

1948-49 CANADA YEAR BOOK: The 1948-49 edition of the Canada Year Book is now available. This volume is the official statistical annual of the country and contains an up-to-date account of the natural resources of Canada and their development, the history of the country, its institutions, its demography, the different branches of production, trade, transportation, national accounts and public finance, education, labour, and so on. In brief, it is a comprehensive study, within the limits of a single volume, of the social and economic conditions of Canada.

This new edition, which extends to 1,300 pages, has been thoroughly revised, and includes in its 32 chapters the latest material available at press time. In addition to the regular chapter material there are several special articles dealing with the physical geography of the Canadian western Arctic, the climate of Canada, the contribution to science made by the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, and the chemical industry in Canada.

The current issue also includes a statistical summary of Canada for the years 1871-1948, a calendar of events for 1948, a directory of sources of official information, a list of official appointments, and legislation of the third session of the twentieth parliament. Upwards of eleven maps and forty-three diagrams have been inserted.

Cloth-bound copies of the Canada Year Book may be obtained from the King's Printer, Ottawa, at the price of \$2.00 per copy. By a special concession, a limited number of paper-bound copies have been set aside for ministers of religion, bona fide students and school teachers, who may obtain such copies at the price of \$1.00 each. Applications for these special copies should be sent to the Dominion Statistician, Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

Each year a number of articles from the Canada Year Book are made available in reprint form. These are chosen for their special interest and on the basis of the demand that exists for them. A list of reprints is given in the Year Book together with their prices, of ten to fifteen cents a copy.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES: Department store sales in Canada in May were up 11 per cent over the same month last year. All provinces shared in the advance, and increased sales were recorded for all departments except food.

According to the Bureau of Statistics, the month's sales were valued at \$72,198,000 as compared with \$74,969,000 in the preceding month and \$65,229,000 a year earlier. Gains varied from five per cent in Saskatchewan to 15 per cent in the Maritime Provinces. Average increase for the first five months of this year was 10 per cent over the similar period of 1948.

STRIKES IN INDUSTRY: Three strikes accounted for more than 87 per cent of the time loss due to work stoppages arising from industrial disputes in Canada during May, 1949, according to the monthly summary of strikes and lockouts issued by the Minister of Labour, Mr. Mitchell.

The strike of asbestos miners and mill-workers in various centres in Quebec, together with the strike of seamen in Canadian and foreign ports, and a strike of construction labourers in Toronto were responsible for 87.2 per cent of the time loss and almost 70 per cent of the total workers involved in all work stoppages during the month.

Although the number of strikes in existence, and the number of workers involved during the first five months of 1949 was in each case considerably lower than the corresponding period in 1948, the time loss during the same period was approximately 25 per cent higher.

Preliminary figures for May, 1949, showed 23 strikes and lockouts in existence, involving 10,540 workers, with a time loss of 174,150 man-working days, as compared with 18 in April, 1949, with 7,877 workers involved and a time loss of 139,500 days. In May, 1948, there were 22 strikes involving 3,204 workers with a time loss of 39,754 days.

RMC \$1,000,000 DORMITORY: Work on the new, \$1,000,000 dormitory building at Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont., is expected to begin almost immediately, the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, has announced.

The all-limestone structure, expected to take about 18 months to complete, will provide living accommodation for 150 cadets plus administrative offices, equipment storage rooms and a regulation-sized swimming pool to be constructed according to Olympic specifications.

SCHOOL ENROLMENT: Enrolment in the elementary grades (one to eight) of Canadian schools will be an estimated 600,000 greater by 1953-54 than it was in 1946-47, due to the increased birth rates of the 1940's. The extra pupils will require the employment of an additional 18,000 teachers -- a number greater than the present elementary school staff of either of the two largest provinces.

This forecast is made in the biennial survey of "Elementary and Secondary Education in Canada, 1944-46" issued by the Bureau of Statistics.

The secondary school grades -- those above eight -- will begin to feel the effect of the increase between 1953 and 1955, according to the report. Considering immigration, the increased use of transportation, the effect of larger units of administration, and other means being adopted to increase the holding power of the schools, a total increase of

800,000 pupils seems likely in the next 10 years.

This large increase, amounting to 35 per cent over the present enrolment, it is pointed out, will require a great expansion in the educational system, in the form of new schools, additional classrooms and more equipment, as well as increased staffs.

MENTAL HEALTH GRANTS: Mental health grants totalling more than \$864,000 for the Province of Quebec have just been approved by the federal Government under the National Health Program the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, announced on June 23.

A wide variety of projects will be instituted in Quebec, covering all aspects of the problem of mental health, and including the following:

1. Expansion of in-patient and out-patient psychiatric services at the various institutions for the mentally ill as well as in some general hospitals.
2. Promotion of preventive mental health work through establishment of mental health and child guidance clinics.
3. Widening of training programs in the field of mental health at the universities through larger staffs and additional facilities.
4. Provision of scholarships and bursaries to enable qualified persons to pursue studies in mental health.
5. Addition of specialized equipment and services to the universities, mental health institutions and general hospital psychiatric wards.

BAGOTVILLE RCAF BASE: A two and one-half million dollar building program is to be carried out for the RCAF at Bagotville, P.Q., to bring the station up to operational requirements, it was announced on June 21 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton. Bagotville was an active RCAF station during the war, but it has not been used as a permanent base for some years. It was announced last year that Bagotville was being reactivated, in accordance with development of the RCAF's postwar plans.

The work includes extension of the runways, an extensive building program to provide barracks and married quarters, erection of a supply building, and a new sewage disposal plant.

Authority has been provided for construction of 75 married quarters, at a total cost of \$800,000, and of barracks costing \$900,000. Half a million dollars has been allocated for work on the station's runways, which are being extended in length.

DISPLACED PERSONS: Following are latest statistics, on Displaced Persons admitted to Canada:

Group workers (those brought over at the request of industry)	34,628
Those joining Canadian relatives	35,410
Orphans for whom private organizations have made special provision	1,045
Total	71,083

CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES: Canada's chemical industries maintained their upward climb of recent years during 1948 to set a new record value for output of \$554 million at factory prices, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. This total is exclusive of shell-filling.

The Bureau's 1948 compilation includes for the first time the figures for the vegetable oils industry, due to a change in statistical procedure. Allowing for that industry in the compilation for 1947, the total output value for that year was \$488 million as against the final figure of \$450 issued by the Bureau. The gain in value in 1948 was thus \$66 million or 14 per cent on the same coverage.

Higher output values were recorded for all industries in the chemical group. Percentage increases over 1947 were as follows: heavy chemicals, 20.6; fertilizers, 7.1; paints, 15.5; soaps, 18.2; coal tar distillation, 3.1; toilet preparations, 10.1; compressed gases, 14.8; medicinals, 0.3; polishes, 17.5; inks, 12.8; adhesives, 26.1; primary plastics, 21.5; and miscellaneous, 6.0. The vegetable oils industry gained 37 per cent.

Total number of plants in operation during the year was 1,030, and the average number of employees 39,754 as compared with 38,491 in 1947. Salaries and wages paid totalled \$87,020,000 as against \$77,480,000.

Ontario, with 535 plants and 21,000 employees, had production valued at \$310 million, accounting for about 56 per cent of the total output value and 47 per cent of the employees. Quebec had 331 establishments, 14,000 employees, and production at \$161 million, or nearly 30 per cent of the total value. British Columbia was third among the provinces with 70 plants and production at \$49 million.

CARLOADINGS: Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended June 18 totalled 74,522 cars compared with 72,764 in the preceding week and 80,827 in the corresponding week last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Cumulative loadings for the year-to-date were 1,738,328 cars as against 1,784,340 in the same period of 1948, a decrease of two per cent.