

LABOUR INCOME UP: Canadian workers earned \$1,028,000,000 in November, \$8,000,000 less than in the preceding month but \$32,000,000 or over 3% more than in November 1953, according to the Bureau's monthly estimate of labour income. This put total labour income for the first 11 months of 1954 at \$10,885,000,000, a 2% increase over the 1953 January-November total of \$10,673,000,000.

Compared with a year earlier November pay-rolls were higher in all industrial groups except manufacturing, but compared with the preceding month the finance and services group showed the only increase. Wages and salaries in agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping and mining totalled \$83,000,000 in November as against \$86,000,000 in October and \$77,000,000 in November 1953. In manufacturing the November total was \$321,000,000 which compared with \$323,000,000 in October and \$328,000,000 in November 1953.

The construction payroll amounted to \$77,000,000 in November as against \$82,000,000 in the preceding month and \$76,000,000 a year earlier.

Eleven-month totals show earnings below the 1953 level only in manufacturing and construction.

* * * *

AUTO PRODUCTION DROP: Production of motor vehicles in January this year totalled 28,993 units, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was a drop of 28% from last year's corresponding total of 40,215 units. The month's output of passenger cars was cut to 25,602 units from 32,278 and commercial vehicles to 3,391 units from 7,937.

Revised figures published in the Bureau's December report on motor vehicle shipments place last year's production of motor vehicles at 350,152 vehicles as compared with 484,594 in 1953. Output included 282,038 passenger cars as against 364,039 in the preceding year, and 68,114 commercial vehicles as against 120,555.

* * * *

Chemicals made in Canada for sale were valued at \$255,582,000 in 1953 as against \$230,050,000 in 1952, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Output of the acids, alkalies and salts industry was worth \$127,299,437, an increase of 11.5% over the 1952 production value of \$114,187,526.

* * * *

Wholesale prices registered an intermittent decline over the year 1954, and the Bureau's general index was up 0.2% in December to 215.3 from November's 214.8 but down 1.7% from 219.0 in December 1953. Increases in 5 of the 8 major groups were responsible for the rise over November.

CHAPELS IN GERMANY: The first of four new Protestant chapels for the 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade was officially dedicated at Fort Chambly, Germany, on February 6 by Col. J.W. Forth, MBE, CD, Director of Protestant Chaplain Services for the Canadian Army.

Highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of a silver collection tray for the chapel by Dr. Wilm, leader of three million Protestants in Westphalia. Dr. Wilm spoke of the goodwill between Canadian and German Christians.

The lesson was read by Maj.-Gen. J.M. Rockingham, General Officer commanding the 1st Canadian Infantry Division.

Eventually all chapels will be returned to the West German Government.

* * * *

CHAMPION TRAIN BUSTER: Commander John H. G. Bovey, DSC, CD, RCN, 38, of Montreal and Ottawa, has been awarded the United States Decoration of the Bronze Star Medal, with Combat Distinguishing Device.

The award was made in recognition of Cmdr. Bovey's services while in command of HMCS Crusader (destroyer) in the Korean war theatre during the time the ship became known as the "champion train buster of the United Nations Fleet". Her record, four and two half-trains, was unsurpassed throughout hostilities in that battle zone.

Cmdr. Bovey previously was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his Korean exploits.

* * * *

TROOP TRAINING: More than 10,000 soldiers from all parts of Canada will concentrate for six weeks of intensive training this summer at Camp Gagetown, N.B., it was announced February 9 at Army Headquarters.

The troops, most of them from units of the 1st Canadian Infantry Division, will begin arriving at the 427-square-mile training site about mid-June. All units will be encamped by the first week of July when manoeuvres are scheduled to start.

* * * *

CIVIL DEFENCE: Agreement has been reached between the federal Government and the Province of Ontario on a co-operative civil defence programme for 1955, it was announced February 8. Under the formula now agreed upon, federal and provincial financial aid in civil defence will be made available to municipal civil defence organizations.

* * * *

Maj.-Gen. John M. Rockingham renewed acquaintances over last weekend with troops he led through the early days of the Korean campaign when he visited elements of the 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade in Germany.