



DAILY AIRMAIL BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

(For official use only. This bulletin is intended solely for the information of Canadian Government officials stationed abroad. Its contents are not for publication or distribution. It is based largely on press reports not verified by the Department which can take no responsibility for their accuracy.)

Vol. 4, No. 243.

Monday, December 21, 1953.

November "Surplus" \$9,045,000: Ottawa, Dec. 18 (CP) -- Government spending increased during November, but revenues more than kept pace, resulting in \$9,045,000 surplus. This compared with a \$3,920,000 surplus in November last year.

Higher charges against defence, public debt and welfare accounts increased Government expenditures to \$329,458,000 for the month, up \$11,251,000 from \$318,207,000 a year ago, the monthly Treasury statement showed today.

This was more than balanced by higher personal and corporation tax collections and increased customs and excise revenues, boosting total revenues to \$322,646,000, a \$15,230,000 gain from \$307,416,000.

November's surplus increased the total for the first eight months of the 1953-54 fiscal year to \$275,068,000, about \$16,800,000 below the \$291,853,000 surplus in the first eight months of the previous year.

The Government has forecast a year-end surplus of about \$11,000,000 by March 31, 1954, compared to last year's \$24,000,000.

Personal income tax collections during November rose to \$87,073,000 from \$83,636,000 a year ago while the take from corporation income taxes rose to \$96,075,000 from \$91,767,000.

Customs import duties edged up to \$32,983,000 from \$30,964,000 and excise taxes to \$76,569,000 from \$70,785,000. However, revenue from excise duties declined slightly to \$23,959,000 from \$24,729,000.

On the spending side, defence costs continued to be the major headache with the total for the month rising to \$158,258,000 from \$152,514,000. Navy, mutual aid and Defence Research Board expenditures rose, while those for the Army and Air Force declined.

In other spending fields, interest on the national debt rose to \$41,129,000 from \$37,379,000 while charges on another major item - family allowances - increased to \$29,321,000 from \$27,971,000.

For the eight-month period, revenues climbed by \$102,685,000 to \$2,789,523,000 from \$2,686,858,000, while expenditures jumped by \$119,470,000 to \$2,514,455 from \$2,394,985,000.

Canadians' Incomes Soar To New Records: Ottawa, Dec. 18 (CP) -- The personal income of Canada's 15,000,000 people rose to an all-time high of \$13,581,000,000 in the first nine months of 1953.

This is a jump of \$806,000,000 from the previous high of \$12,775,000,000 in the nine-month 1952 period, the Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

While income rose, so did tax payments and spending on consumer goods. Yet Canadians managed to increase their savings.

Spending on consumer goods and services rose to a high of \$10,861,000,000, a jump of about \$200,000,000 from \$10,281,000,000 last year.

Direct tax payments increased to \$1,093,000,000 from \$986,000,000, while personal savings jumped by 44 per cent to \$1,184,000,000 from \$823,000,000.

This increased pace of business activity was maintained in the third quarter of 1953, the Bureau said. The gross national product - sum total of all goods and services produced - was maintained in the three-month period at the annual peak rate of \$24,200,000,000, substantially the same as in the second quarter.

(over)