

INCREASE IN POSTAGE STAMP ISSUE SHOWS PROGRESS IN TRADE

*Indications of Dominion's
General Growth in Post-
master General's Report
just issued.*

GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES

The report of the Deputy Postmaster General for the year ended March 31, 1918, shows that on that date there were 12,622 post offices in operation in Canada, of which 216 have been opened during the year. The number of offices closed was 366, the reason for closing in nearly every case having been that the post office was rendered unnecessary owing to the establishment of rural and delivery routes. During the year 88 additional rural mail delivery routes have been established and the number of boxes increased by 8,065.

SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS.

The number of post offices transacting money order and savings banks have increased during the year. The amount of money withdrawn from post office savings bank accounts, and the number of accounts closed, were greater than in the previous year while a smaller number of new accounts were opened. The report states that this is believed to have been due to the fact that the money was used for the purchase of Victory Bonds. The number of accounts remaining open on March 31, 1918, 125,735; and the balance at the credit of depositors, was \$41,283,478.84.

POSTAL NOTE BUSINESS.

During the year 6,207,793 postal notes amounting in value to \$12,535,579.19, were paid, increases over the previous year of 28,286 in number \$591,719.75 in value. The revenue derived from the sale of postal notes was \$196,594.38. The total number of money orders issued during the year was 9,919,665, as against 8,698,502 for the previous year. The aggregate value was \$142,959,167.54, as compared with \$119,695,535.27 for the previous year. Of these money orders 1,908,142, with a value of \$26,194,676.43, were payable abroad. The number of orders issued abroad and payable in Canada was 668,990, with an aggregate value of \$9,385,627.24.

POSTAGE STAMP ISSUE.

The postage stamp issue during the last fiscal year shows an increase of \$996,568.44 over the previous fiscal year "thus exemplifying the steady progress of the Dominion in trade and population, of which the issue of postage stamps is a fair indication", says the report. The figures are as follows:

Fiscal year 1916-17 . . . \$23,174,601 59
Fiscal year 1917-18 . . . 24,171,170 03

GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES.

During the last fiscal year, 65 Immediate Annuities and 122 Deferred Annuities, a total of 187, were purchased, aggregating in amount of annuities contracted for \$55,260.56. The amount of purchase money received during the same period was \$335,359.21. The number of annuities in force at the end of the year was as follows: Immediate, 853; deferred, 3,453, a total of 4,306, aggregating in amount of annuities contracted for \$967,007.53. The amount received on account of the purchase of annuities from September 1, 1908 to March 31, 1918, exclusive of amounts returned to purchasers was \$3,649,472.21.

Dominion Forest Reserves.

The Dominion forest reserves include an area of 23,024,640 acres, and the permanent staff employed thereon is: District inspectors, 4; supervisors, 13; forest assistants, 5; forest rangers, 98; total 120, according to the annual report of the Department of the Interior for the last fiscal year.

Put 25 cent pieces into Thrift Stamps.

CIRCULAR EXPLAINS INCOME TAX FORMS

Commissioner of Taxation
Names those who are
now Liable.

In order to inform the public as to the income tax regulations, the Commissioner of Taxation, Department of Finance, has issued a circular in which are specified those who should file returns and what forms should be used. The instructions to taxpayers are as follows: Those who should file returns, and on what forms:

On Form T. 1.—Every individual other than a farmer or rancher who during the calendar year 1918 received or earned \$1,000 or more and who during 1918 was unmarried or a widow or widower without dependent children under twenty-one years of age.

All other individuals other than farmers or ranchers who during the calendar year 1918 received or earned \$2,000 or more.

On Form T. 1A.—All those engaged in farming or ranching will use Form T. 1A instead of Form T. 1.

As partnerships of all kinds as such are not required to file returns the members of the firms must file returns in their individual capacity in the class to which they belong, attaching to the return full financial statement of the partnership.

On Form T. 2.—All corporations and joint stock companies in Canada and all foreign corporations carrying on business in Canada.

On Form T. 3.—All Trustees, Executors, Administrators, Agents, Receivers or Persons acting in a Fiduciary Capacity.

On Form T. 4.—All employers who have had in their employ during the calendar year 1918 any person (including Directors, Officials and Agents, etc.), who earned at the rate of \$1,000 or more per annum.

On Form T. 5.—All corporations and joint stock companies.

NOT APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN DEPENDENTS

Government Will Not Assist
those who left Canada
after November 11.

The Government will not financially assist the return of those soldiers' dependents who proceeded overseas after November 11, 1918, the date of the signing of the armistice as the following Order in Council explains:—

Whereas the Minister of Immigration and Colonization reports that the arrangement provided by the Order in Council of the 29th January, 1919, (P.C. 179), respecting the repatriation at Government expense of soldiers' dependents, is retroactive to include those sailing for Canada on or after the 11th November, 1918;

That it is apparent that a considerable number of soldiers' dependents presently residing in Canada, are now taking passage for the United Kingdom to join soldier relatives and later return with them at Government expense. This movement will not only further congest west bound ocean travel, but will also necessitate the expenditure of a considerable sum for the repatriation of these dependents;

Therefore, His Excellency the Governor General in Council, is pleased to order and it is hereby ordered that the said Order in Council of the 29th January, 1919, (P.C. 179), shall be and the same is hereby amended by adding the following clause:—

(8) No expenditure shall be incurred in the repatriation of any soldiers' dependents who left Canada for the United Kingdom, France or Belgium, on or after the 11th November, 1918.

RODOLPHE BOUDREAU,

Clerk of the Privy Council.

War Savings Stamps are convenient to carry and they pay well.

ASTRONOMICAL WORK FOR YEAR REVIEWED

Annual Report of Dept.
of Interior just issued
contains summary.

The following, taken from the newly issued annual report of the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1918, is a summary of the work done at the Dominion Astronomical Observatory during the year:—

During the fiscal year 1917-18 the 15-inch equatorial has been employed as formerly in the determination of the radial velocities of spectroscopic binary stars, with the view of securing the elements of their orbits; 350 plates have been secured on 136 nights, the exposures averaging much longer than in previous years, owing to the poor observing weather and fainter stars. Four orbits were completed during the year, and a number of others are under computation.

With the coelestat telescope and grating spectrograph 243 plates were obtained. These include 1,200 photographs, each comprising from seven to nine simultaneous registrations of spectra from various parts of the sun's disc, with iodine absorption and electric arc spectra in some cases. The observations cover several important problems in solar and terrestrial spectroscopy. A supposed "cyclic variation" in the rate of the solar rotation has been explained quite definitely as due to changes in haze, as suggested in the last report. Measurements of the equatorial velocity of the sun's rotation from the limb spectra yield values several per cent smaller than simultaneous measurements of spectra from points midway between limbs and centre of the solar disc. Variations in spectroscopic measurements of the solar rotation have been found to synchronize with variations in solar radiation, both being affected by terrestrial, interplanetary or solar haze. The dust from the volcanoes in the West Indies in 1902 and from Katmai, Alaska, in 1912, produced marked lessening in both measurements at various points on the earth; and there is reason to suppose that Canadian crops were lessened at the same time.

With the 6-inch camera 146 plates were obtained with over 400 exposures, and light variations of spectroscopic binaries studied. Several fields of stars of well-established magnitudes have been selected and photographed to provide a means for comparing our photometric scale with those of other observatories.

The seismographs at the observatory, together with a deformation instrument for detecting earth tides, have been in constant operation, and during the year, 104 earthquakes have been recorded. A wave-counter or undagraph has been maintained at Chebucto Head, Nova Scotia. Two other seismographs, one at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, and the other at Dalhousie University, Halifax, report regularly to the observatory. The Halifax seismograph was of considerable assistance in the recent explosion investigation, giving authoritative evidence of the exact time the explosion occurred.

Observations with the meridian circle were obtained on 105 nights; they were devoted in part to determinations of clock error for longitude work and the purposes of the time service, and in part to a continuation of observations for right ascension and declination on a selected list of stars, to be incorporated in a star catalogue. The list has been selected with a view to use in observations for latitude and longitude, as well as being a contribution in the general field of position astronomy. Three observers took part in the work. The printing chronograph was used throughout the year for the registration of transits.

Field observations for latitude and longitude were carried out at one station on the boundary between British Columbia and Alberta. Ottawa was the base for the longitude determina-

AEROPLANE LUMBER AND PARTS WANTED BY JAPANESE

*Should be great chance for
British Columbia Spruce
reports Canadian Trade
Commissioners at Yoko-
hama.*

PARTS NEEDED ALSO

During the last two years Japan has been giving special attention to aviation. While the war was on, the authorities had to be content with studying the art at home with the few aeroplanes that they were able to obtain prior to the year 1915. At the same time they sent officers to the various European fronts to learn as much as possible from observation.

Arrangements were made with France that as soon as the war was over, a party of experienced flyers should be sent to Japan to teach the Japanese. In January last a party of some fifty or sixty French flying officers arrived in Tokyo, and these men are now instructing at the various Japanese aerodromes. As there are only a few up-to-date machines in this country, the party from France brought their own aeroplanes with them. The coming of the French mission, as well as the various foreign experts who have given exhibition flights here in the past, has aroused the keenest interest in aviation. Just at present the Aero Club of Japan have Miss Ruth Law out here giving exhibition flights.

During the war the authorities were not able to get aeroplanes from manufacturers in America and Europe, who were all busy on war contracts. Since the armistice, however, they have imported a few up-to-date machines both from England and America.

It has now been decided to build aeroplanes in Japan. The authorities intend to build 600 planes during this year. The engines are to be imported from abroad, but the engines will be built here entirely. This will mean a new market for Canadian aeroplane spruce and also for the many materials and parts necessary for aeroplane construction, such as wire, screws, bolts, nails, forgings, stampings, turn-buckles, varnish, aluminium, rubber and "dope," etc. From the standpoint of geographical position, as well as from experience, British Columbia is the point from which all spruce for aeroplane construction should emanate.

The spruce lumber would no doubt have to be all "clear," and that which would not pass the test for aeroplane lumber would have to be culled before shipment.

As regards the many accessories, which require to be of such fine quality and so exact in detail, there are many firms in Canada who have been making parts for Canadian aeroplanes, and who should be in a good position to handle inquiries of this nature.

As the authorities intend to begin their aviation campaign at once, Canadian exporters should lose no time in answering these inquiries. The Canadian Trade Commissioner, Yokohama, will be pleased to receive samples of any aeroplane parts, and will show them to those interested.—*Report from Trade Commissioner A. E. Bryan, Yokohama.*

tion, the exchange of time-signals being along 3,000 miles of continuous wire.

The time service has been maintained as in previous years. There are now nine secondary master-clocks synchronized continuously from the Observatory; these in turn control 377 clocks and dials of various kinds in Government offices. In addition, relays beating seconds are maintained in two offices in the city; time-signals are sent out by telegraph and telephone, and the time is recorded on the various seismographs at the Observatory.

Save during 1919.