

EXPORTS EXCEED \$3,000,000,000 IN 1948

standardizing the methods of control and treatment, providing a consultative professional medical service, assisting in the provision of lay and professional information services, encouraging research and improving training facilities for professional personnel.

Social Hygiene Day is a part of National Health Week sponsored annually by the Health League of Canada. The observance of this day should serve to point up ways both to combat the venereal disease menace and to maintain health and happy home life in Canadian families, Mr. Martin concluded.

NAVAL TRAINING: A new system of training Naval reservists, designed to produce fully qualified seaman specialists in gunnery, torpedo anti-submarine, navigation direction and other branches, will be put into operation in the majority of Naval Divisions across Canada this year, Naval Headquarters announced on February 2.

In addition to providing specialist training in the divisions, the plan will enable R.C.N. (Reserve) Ordinary Seamen to qualify for advancement to Able Seaman in approximately half the time previously required.

Under the new scheme each Division participating has been made responsible for specialist training in a certain branch, in addition to the general training carried on by all Reserve establishments. Geographical location, equipment and accommodation available and, to some extent, individual preference, have been taken into consideration in allocating the responsibility for this training to the Divisions.

It was emphasized that this specialized training will in no way affect the basic training given all new entries into the Reserve or the training available for men in other branches.

MOTOR VEHICLES: Retail sales of new motor vehicles in 1948 fell slightly below the all-time record total of 1947, the decrease being due to a falling-off in the sales of passenger models, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. On the other hand, with higher average prices for both passenger and commercial vehicles, the overall value of sales moved up during the year.

The number of vehicles retailed in 1948 was 217,119 valued at \$421,016,000 as compared with 230,255 valued at \$416,237,000 in the preceding year. Passenger car sales in the year totalled 142,020 valued at \$276,699,000 compared with 159,205 valued at \$283,190,000, while sales of trucks and buses increased to 75,099 valued at \$144,318,000 compared with 71,050 valued at \$133,047,000.

The average price of the vehicles retailed in 1948 rose to \$1,930 from \$1,808 in 1947

and \$1,611 in 1946. Passenger models averaged \$1,948 compared with \$1,779 in 1947 and \$1,548 in 1946, and trucks and buses, \$1,921 compared with \$1,873 in 1947 and \$1,726 in 1946.

JASPER SUPERINTENDENT: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon, on February 2, announced the appointment of Mr. G.H.L. Dempster as Superintendent of Jasper National Park, Alberta.

Mr. Dempster was born at Prince Albert, Sask., and graduated from the University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon in 1934 with the Degree of Master of Science in Civil Engineering. While still attending university he was engaged, part time, in an engineering capacity in Prince Albert National Park and later worked on the construction of the Banff-Jasper Highway. On December 1, 1936 he was appointed Resident Engineer in Prince Albert National Park, a position which he held until his enlistment in the Royal Canadian Engineers in 1940.

In January, 1946, following his discharge Mr. Dempster, returned to his duties as Resident Engineer at Prince Albert National Park and a year later became Superintendent of Kootenay, Yoho, Glacier and Mount Revelstoke National Parks in British Columbia, with headquarters at Field, B.C. Through his new appointment, Mr. Dempster will be responsible for the administration of an area comprising approximately 4,200 square miles. Jasper National Park is the largest of Canada's scenic National Parks.

APPOINTED DEPUTY MINISTER: The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, announced on February 3 the appointment of Mr. Marc Boyer, of Montreal, as Deputy Minister of Reconstruction and Supply.

Mr. Boyer was born 43 years ago. He graduated in civil engineering from the Ecole Polytechnique of Montreal in 1928.

From 1928 to 1930, he was engaged in research work for the Consolidated Mining & Smelting, Trail, B.C. In 1930, he joined the Department of Mines of the Province of Quebec, and in 1943 was appointed Commissioner for the Civil Service Commission of the Province of Quebec. From 1945 to date, he has been Registrar and Acting Executive Secretary of the Corporation of Professional Engineers of the Province of Quebec.

Mr. Boyer is a member of the Corporation of professional Engineers of Quebec, of the Engineering Institute of Canada, and of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

Married to Miss Magdeleine Létourneau, daughter of Chief Justice Séverin Létourneau, of the Superior Court of the Province of Quebec, they have six children.

SHIPMENTS TO U.S. RISE: Topped off by a record monthly value for December, Canada's domestic exports in 1948 exceeded the \$3,000,000,000 mark for the first time in a peacetime year. Feature of the year's trade was a steep rise of 45 per cent over 1947 in the value of shipments to the United States, which more than offset generally lower sales to other markets.

Aggregate value for the 12 months, according to figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, was \$3,075,800,000 as compared with \$2,774,900,000 in 1947, a rise of 10.8 per cent. Last year's total has been exceeded only in the two war years, 1944 and 1945, when exports were valued at \$3,440,000,000 and \$3,218,300,000, respectively.

Exports in December reached a value of \$316,800,000 as compared with \$293,900,000 in November and \$266,200,000 in December, 1947. It was the highest monthly figure since the wartime month of June, 1945, when the total was \$322,800,000.

Sales to the United States in 1948 rose in value to \$1,500,987,000 as compared with \$1,034,226,000 in 1947, accounting for approximately half the total to all countries. In December, the value was \$147,832,000 as compared with \$105,972,000 in the corresponding month of 1947, a rise of 39.5 per cent.

Shipments to the United Kingdom in the year fell off to \$686,914,000 as compared with \$751,198,000 in the preceding year, a decline of 8.6 per cent. The December total was down from \$72,542,000 in 1947 to \$48,515,000, or by 33.2 per cent. The year's export trade with other British countries also fell from \$417,303,000 in 1947 to \$345,477,000, but rose in the month from \$34,789,000 to \$46,597,000.

Exports to Latin American countries as a

group showed a moderate decline in 1948, totaling \$123,749,000 as compared with \$129,771,000 in 1947, but rose in December from \$12,186,000 a year earlier to \$16,395,000. Trade was heavier in 1948 with 13 of the 20 countries in the group, figures for Argentina and Brazil showing sizeable declines, and those for Venezuela, Mexico and Cuba, substantial gains.

Exports to European countries declined from \$347,794,000 in 1947 to \$316,834,000, but rose in 1948 from \$34,705,000 to \$38,604,000. In the year's trade, there were marked declines to Belgium, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and Yugoslavia, but increased shipments to Denmark, France, Germany, Norway and Switzerland.

Widening its margin as the leading export commodity, shipments of newsprint in 1948 increased in value to \$383,123,000 from \$342,293,000 the previous year, and accounted for almost one-eighth the total value of domestic exports. Exports of wheat declined to \$243,023,000 from \$265,200,000, while wood pulp advanced to \$211,564,000 from \$177,803,000. Fourth and fifth in value, planks and boards fell off to \$196,023,000 compared with \$208,375,000, and wheat flour shipments dropped to \$125,151,000 from \$196,578,000.

Next five leading export items shown in the Bureau's summary were all higher: aluminum and products at \$102,046,000 compared with \$63,956,000; fish and fishery products, \$85,028,000 (\$82,359,000); ships and vessels, \$81,448,000 (\$23,965,000); copper and products, \$79,036,000 (\$59,298,000); and grains other than wheat, \$75,321,000 (\$50,103,000). Together these 10 leading items accounted for slightly more than half the total value of the year's domestic exports.

RCN REDUCES AGE LIMIT: Naval Headquarters announced on February 2 that the age limit for entry into the naval forces had been reduced from 17½ to 17 years. Recruits will now be accepted between the ages of 17 and 30. The reduction places the Navy in line with the Army and R.C.A.F. which have already announced the lowering of age limits for entry.

Naval authorities at the same time outlined the Services's policy with respect to educational requirements for entry into the R.C.N. and the educational program carried out by the Navy.

Men possessing high school entrance or the equivalent are accepted for the Seaman, Stoker, Cook and Steward Branches. Grade 10 or the equivalent is required for entry into the technical, medical and clerical branches. Insofar as possible, the technical branches are recruited from within the Service, with the Navy providing men with the education and

training necessary to qualify them for technical trades.

The educational system now operating in the R.C.N. enables a man to progress from first year high school to the equivalent of senior matriculation at no expense to himself.

For example, a seaman who on joining is below the Grade 10 category attends school for six weeks during his New Entry training period, receiving instruction primarily in English and Mathematics. As he progresses in the Service and takes courses in a specialized field, such as gunnery or radar plotting, further academic training is provided as part of the curricula of the courses, thus providing him with the necessary educational qualifications for advancement.

Correspondence courses are also conducted and classes are organized by Instructor officers in off-duty hours.