

PRAIRIE PROVINCES: Of the 550,000 families living in the Prairie Provinces in 1946, 62 per cent reported the mother tongue of the head as English. Other numerically important mother tongues recorded for family heads, along with the proportion each formed of the total, were: Ukrainian, 10 per cent; German, eight per cent; French, four per cent; Scandinavian, four per cent; Polish, three per cent; and Netherlands, two per cent.

By mother tongue is meant the language first spoken in childhood, if still understood by the person. Included under Scandinavian are the Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, and Icelandic languages.

The average number of persons per family was 3.8 for all families, and ranged from 3.4 in the case of families whose heads reported Yiddish as mother tongue to 4.8 in the case of those reporting Netherlands.

AUSTRALIA AIR SERVICE: Postal communication between Canada and Australia will be greatly improved with the inauguration of direct air service on July 13, the Post Office Department announces.

On this date the Canadian Pacific Airways will commence their new Pacific operation leaving Vancouver at 10:45 a.m. and thereafter every alternate Wednesday, and due in Sydney, Australia at 5 p.m. the following Sunday. (Local Standard Time)

Leaving Sydney, Australia, on July 22 the mail plane is due in Vancouver at 12:30 a.m. July 25. Flights will leave Sydney for Vancouver, thereafter, every alternate Friday.

This is the first direct All-Canadian Air Mail service between the two countries, and operates in addition to the existing direct Trans-Pacific A.M.S. from Vancouver, and in addition, likewise to the Air Mail connections made via the United States planes to and from Australia.

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS: Employment in leading establishments in the eight major industrial divisions showed moderate improvement at May 1, reversing the downward movement indicated in immediately preceding months, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. The rise in employment was accompanied by a slight advance in total payrolls. Per capita weekly earnings, however, were down slightly from April but above May last year.

The advance index number of employment, based on 1926 as 100, stood at 188.6 -- a new high for May 1 -- as compared with 187.6 at April 1, and 186.5 at May 1, 1948. Marked seasonal curtailment was noted in logging operations in the Eastern and Central provinces, but the trend in numerous other industries was favourable at the beginning of May.

The rise in the advance index number of

employment at May 1 as compared with April 1, was 0.5 per cent, and 0.1 per cent in the index of payrolls. The per capita weekly earnings of the employees reported in the eight principal industries stood at \$43.16 at May 1 as compared with \$43.35 at April 1, and \$39.70 at May 1, 1948.

Greater activity as compared with April 1 was indicated in Quebec and the four Western provinces. The gains ranged from 0.7 per cent in Quebec, to 3.7 per cent in British Columbia and 4.1 per cent in Saskatchewan. The losses in the remaining provinces varied from 0.1 per cent in Ontario to 4.4 per cent in Nova Scotia. The trend of payrolls was generally downward in all provinces except Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Reduced working time in some industries was a factor contributing to the decline in the disbursements in salaries and wages.

The advance index number of employment in manufacturing, at 203.2, was insignificantly higher than that at 203.0 at April 1, and also slightly exceeded the May 1, 1948, figure of 201.8. The index of payrolls, however, showed a loss of 0.1 per cent in the month, but was 9.8 per cent higher than at May 1 last year. The preliminary figure of per capita weekly salaries and wages of persons employed in leading manufacturing establishments at May 1 was \$44.45, as compared with \$44.54 at April 1, and \$40.78 at May 1, 1948.

TOURISM IN CANADA: For the Canadian Government Travel Bureau 1949 has so far been a year of unprecedented activity. Up to the end of May there were 210,838 enquiries from potential vacationists, an increase of 46,745 or 28.5 per cent over the corresponding period for 1948, and the flow of incoming mail showed no signs of abating.

On a single day May 25, the Travel Bureau received 5,657 enquiries, an all-time daily record.

The volume of the Bureau's requests for travel information for these first five months of 1949 exceeded that for the whole year of 1947 by 2,720 enquiries.

The actual volume of incoming tourist traffic has been increasing also. In the first three months of 1949 there were nearly 3,000,000 individual entries into Canada. During the same January-March period 114,576 automobiles entered on traveller's vehicle permits for stays longer than 48 hours, and 737,692 non-Canadian cars entered Canada for shorter stays, making a total of 852,268 visiting autos.

Highway traffic at Canadian border points in January of this year showed an advance of 17 per cent over the same month last year. During February it was 14 per cent greater in volume than February 1948, and in March the flow was six per cent heavier than in the same month of 1948.

The Canadian Press summary of results by Provinces was as follows:-

Party	Total	Nfld.	PEI	NS	NB	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	BC	Yukon
Lib.	193	5	3	9	8	68	56	12	15	5	11	1
PC	42	2	1	3	2	2	25	1	1	2	3	0
CCF	12	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	4	0	3	0
SC	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0
Ind.	4	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0
Ind.-L	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	262	7	4	13	10	73	83	16	20	17	18	1

Several well known and veteran members of the last House of Commons fell by the wayside. Hon. John Bracken, former Progressive Conservative Leader, was defeated in his Manitoba seat, as were John T. Hackett, K.C., only straight Progressive Conservative member elected from Quebec in the 1945 election, and J.M. Macdonnell, Progressive Conservative financial critic in the last House of Commons. Mrs. Gladys Strum, C.C.F. member in the last House, was defeated, as were all 15 women candidates. The veteran John R. MacNicol was defeated in Toronto. Hon. Harry H. Stevens, one time Minister of Trade and Commerce, running as a Progressive Conservative in Vancouver Centre, was defeated by Liberal Ross Campney.

Camillien Houde, Montreal Mayor, won a seat in Montreal as an Independent; Ludger Dionne, Quebec textile manufacturer who brought 100 displaced Polish girls from Europe after the war to work in his mills, was defeated in Beauce riding by an Independent.

The Prime Minister polled the biggest personal winning margin in his riding of Quebec East of any candidate. He was returned by a plurality of 17,942 votes, compared to his winning margin of 10,768 in the 1945 election.

He polled 26,015 votes compared to 8,703 for his nearest opponent and 1,404 for the third candidate in the riding. All other party leaders were elected by comfortable margins.

The Canadian Press gave the following final summary of party gains in the election:

Lib. from PC	27
Lib. from CCF	21
Lib. from Ind-L	7
Lib. from SC	4
Lib. from Ind	3
Lib. from IP	2
Lib. from Ind-C	1
Lib. (new seats)	17
PC from Lib	1
PC from Ind	1
PC (new seats)	3
CCF from PC	2
CCF from Ind-CCF	1
Ind-L from Lib	1
Ind. from Ind-L	1
Ind. from PC	1
Ind. (new seats)	1
Unchanged	168
TOTAL	262

Following is the Canadian Press report of the 1949 popular vote by provinces:

33,911 of 36,765 polls.

Province	Total	Liberal	P.C.	C.C.F.	Others
Newfoundland	98,273	69,686	28,390	197	...
Pr. Edward Island	67,605	33,185	32,791	1,629	...
Nova Scotia	321,020	168,066	121,927	31,027	...
New Brunswick	217,628	117,255	85,537	9,117	5,719
Quebec	1,384,566	846,032	336,523	17,513	184,498
Ontario	1,964,621	895,673	735,027	304,101	29,820
Manitoba	316,259	150,014	70,631	82,648	12,966
Saskatchewan	355,355	153,989	52,001	144,896	4,469
Alberta	305,400	102,913	54,318	31,242	116,927
British Columbia	389,505	149,734	104,056	116,097	19,618
Totals	5,420,232	2,686,547	1,621,201	738,467	374,017
Per cent		49.5	30.0	13.6	6.9