

DAILY AIRMAIL BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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Friday, February 8, 1952.

Artillery Salvos Hail Accession Of Queen: Ottawa, February 7 (CP) -- Canada today heralded the accession to the throne of Queen Elizabeth II with a series of thunderous 21-gun royal salutes and the raising of flags lowered yesterday in mourning for her father. The artillery salvos were sounded at noon sharp in Ottawa, in each of the 10 Provincial capitals and in Vancouver, all Army saluting bases. Where artillery guns were available elsewhere, they also fired the salute. As the first of the 21 rounds was discharged--they came at 10-second intervals--ensigns throughout the country fluttered to the top of their staffs.

This evening, at sunset, the flags came down, to be raised tomorrow only to the mourning station of half-staff. They will not be raised to full-staff again until after the burial of the King Friday, February 15.

Meantime, while acclaiming the new Queen, the country mourned the loss of its. King, and preparations went forward for a national memorial ceremony at Confederation Square here the day of the funeral in London. It has been proclaimed a day of national mourning for Canada. The Government ordered the use of black-edged notepaper for its official communications, and issued a blackbordered special edition of The Canada Gazette to announce officially the death of the King and accession of the Queen.

Canada, the first to proclaim Elizabeth Queen yesterday, was the first to salute her accession today.

Queen Elizabeth today cabled Prime Minister St. Laurent a message of thanks for the sympathies he extended yesterday on behalf of the Canadian people on the death of her father.

National Income Sets Record At \$21,200,000,000: Ottawa, February 7 (CP) -- Canada's national income and the value of goods and services reached record heights in 1951. The Bureau of Statistics reported today that the gross national product--the value of current production of goods and services at prevailing prices--totalled \$21,200,000,000 compared with \$18,029,000,000 in 1950, an increase of 18 per cent. Approximately 11 per cent of the increase was due to increases in prices. About five or six per cent was attributed to a jump in the real output of goods and services.

The national income climbed to \$17,097,000,000 in 1951 from \$14,406,-000,000 in 1950, an increase of 19 per cent. The jump was largely a result of increases in wages, salaries and supplementary labour income of 17 per cent, in investment income of 20 per cent and in accrued income of farm operators from farm production of 33 per cent. The 1951 figures, based on preliminary estimates, were issued as a supplement to a major report on national accounts, income and expenditures for the years from 1926 to 1950. A highlight of the bulky report was the fact that the real volume of Canada's production of goods and services has more than doubled in the last quarter century.

Another section of the report showed that Canadians consumed 38 per cent more goods and services in 1950 than in 1928, indicating a substantial gain in the material standard of living.

The gross national expenditure--the way in which the national output was absorbed--showed that major developments in 1951 were associated with the defence effort and the continued high level of investment, particularly in the field of resource development. Gross domestic investment by business in non-residential construction, machinery and equipment increased to \$3,100,000,000 from \$2,400,000,000. New residential construction remained substantially unchanged in value but declined by 14 per cent in volume.

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