

(C.W.B. October 22, 1948)

One-family detached dwellings had the lowest average rent at \$24.27 and apartments and flats the highest at \$30.27. For dwelling units in rows or terraces the average rent was \$26.09 and for two-family detached dwellings \$26.28.

Rents for all types of dwellings built since 1941 show progressive increases with succeeding years of construction over the average rents for dwellings built in 1941 and earlier, according to a breakdown of the Bureau data. From \$27.06 for the latter, the average rent increased to \$29.01 for those constructed in 1942 and 1943, to \$30.81 for dwellings built in 1944 and 1945, and more sharply to \$36.17 for 1946 and 1947 construction.

Sharpest advance in rents for dwellings of recent construction were for apartments and flats, the average for those built in 1946 and 1947 being \$52.43 as compared with \$29.90 for units built in 1941 and earlier. Next in degree of advance were rows or terraces with an average of \$42.52 as against \$25.09, followed by one-family detached dwellings at \$33.40 compared with \$23.45, and two-family detached units at \$34.29 compared with \$26.22.

MANUFACTURING INVENTORIES: A further slight rise is indicated in the values of inventories held by manufacturing industries in August, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Consumers' goods inventories appear to have remained at approximately the same level, while the values of inventories of capital goods and producers' materials are above the July levels. Construction materials inventories appear to be higher than in July.

In the non-durable consumers' goods group, seasonal declines in inventory values continued in the slaughtering and meat packing, brewing, tobacco, malt and malt products' industries. Inventory values are, however, well above last year's levels in these industries. There was also a seasonal decline of industries held in the sugar refining industry, but in this case stocks are below the level of August, 1947. Inventories in the feed and flour industry began their seasonal increase. Dairy stocks continued to rise, although the increase was less proportionately than the rise a year ago, and the present level of stocks is below last year's. Semi-durable consumers' goods' inventories, consisting mainly of textile products and leather and rubber footwear, appear to have declined slightly in value. Inventories of durable consumers' goods have risen in value, the July decline in the automobile industry having been reversed.

The two-month fall in the value of capital goods' inventories has also been reversed. The fall had been caused to a large extent by a decline in the value of shipbuilding inventories, and these rose considerably in August. The agricultural implements industry added to the increase by beginning its seasonal rise in stocks, and inventories held in the railway-

rolling stock and equipment industry continued to show a comparatively large rise in value. Stocks in the aircraft industry continued to drop.

The majority of industries in the producers' goods' group again showed increases in inventory values. Largest rises were in the primary iron and steel, non-ferrous metals smelting and refining, and white metal alloys industries. There was also a large seasonal rise in the coke and gas products industry. The sheet metals products and brass and copper products industries were the only big industries in this group showing large declines in values of inventory during August.

LABOUR STANDARDS BULLETIN: The Department of Labour announced October 19 that a statement had been prepared comparing Provincial Labour Standards concerning child labour, holidays, hours of work, minimum wages, and other matters pertaining to labour laws and regulations for all provinces. This statement of comparisons is available to all who wish to apply to the Deputy Minister of Labour.

Comparisons of a similar nature have been prepared in previous years to fill the requirements of industrialists, labour organizations, and others concerned.

This year a new section has been added regarding weekly rest-day legislation in seven provinces. The bulletin sets out in tabular form the legislative standards governing child labour, holidays, hours of work, minimum wages, weekly rest-day and workmen's compensation benefits.

Important changes since August, 1947, include new weekly minimum rates in New Brunswick for women in shops, hotels and restaurants, and a general increase in all minimum wage orders in Nova Scotia, where three zones have been established to replace the two previous ones which comprised places of over 17,000 and those with a smaller population. The minimum age for employment underground in coal mines in British Columbia has been lowered from 18 to 17. Higher benefits affected by 1948 amendments in Workmen's Compensation laws are indicated.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES IMPORTS: The Hon. Douglas Abbott, Minister of Finance, on October 19, announced a number of relaxations in the emergency exchange restrictions on imports of fresh fruits and vegetables during the coming winter.

Effective November 1 open general permits will be authorized for imports of lettuce and tomatoes from any country. Later in the winter similar general permits will be authorized for cabbage, carrots, celery and spinach. In accordance with the statements made by the Minister in Parliament in February and June, these relaxations will be timed so as not to prejudice the normal marketing of Canadian

produce. Imports of each of these commodities will be authorized only when advancing prices or short supplies indicate depleted domestic stocks.

Effective for the fourth quarter of 1948 quotas for imports of citrus fruits and fruit juices and other items in the same quota group are being increased from the present fifty per cent to seventy per cent of imports during the base year, July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947.

Also commencing with the last quarter of 1948 permits will be issued for the importation of grapes on a basis of seventy per cent of the dollar value of each importer's base year imports. Applications for such permits should be made on E.C. 1 application forms, obtainable from any Collector of Customs, and should be mailed to the Emergency Import Control Division, 490 Sussex Street, Ottawa.

All produce imported under these arrangements will be subject to maximum mark-up controls under the Wartime Prices and Trade Regulations.

In commenting on these relaxations Mr. Abbott said they were made possible by the continued improvement in the Canadian dollar reserve position.

VEHICLE ENTRIES: Foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits in September totalled 253,564, an increase of 27.5 per cent over the same month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. The increase was due to a heavy inflow of cars for the Labour Day holiday, and more than made up for a small decrease recorded in August. Traffic was heavier than last year through ports of entry in all provinces except Nova Scotia.

During the first nine months of this year the number of vehicles entering Canada on permits was 1,573,434, an increase of 9.9 per cent over the same period of 1947, and more than the total number of vehicles entering in the whole of the year 1946.

Ontario had the heaviest inflow of tourist cars in September at 161,913 compared with 119,889 a year earlier, followed by Quebec with 48,695 compared with 38,902, British Columbia 22,200 (21,596), New Brunswick 11,925 (11,092), Manitoba 3,598 (3,287), Alberta 2,841 (2,215), Saskatchewan 1,680 (1,255), Yukon Territory 368 (194), Nova Scotia 344 (435).

COAL PRODUCTION: Coal production in Canada during September amounted to 1,546,100 tons, close to the September, 1947 output of 1,546,177 tons, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Cumulative production for the nine months ending September rose to 12,789,810 tons as against 10,617,689 last year.

IMMIGRATION INCREASE: During the eight months ended August 31, a total of 79,336 immigrants entered Canada as compared to 32,808 during the corresponding period of 1947, it was announced October 20 by the Department of Mines and Resources.

RCAF TRAINING PROGRAMME: Announcement of a one-year training programme for selected aircrew members of the RCAF's Auxiliary Squadrons was made October 20 from Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa, following a two-day conference of Auxiliary Squadron Officers from across Canada. The meeting was the first such gathering of senior Auxiliary officers since the peacetime re-organization of the Air Force, and was attended by officers representing squadrons in Montreal, Toronto, London, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver.

Under the new training plan selected Auxiliary Squadron members will be given a year's instruction at the RCAF's Flying Training School, Centralia, Ont., and will receive pilot's wings and commissions as flying officers upon completion of the course. They will then return to civilian life, but in the capacity of Auxiliary Squadron aircrew they will proceed with further training on the operational aircraft available at each squadron.

Seventeen Auxiliary members will commence training shortly and have been chosen from airmen now members of the Auxiliary Squadrons and from civilians joining the Auxiliary. The embryo pilots will first be posted to the RCAF's School of Aviation Medicine in Toronto for medical tests and for a course in Service procedure.

INCOME TAX RULING: The Minister of Finance and the Minister of National Revenue jointly issued a statement October 20 regarding the income tax status of clergymen. For the past year or two, clergymen have not been required to pay tax on the value of a manse or parsonage provided for them by the church. It is doubtful, the Ministers said, if the present law will bear this interpretation. However, in view of the extent to which the manse or parsonage in a community is used for the general benefit of the congregation for meetings, gatherings of various kinds, consultations and other parish activities, the Ministers accept the view that clergymen should not be required to include the rental value of this property in income for tax purposes. It was stated that pending the introduction of an appropriate amendment to the law and consideration thereof by Parliament at the time of the next Budget, the exemption would continue to apply.