

R.C.N. EXERCISES OFF NORTHERN IRELAND: The Canadian aircraft carrier Magnificent and the destroyers Huron and Micmac were scheduled to sail from Londonderry, Northern Ireland, this week for Rosyth, Scotland, second port of call on their three-month European training cruise.

The Canadian squadron has been at Londonderry for more than two weeks, most of which was spent on concentrated anti-submarine exercises conducted under the joint Royal Navy - Royal Air Force anti-submarine Training School.

The training schedule ended with a comprehensive review of the practical exercises held last week at sea. From these discussions, officers and men were able to make a useful assessment of their capabilities in dealing with U-boats, and to lay the basis for future anti-submarine training.

Conditions for the sea exercises were made as realistic as possible and the weather did its best to duplicate the North Atlantic on its more rugged days, providing fog, low cloud and, finally, winds of gale force.

On the final day of the exercises, a carrier patrol group consisting of the Magnificent, Huron and Micmac and the British destroyers Crispin and Creole and frigates Loch Fada and Loch Veyatie carried out offensive searches and strikes against submarine concentrations threatening shipping in the North Western approaches to the British Isles.

The opposition was furnished by British submarines attached to the training school.

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GOVERNMENT REVENUES, EXPENDITURES: The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, released on September 16 a statement compiled by the Comptroller of the Treasury covering revenues and expenditures of the Government of Canada for the month of August.

The Comptroller's statement shows total revenues of the Government for the month of August amounted to \$205.3 million compared with \$187.8 million for the month of August last year. Total revenues for the first five months of the fiscal year amounted to \$1,067 million compared with \$1,066 million for the same period a year ago.

The Comptroller's statement also shows total expenditures for the month of August of \$165.5 million compared with \$147.2 million for August, 1949, an increase of \$18.3 million. Total expenditures for the first five months of this fiscal year amounted to \$774.4 million compared with \$772 million for the same period last year.

Revenues for August exceeded expenditures by \$39.8 million. This compares with a budgetary surplus of \$40.6 million for the same month last year. The budgetary surplus of the Government for the first five months of the fiscal year amounted to \$292.7 million compared with \$294.6 million for the same period last year.

In addition to budgetary expenditures, there were non-budgetary disbursements, that is, outlays for loans, advances and investments amounting to \$40 million in the period April 1 to August 31, 1950, compared with \$97.5 million in the comparable period of 1949.

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HOURLY EARNINGS 103.9 CENTS: Average hourly earnings of hourly-rated wage-earners reported by leading Canadian manufacturing establishments advanced to 103.9 cents at July 1 from the June 1 figure of 103.5 cents, and 99.1 cents at July 1 last year. Average weekly wages of these wage-earners moved up to \$44.26 from \$43.47 at June 1, and \$41.42 at July 1 last year. The hours of work in the week of July 1 averaged 42.6 compared with 42.0 at June 1, and 41.8 a year earlier.

The durable manufactured goods, average hourly earnings rose to 112.0 cents from 111.4 at June 1, and 106.7 at July 1 last year. The hours of work averaged 42.9 as against 42.2 at June 1, and 42.4 a year ago, and the average weekly wage was \$48.05 as against \$47.01 at June 1, and \$45.24 at July 1, 1949.

In the non-durable goods industries, hourly earnings averaged 95.6 cents as compared with 95.5 at June 1, and 91.3 at July 1 last year. Average work-week was 42.2 hours as against 41.7 at June 1, and 41.2 a year ago, and average weekly earnings amounted to \$40.34 compared with \$39.82 at the first of June and \$37.62 at July 1, 1949.

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DEPARTMENT PRESS OFFICE: The Department of External Affairs announced on September 14 the establishment of a separate Press Office to assist members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery and other journalists in Ottawa to secure information concerning Canada's external relations.

Mr. Allan Anderson, hitherto Head of the Department's Information Division, will be in charge of the Press Office and will be assisted by Miss Frances Carlisle, formerly of the Information Division. The Press Office will be located in the East Block.

The Information Division, which has been looking after the Department's relations with the press, will retain its other responsibilities. Mr. Paul Tremblay will be Acting Head of the Division.

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POPULATION 13,871,000: Canada's population increased 143,000 in the first six months of this year, bringing the total for the 10 Provinces at July 1, 1950 to 13,871,000 as compared with 13,728,000 on January 1, according to an estimate by the Bureau of Statistics.

The increase in the previous half year was 149,000, making an estimated gain of 292,000 during the 12 months ending July 1 this year. On July 1 last year the estimated population was 13,579,000.