116 per cent. Deflating the total values by these increases gives the indicated increases in total volume shown above.

In applying its prices index to the trade value figures the Bureau finds that exports in

1946 were 62 per cent greater and imports 72 per cent greater than in 1938. In 1947 the physical volume of exports had advanced still further to 71 per cent and imports to 99 per cent -- almost double the 1938 quantity.

The indexes computed by the Bureau to measure price changes indicate different rates of increase in prices for exports and imports. Last year, for instance, prices for imported goods rose 13 per cent, while those for exports moved up 10 per cent. As a result, the terms of trade were less favourable to Canada in 1948 than in the years preceding.

Assuming that on the price basis of 1938 Canada received 100 units of imports for every 100 units of exports, the Bureau observes that in 1946 the terms of trade were more favourable, since Canada then obtained 102.5 units of imports for every 100 units of exports. In 1947, however, the figure for imports dropped to 101.3, and in 1948 Canada exchanged 100 units of exports for 97.5 units of imports.

The following table shows Canada's imports and exports in 1938, 1946, 1947 and 1948 in actual dollars, and in constant 1938 dollars as estimated by the Bureau:

Year	Foreign Trade		Volume Indexes		Estimate of Foreign Trade	
	(Million Dollars)		(1938=100)		in Constant Dollars (1938)	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
1938 ...	849	678	100	100	848	678
1946 ...	2,339	1,927	162.2	172.0	1,378	1,164
1947 ...	2,812	2,574	171.4	199.5	1,455	1,348
1948 ...	3,110	2,637	172.9	181.0	1,464	1,223

U.N. SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE: The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson, announced on July 15 that the Canadian delegation to the United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources, to be held at Lake Success from August 17 to September 6, will be headed by the Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources, Dr. H.L. Keenleyside.

Authorized by decisions of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, the Conference is to be devoted to an exchange of ideas and experience on the techniques of resource conservation and utilization, their economic costs and benefits, and their inter-relationships. The Conference will have no policy-making responsibilities. It will not bind governments nor will it formulate recommendations to them.

Members of the Canadian delegation will be: Dr. G.S.H. Barton, Special Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture;

Dr. A.L. Pritchard, Director, Fish Culture Development, Department of Fisheries; H.D. Fisher, Fisheries Research Board, Department of Fisheries; and four officials of the Department of Mines and Resources: Dr. G.C. Monture, Chief, Mineral Resources Division; A. Ignatieff, Fuels Division, Bureau of Mines; George Tunstell, Dominion Forest Service; I.R. Strome, Dominion Water and Power Bureau.

During the Conference, papers will be presented by representatives of the National Research Council, the Department of Mines and Resources, Fisheries and Agriculture, the Ontario Research Foundation, and Canadian universities and industries.

Dr. Keenleyside will present a paper reviewing the current world position respecting mineral supplies and needs at the opening meeting of the Conference.