

MORE FIRES IN JUNE

According to estimates by the Department of Forestry and Rural Development there were 2,068 forest fires in June, damaging some 446,000 acres of woodlands. This figure is considerably higher than that recorded in Canada in June 1966, when there were 1,231 fires, causing damage to 211,000 acres.

This season there have been an estimated 3,391 forest fires across Canada, damaging some 551,000 acres. In the same period last year there were 2,962 fires, damaging 244,000 acres.

PROVINCIAL FIGURES

Of the fires in June this year, 429 were in Quebec, damaging 125,649 acres; 470 were in British Columbia, affecting 31,400 acres; and 344 were in Ontario, causing damage to 54,793 acres. Forty-eight fires were in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

In May this year an estimated 105,000 acres were damaged by 1,323 forest fires in Canada.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Canadian commodity imports moved upward 3.9 per cent to \$935,900,000 in June from \$901,100,000 in June 1966, and exports increased 18.6 per cent to \$1,033,900,000 from \$871,900,000. The result was an export balance of \$98 million, compared to the June 1966 balance of \$29,100,000. From January to June, imports climbed 14.2 per cent to \$5,477,100,000 from \$4,794,400,000, and exports rose 16.8 per cent to \$5,625,500,000 from \$4,815,000,000. The resulting export balance of \$148,400,000 was up substantially over 1966's six-month export balance of \$20,700,000.

UNITED STATES

Imports from the United States increased 4.4 per cent to \$689,300,000 from \$660,300,000 in June 1966 and exports rose 15.5 per cent to \$632,300,000 from \$547,600,000, placing the import balance at \$57

million in June this year, against the June 1966 import balance of \$112,800,000. During the cumulative period imports rose 15.0 per cent to \$4,067,800,000 from \$3,536,300,000 and exports were up 19.4 per cent to \$3,524,100,000 from \$2,950,800,000. The import balance dropped to \$543,700,000 this year from \$585,600,000 in 1966.

BRITAIN

Britain's sales to Canada were up 28.4 per cent to \$62,800,000 from \$48,900,000. Exports to Britain rose 18.3 per cent to \$104,700,000 from \$88,500,000, bringing the export balance to \$41,900,000 from \$39,600,000 in June 1966. From January to June, imports increased 9.1 per cent to \$345,700,000 from \$316,700,000, and exports rose 7.0 per cent to \$594 million from \$555 million, resulting in an export balance of \$248,400,000, up from last year's six-month balance of \$238,300,000.

COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES

Imports from other Commonwealth and preferential-rate countries were down 16.9 per cent to \$34,400,000 from \$41,500,000, while exports rose 123.8 per cent to \$75,600,000 from \$33,800,000, placing the export balance for June at \$41,200,000, against an import balance of \$7,700,000 in 1966. From January to June, imports at \$186,900,000 were 9.9 percent higher than last year's \$170,200,000 and exports were up 55.2 per cent to \$357,400,000 from \$230,400,000 last year. The resulting export balance of \$170,500,000 this year was almost three times higher than last year's balance of \$60,200,000.

Purchases from other countries were down 0.7 per cent to \$149,300,000 from \$150,300,000 in June, while exports were up 9.5 per cent to \$221,200,000 from \$202,000,000. From January to June, imports climbed 13.7 per cent to \$876,800,000 from \$771,200,000, and exports were up 6.6 per cent to \$1,150,000,000 this year from \$1,078,900,000. This placed the export balance at \$273,200,000, down from last year's balance of \$307,700,000.