

toilet preparations and pharmaceuticals except when this is done by a retail store for sale directly to consumers, and will also extend the definition of manufacturer to any person who markets private brand toilet preparations and pharmaceuticals, except a retailer who sells directly and exclusively to consumers. This amendment will apply to both the sales tax and the special 10 per cent excise tax.

Other amendments to the Income Tax Act:

1. More generous tax treatment of payments made by an employer to the widow or dependent children of a deceased employee by providing that such death benefits will be free of tax up to an amount equal to 12 months' salary of employee or \$10,000, whichever is the lesser.
2. That portion of the benefit which an employee derives through the payment of group life insurance premiums on his behalf by his employer exceeding \$25,000, will be subject to tax.
3. Tax relief on lump sum withdrawals from employee pension plans where the amount withdrawn is transferred to another pension plan or used as a premium under a registered retirement savings plan.

CUSTOMS TARIFF

Proposed changes in the Customs Tariff affect 142 items or sub-items, divided into three main groups.

1. Fruit and vegetables -
 - (a) The duty on potatoes will be 37½ cents per cwt. throughout the year, which is substantially the same as the rate applied by the United States.
 - (b) The duty on apples will be ¼ cent a pound all the year round, the same as the U.S. rate.
 - (c) Duties on other fruits and vegetables will be increased, or the seasonal period improved, to protect Canadian fruit and vegetable growers.
 - (d) For most out-of-season products the duty will continue to be 10 per cent as at present; but for a number of important products a period of free entry will be permitted during part or all of the off-season.
2. Textiles -
 - (a) The margin of tariff preference is restored on British cloth by an increase in the duty on fabrics from countries outside the Commonwealth.
 - (b) By way of compensation for increases in duties on woollens and worsteds from France and Italy, reduced rates have been introduced on a special type of wool fabric for neckties and scarves, and also on perfumes, aperitif wines, ports, sherries and marble products.
 - (c) Steps have been taken to initiate negotiations on other textile items in-

cluding cotton yarns and fabrics to protect the Canadian cotton industry,

3. Machinery -
 - (a) Machinery will hereafter be specifically named as to class or kind, under six new tariff items.

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LEADING MINERALS IN 1958

Production in 1958 was greater than in 1957 for cement, clay products, gold, lead, lime, salt, silver and zinc, but smaller for asbestos, coal, copper, gypsum, iron ore, and nickel, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' monthly report "Production of Canada's Leading Minerals".

Totals for minerals showing gains in 1958 were: cement, 6,157,817 tons (6,049,098 in 1957); clay products, \$41,713,149 (\$34,900,705); gold, 4,537,007 fine ounces (4,433,894); lead, 185,095 tons (181,484); lime, 1,637,597 tons (1,378,617); salt, 1,886,505 tons (1,771,599); silver, 31,087,681 fine ounces (28,823,298); and zinc, 424,116 tons (413,741). Eleven-month output of natural gas rose to 294,156,745 M cubic feet from 190,542,516.

Totals for minerals reporting losses in 1958: asbestos, 925,670 tons (1,046,086 in 1957); coal, 11,679,930 tons (13,189,155); copper, 346,816 tons (359,109); gypsum, 3,975,166 tons (4,577,492); iron ore, 15,858,936 tons (22,272,174); and nickel, 140,848 tons (187,958). Eleven-month production of crude petroleum fell to 149,917,616 barrels from 168,473,087.

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ROYAL TOUR PRELIMINARY

The Commissioner in charge of arrangements for the Royal Tour, Lt. Gen. Howard Graham, left Ottawa on April 8 to cover in detail the route and places to be visited by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth next summer.

General Graham was accompanied by members of his staff and others who will be responsible, during the Queen's visit, for security, piloting aircraft, provision of transport, movement of baggage, communications, press and other arrangements. Mr. Esmond Butler, a Canadian who is assistant press secretary to the Queen, came from London and is accompanying the party.

The first call was at St. John's, Newfoundland, on April 8 and from there the party visited other Maritime and Quebec centres, returning to Ottawa about April 15. Commencing April 20, the Western part of the route will be checked.

This preliminary run over the route is essential in order to check all details of provincial and municipal programmes and meet officials who are responsible for local arrangements during Her Majesty's visit in their respective areas.