

**CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES RISE:** New investment in durable physical assets and repair and maintenance in the chemicals and allied products group of industries totalled \$340,200,000 in the six postwar years 1946-51, over two and a half times the \$135,300,000 invested in the previous decade, according to the general review of the group published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

New investment reached an all-time peak of \$86,500,000 in 1951, 40% above the previous high of \$62,000,000 in 1948, more than two and a half times the 1946 investment of \$32,800,000 and over 12 times the 1939 investment of \$7,100,000. In the latest year new investment in construction and machinery and equipment totalled \$57,700,000 as compared with \$26,300,000 in 1950, and investment in repair and maintenance amounted to \$28,800,000 as against \$23,400,000.

The group's production increased about 20% in value in 1951 to an all-time high of \$776,489,391 from \$646,870,510 in 1950, and was double the 1946 value and about five times the pre-war high of \$159,000,000 in 1939.

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**1953 PETROLEUM RECORD:** Production of crude petroleum in Canada in the year 1953 reached an all-time high total of 80,902,000 barrels, topping 1952's output of 61,237,000 barrels by 32%. There were increases in all producing areas with Alberta's output moving up to 76,818,000 barrels from 58,916,000.

Saskatchewan's output rose to 2,807,000 barrels from 1,697,000, Manitoba's to 649,000 barrels from 105,000, Ontario's to 296,000 barrels from 192,000 and Northwest Territories' to 317,400 barrels from 314,200.

Redwater and Leduc-Woodbend fields in Alberta were the top producers in 1953, the former accounting for 23,282,000 barrels (23,976,000 in 1952), and the latter for 21,363,000 barrels (17,839,000).

The year's output of natural gas climbed to 101,086,216,000 cubic feet from 88,686,465,000 in 1952, and 79,460,667,000 in 1951.

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**\$137,417,000,000 CHEQUES CASHED:** Value of cheques cashed in Canadian clearing centres reached new record levels during 1953, according to the Bureau's annual review. The aggregate value of payments in 35 clearing centres rose to \$137,417,000,000, an increase of 10% over the preceding year's \$125,197,000,000. Debits in each of the five economic areas set new records, with advances ranging from 12% in Ontario to 6% in British Columbia.

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**HOUSING:** Starts on the construction of new residential units declined 16.5% in January as compared with a year earlier, but completions rose more than 36%.

**PIPED OIL INCREASE:** Daily net average movement of oil through Canadian pipe lines climbed to 430,614 barrels last November, over 13,000 more than in October and almost 29% above the 1952 November daily average of 334,642 barrels, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports.

Net receipts of oil for shipment by pipe line amounted to 13,296,952 barrels during the month, 477,533 more than in October and over 3,000,000 more than a year earlier. Included were 6,895,983 barrels of Alberta crude oil, 45,964 of Alberta natural gasoline, 2,812 of Saskatchewan crude, 103,650 of Manitoba crude, 4,265,379 of imported crude and 1,983,164 barrels of refinery products. Total receipts in the first 11 months of last year amounted to 136,886,394 barrels, 39,374,330 or 40% more than in the same period of 1952.

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**NEW CITIZENS:** The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Mr. Harris, has announced that Citizenship Day in 1954 will be observed on Friday, May 21.

As usual a number of essay contests are being arranged for school children on the citizenship theme.

"I am particularly interested in the indications we now have of a greater awareness of the value of Canadian citizenship among the new Canadians", Mr. Harris said. "Only a small percentage of the almost one million postwar immigrants have lived in Canada for the five years needed to establish Canadian domicile and thus become eligible for citizenship. Numbers of newcomers filing Declarations of Intention to become Canadian citizens, however, have shown a gratifying increase."

The Minister pointed out that Declarations of Intention filed during 1953 totalled almost 25,000, as against a comparable figure of slightly more than 13,000 during 1952, an increase of almost 100 per cent.

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**R.C.R. COLONEL-IN-CHIEF:** His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, has graciously consented to become Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Canadian Regiment.

Canada's oldest Active Force infantry regiment is now composed of three battalions, the 1st at London, Ont., the 2nd with 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade in Germany and the 3rd with 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade in Korea.

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Canadian travellers spent a record \$365,000,000 - the equivalent of a million a day - in other countries last year, 21% more than the all-time peak of \$302,000,000 spent by foreign visitors in Canada.

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Shipyards did \$47,578,974 worth of repair work on vessels in 1952, some \$12,135,677 or 34% more than in 1951.