

stocks and other securities produced a purchase balance of \$1,600,000. As a result, there was a net outward movement of funds amounting to \$1,300,000.

Transactions with the United Kingdom remained unchanged at \$400,000; and sales were approximately equal to purchases. An increase was registered in transactions with other countries, totalling \$1,100,000 as compared with \$800,000 in the preceding month. Net sales amounted to \$100,000.

STORE SALES UP: Sales of department stores in March were valued at \$69,125,000, showing an increase of 7.2 per cent over the \$64,486,000 recorded in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Increases occurred in all provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan showing the largest gains of 19.9 per cent and 14.3 per cent, respectively. The gain in Manitoba was 13.1 per cent, British Columbia 10.6 per cent, Maritime Provinces 6.5 per cent, Ontario 3.9 per cent, and Quebec 0.7 per cent.

Preliminary figures for the week ending April 23 indicate an advance in sales of 10 per cent over the same period of 1948. The rise in Alberta was 25 per cent, Saskatchewan 21 per cent, Manitoba 13 per cent, the Maritimes 10 per cent, Ontario nine per cent, while sales in Quebec were unchanged. Figures for British Columbia are not available for the week.

WHOLESALE PRICES: Continuing the downtrend recorded in January and February, a further slight decline was shown in wholesale prices in Canada during March, according to the general wholesale index released by the Bureau of Statistics. The index was down 0.5 points from February and 2.0 points from the high reached in December, but 10.3 points above the March index last year.

The index for the month, on the base 1926=100, stood at 157.6 as compared with 158.1 in February, 159.6 in December and 147.3 in March last year. As compared with the preceding month, decreases were recorded for all indexes with the exception of wood and iron products. Textile products remained unchanged.

BUILDING MATERIALS: Wholesale price levels for general building materials advanced during March over February and January, while prices of residential building materials -- up in February -- declined to slightly below the January level, according to price indexes released by the Bureau of Statistics.

The index of prices for general building materials, on the base 1926=100, rose 0.9 points during the month to 205.4 from an unchanged 204.3 for January and February. The March standing compares with the high of 205.9

for October last and 186.5 for March last year.

In contrast, the price index of residential building materials, on the base 1935-39=100, dropped to 229.7 in March from 230.4 for February and was 0.3 points below the standing of 230.0 for January. Among the principal components, the index for lumber and its products fell off from 325.1 to 324.2, and for paint and glass from 185.5 to 184.2. Six of the nine indexes were unchanged, that for "other materials" alone showing an increase, from 175.1 to 177.1.

NEWFOUNDLAND HEALTH GRANTS: Entry of Newfoundland into Confederation has increased the value of grants under Canada's National Health Program to more than \$31,000,000 annually, and provision has been made for its share of these grants to be applied to development of health services in the new province.

The Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, announced on April 29 that sums totalling nearly \$1,000,000 annually have been earmarked for Newfoundland under provisions of the various health grants.

Also, as a result of the increase in Canada's area and population, the National Health Program's Public Health Research grant of \$200,000 has been advanced to \$205,148.

Funds which may be granted for general development of public health in Newfoundland under the federal plan are distributed among the various grants as follows: Health Survey, \$19,779; Hospital Construction, \$354,629; General Public Health, \$132,400; Tuberculosis Control, \$176,614; Mental Health, \$122,171; Venereal Disease Control, \$15,944; Professional Training, \$15,944; Crippled Children, \$15,944; Cancer Control, \$90,093.

The federal Government is basing apportionment of the grants on the estimated Newfoundland population of 331,000 as at June 1, 1948, and is applying the same method of calculating the amounts as is used in distributing grants for expansion of health services in the other provinces.

SUMMER TRAINING CAMPS: Approximately 11,000 members of the Canadian Army Reserve Force will attend summer training camps across the country this year, Army authorities have announced. This means that last year's total of 7,092 Reserve soldiers at camp will be exceeded by at least 4,000.

Command camps will be conducted in each of the five army commands but Ontario and Quebec camps will probably be the busiest.

Corps camps, where members of the Royal Canadian Artillery, the Royal Canadian Engineers, the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and other corps of the army will be trained, will be opened at Shilo, Man., Wainwright, Alta., Esquimalt, B.C., Chilliwack, B.C., and Petawawa.

125,603 IMMIGRANTS: Immigrants to Canada during the fiscal year ended March 31, 1949, numbered 125,603, it was announced on May 3 by the Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. Gibson. This total exceeded the 79,194 recorded for the fiscal year 1947-48 by 58.6 per cent.

The 125,603 immigrants included 40,015 from the British Isles, 7,306 from the United States, and 18,450 from northern European races. The latter included 9,866 Dutch, most of whom came to this country under the joint Netherlands-Canada farm settlement plan. Under this program, arranged through the co-operation of the Canadian and Netherlands Governments, more than 7,000 members of Dutch farm families entered Canada in 1948. Skilled agriculturists, the Netherlanders work for Canadian farmers until sufficiently well established to purchase their own farms.

There were also 59,832 immigrants from other races, leading groups including 15,420 Poles and 10,498 Ukrainians.

Included in the immigrants were 50,610 Displaced Persons, of whom 27,894 joined close relatives already living in Canada.

In all, 64,860 Displaced Persons have been admitted to Canada since the first arrivals in April, 1947. Highest numbers of Displaced Persons have been absorbed by agricultural, mining, water power, forest, and clothing industries. Some 8,000 girls came to Canada to work in hospitals and private homes.

June was the busiest immigration month, with 15,323 immigrants passing through Canadian ports of entry.

Destinations by provinces were as follows:

Ontario	62,539
Quebec	23,745
British Columbia	11,016
Alberta	10,519
Manitoba	7,921
Saskatchewan	5,372
Nova Scotia	2,773
New Brunswick	1,362
Prince Edward Island	282
Yukon Territory	62
Northwest Territories	12

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY: Canada's Instrument of Ratification of the North Atlantic Treaty, which was executed by the Prime Minister on Saturday, April 30, was deposited with the United States Government in Washington at 12:15 o'clock on May 3 by the Canadian Ambassador. The State Department has confirmed that Canada's Instrument of Ratification was the first to be deposited by the signatories of the Treaty. Under the terms of the Treaty it will come into force between the states which have ratified it as soon as the ratifications of the majority of the signatories, including those of Belgium, Canada, France, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States, have been deposited.

"DEFEND" CHALK RIVER: Army authorities expect an air "attack" on Chalk River, Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie this week.

But not a bomb will fall on them and the only shots to be fired during the "battle" will whistle harmlessly over the artillery ranges at Petawawa.

The expected "attack" has been planned as part of a nine-day training exercise to be carried out May 2 to May 10 by personnel of the Royal Canadian School of Artillery (Anti-Aircraft) at Picton, Ont.

WAGES IN MANUFACTURING: Average weekly wages paid by larger Canadian manufacturers in the last week of November, 1947, amounted to \$37.19, showing an increase of almost 15 per cent over the corresponding period of 1946, according to the Bureau of Statistics. The higher earnings resulted largely from wage increases, or in some instances, from the payment of larger cost-of-living bonuses. Variations in industrial activity and other factors also affected the levels of weekly wages for the different provinces. The working time averaged 43.7 hours, 44.9 hours for men and 39.7 hours for women.

In terms of money, earnings of men showed larger gains than those of women, but in most cases the percentages of increase in the earnings of women were higher. The all-Canada average for men was \$41.35 as compared with \$36.23 a year earlier, and for women, \$23.11 compared with \$20.08.

Average weekly wages were highest in British Columbia at \$41.85 compared with \$36.83 in the corresponding month of the previous year, followed by Ontario at \$38.57 compared with \$33.26, Alberta \$36.81 compared with \$32.40, Saskatchewan \$36.63 (\$32.78); Manitoba, \$35.59 (\$31.16); Quebec, \$34.82 (\$30.51); Nova Scotia \$34.58 (\$31.44); New Brunswick, \$33.55 (\$30.54).

FINLAND JOINS ICAO: Finland on April 29, became the 52nd member nation of the International Civil Aviation Organization, according to an announcement by Dr. Albert Roper, ICAO Secretary General.

The application of Finland was first approved by the Assembly of ICAO, and then by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Finland is the fourth Scandinavian nation to become a member of ICAO; Denmark, Norway and Sweden are already members.

MR. PATTERSON'S APPOINTMENT: Appointment of William John Patterson of Regina, former Premier of Saskatchewan, as Commissioner of the Board of Transport Commissioners, was announced on April 30 by the Minister of Transport, Mr. Chevrier. Mr. Patterson replaces Commissioner J.A. Stoneman of Saskatoon, whose term of office expired last month.