

FOREST PRODUCTION RECORD: Volume and value of Canada's forest production rose to all-time high levels in 1950. Final estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show a cut of 3,342,399,000 cubic feet of merchantable timber valued at \$625,734,603 as compared with 3,140,137,000 cubic feet valued at \$561,412,062 in the preceding year. Preliminary estimates for 1951 indicate an increase in volume to 3,541,534,000 cubic feet.

An estimated 1,338,589,000 cubic feet of merchantable timber, or 40 per cent of the total for 1950, were taken out of the woods in the form of logs and bolts, chiefly for the production of lumber; 1,094,245,000 cubic feet, or 32.7 per cent were taken out as pulpwood, and 808,309,000 cubic feet, or 24.2 per cent as fuelwood. The remaining 101,256,000 cubic feet, or about three per cent consisted of other forest products in various forms, such as round mining timbers, poles and piling, hewn railway ties, fence posts and rails, wood for distillation, etc.

Forest fires destroyed in 1950 the equivalent of 159,857,000 cubic feet while insects and tree diseases destroy annually about 500,000,000 cubic feet of wood. The total drain on our forest resources in 1950 was, therefore, approximately 4,002,256,000 cubic feet.

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COMMONS RECESS UNTIL JAN. 12: The House of Commons on December 17 adopted "on division" - without a formal vote - the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, ending a month-long debate. Previously members voted 114 to 47 against the Progressive Conservative main amendment which would have had the House criticize the Government for "excessive and unjust taxation" and for "waste and extravagance" as well as requesting consultation with the Provinces on health insurance. C.C.F. and Social Credit sub-amendments on national health insurance and fiscal policy had already been rejected. The House recessed until January 12; the Senate until February 3.

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AWARDS FOR VALOR: The Minister of National Defence announced on December 19 that Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to approve awards to ten officers and men of the Royal Canadian Navy for their services in Canadian destroyers in the Korean war theatre.

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The average cost per animal slaughtered by Canada's slaughtering and meat packing industry rose by \$121 for beeves between 1929 and 1950 from \$75 to \$196.

INDUSTRIES ACTIVE: Employment, payrolls, and average weekly wages and salaries in Canada's principal industries rose to new high levels at the beginning of October, according to the Bureau's monthly report. The employment index climbed to 192.0 from 190.6 a month earlier, and 186.5 a year ago, while the payrolls index advanced to 449.9 from 442.7 at the beginning of September, and 410.0 at the same time a year ago. Weekly wages and salaries increased to an average of \$55.03 from \$54.55 at September 1, and \$51.59 at October 1, 1951.

Heightened industrial activity was recorded at the beginning of October in manufacturing, in which the trend of employment was upward in the durable and the non-durable goods divisions as compared with September 1.

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FARM ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION: Alberta had the largest proportion, among the ten provinces, of farms reporting sales of farm products in 1950 to a value of \$10,000 and over and Ontario the second largest proportion, while Newfoundland had the greatest percentage of small-scale farms with sales reported of less than \$250, and Nova Scotia and New Brunswick the largest proportion (almost identical) of part-time farms, according to a bulletin released by the Bureau of Statistics showing an economic classification of farms, as reported in the 1951 Census, by province and division.

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NICKEL-COPPER INDUSTRY: Total gross value of the various primary products of Canada's nickel-copper mining, smelting and refining industry rose by \$60,276,737 or nearly 31 per cent in 1951 to \$255,434,703 from \$195,157,966 in 1950, the Bureau of Statistics reported on December 10 in its annual report on the industry.

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LEASE OF LAND TO U.S.

the fulfilment of their responsibilities under the North Atlantic treaty.

"The lease is for a period of 20 years, with the proviso that any United States request for an extension will be considered by Canada in the light of the common defence interests of Canada and the United States.

"When the lease has expired, all buildings on the leased area will become the property of Canada, but removable improvements may be taken away by the United States Air Force."