MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

Sales of new motor vehicles reached an all-time high in 1962 of 586,012 units, up 14.6 per cent from the 1961 total of 511,479 and higher by 12.0 per 'cent than 1960's previous peak of 523,188. The retail value of 1962 sales also reached a record high of \$1,784,460,000, up 15.0 per cent from the total of \$1,551,408,000 for a year earlier and greater by 13.3 per cent than the preceding high of \$1,574,827,000 set in 1960.

Sales of new passenger cars increased 15.3 per cent in 1962 to a record 504,168 units from 437,319 in 1961, and were up 12.6 per cent from 1960's preceding peak of 447,771. The year's retail value advanced 15.2 per cent to a new peak of \$1,486,337,000 from \$1,290,026,000 in the preceding year — the previous high.

The volume of new commercial-vehicle sales climbed 10.4 per cent in 1962 to 81,844 units from 74,160 in 1961, but was 25.6 per cent below 1951's all-time high of 109,962. The retail value of these sales increased 14.1 per cent in the year to \$298,123,000 from \$261,382,000 in 1960, but was 8.8 per cent under 1956's peak total of \$326,735,000.

DECEMBER SALES

Sales of new motor vehicles climbed 25.5 per cent in December 1962, to 45,532 units from 36,290 in December 1961, comprising 23.3 per cent more passenger cars at 38,997 units versus 31,626 a year earlier and 40.1 per cent more commercial vehicles at 6,535 units versus 4,664. The month's retail value advanced 27.2 per cent to \$145,365,000 from \$114,250,000 in the like 1961 month, the passenger-car total climbing 25.6 per cent to \$121,593,000 from \$96,835,000 and the commercial-vehicle total 36.5 per cent to \$23,772,000 from \$17,415,000.

Sales of Canadian and United States makes increased 41.4 per cent in December to 42,989 units from 30,413 in the corresponding 1961 month, bringing the year's total to 507,016 units versus 404,-271. Passenger-car sales accounted for 36,625 units in December versus 25,994 a year earlier and for 429,142 units in the full year versus 336,-122.

December sales of overseas makes declined sharply (56.7 per cent) to 2,543 units from 5,877 in December 1961, placing sales in the full year at 78,996 units, a decrease of 26.3 per cent from 1961's total of 107,208 units. Sales of new passenger cars were down in the month of 2,372 units from 5,632 a year earlier and in the year to 75,026 units from 101,197 in the preceding year.

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FISHERIES APPOINTMENT

Prime Minister Diefenbaker recently announced the appointment of Dr. A.W.H. Needler of Nanaimo, British Columbia, as Deputy Minister of Fisheries, to succeed the late G.R. Clark, who died suddenly a few weeks ago.

Dr. Needler has been Director of the Biological Station of the Fisheries Research Board at Nanaimo since 1954. Before his transfer to the West Coast, he had been for 13 years the Director of the Board's Biological Station at St. Andrews, New Brunswick. Between 1948 and 1950 he acted in the dual capacity of Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Fisheries and Director of the St. Andrew's Station.

In January he was appointed chairman of the Advisory Committee on Marine Resources Research of the Food and Agriculture Organization, which held its first meeting at FAO headquarters in Rome from January 28 to February 2.

Dr. Needler has been associated with the Fisheries Research Board for 37 years. In 1929 and 1930, he was Scientific Assistant in Zoology at the East Coast station, and subsequently held various other positions there, becoming Chief Zoologist in 1939.

BRITISH TROOPS TO CANADA

Further details are now available concerning British Army soldiers who are to train in Canada during 1963 and early 1964.

The main unit will be a battalion group based on 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Buffs, the Royal Kent Regiment. This battalion will fly to Canada early in June, to train at Camp Gagetown, New Brunswick.

The battalion is affiliated with three Canadian infantry regiments — in the Regular Army, with the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, whose home station is Calgary, Alberta, and, in the Militia, with the 1st Battalion, Royal New Brunswick Regiment (Carleton and York), with head-quarters at Saint John, N.B., and the 1st Battalion, Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment, Windsor, Ontario.

A corps field-engineering squadron will train at Camp Gagetown from May 1 to June 15.

In Western Canada, an armored reconnaissance squadron of the Life Guards will train at Camp Wainwright, Alberta, from the middle of June until the end of July. This training will be in conjunction with the summer concentration of 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade Group.

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