

BUSINESS

Operating revenues of Canadian railways climbed to a new record for July, standing at \$85,115,749, an increase of \$12,894,007 or 18 per cent over July last year. Operating expenses, while heavier, rose by only five per cent or \$3,071,909 to \$71,727,505, a record exceeded only by July, 1948, which included over \$10,000,000 in back pay. Net operating revenue was \$13,388,244 for July, an advance of \$9,822,098.

The gross factory value of products manufactured by Canada's motor vehicle industry reached an all-time peak value of \$485,757,000 in 1949 as compared with \$398,057,000 in the preceding year, an increase of nearly 22 per cent. The number of cars, trucks and buses made during the year was 292,584 -- also a record high -- as compared with 263,760 in 1948.

The Canadian aircraft industry turned out aircraft and parts to the value of \$61,099,075 in 1949, up 34 per cent from the 1948 total of \$45,600,172. Assembly plants accounted for \$55,277,272 of the 1949 aggregate as compared with \$40,777,948 a year earlier, while the value of products of parts plants only was \$5,821,803 compared with \$4,822,224.

Dollar volume of wholesale sales in Canada in August -- excluding Newfoundland -- was 18 per cent higher than in July, and 17 per cent above August, 1949. Cumulative sales for the first eight months of the year were four per cent above the comparable period of 1949. The general unadjusted index of wholesale sales for the nine lines of trade covered by this monthly survey, on the base, average for 1935-39=100, stood at 369.5 for August as compared with 314.1 for July and 317.2 for August last year.

Production of coal in September amounted to 1,495,000 tons, showing a decline of 14 per cent from the September, 1949 output of 1,747,084 tons, according to preliminary figures. Cumulative total for the first nine months of this year was 13,282,068 tons, slightly below the 13,283,585 tons produced in the similar period of 1949.

CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANT: The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe, on October 18, announced the appointment of Richard G. Johnson, Ottawa, as construction consultant for the Canadian Commercial Corporation. Mr. Johnson's services have been made available on loan by the Canadian Construction Association, of which he is General Manager.

NATIONAL NOTES

The appointment of a new air attaché to Czechoslovakia has been announced by R.C.A.F. headquarters. Group Captain M.G. Doyle, 37, of Jacquet River, N.B., will replace G/C Robert A. Cameron, of Oak Lake, Man., in Prague. G/C Cameron, 40, has returned to Canada and will take command of R.C.A.F. station Rockcliffe, Ontario.

The Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, has announced new opportunities for potential Navy, Army and Air Force officers. The move is made to fill officer vacancies caused by a forty per cent expansion in the three services. Men in the ranks are to be screened for possible officer material and officer training in the Universities is to be expanded. Men picked from the ranks will get University training or technical training in trades. University officer training is to be widened to include non-veterans and students in engineering and science who wish to work with Canada's Defence Research Board.

Brig. John M. Rockingham, CBE, DSO and bar, commander of the Canadian Army Special Force, has been awarded the Efficiency Decoration for long service, Army Headquarters has announced.

Robert G. Newton, U.K. drama expert, has been selected to adjudicate the 1951 Regional Festivals by the Dominion Drama Festival.

An R.C.A.F. North Star was loaded with combat troops and given an official send-off by U.S. Military and Governmental figures on October 24 at McChord Field, near Tacoma, Washington, in observance of the fifth annual United Nations Week. Among those who took part in the ceremony were the Governor of the State of Washington, the Mayor of Tacoma, and high ranking officers of the USAF and the Military Air Transport System which is directing the huge U.N. airlift.

CBC TRANSMISSIONS TO RUSSIA: The International Service of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation will shortly start regular daily transmissions to Soviet Russia. This will add Russian to the 12 languages in which the Service is now broadcasting. These transmissions will add a Canadian contribution to the broadcasting into the USSR being carried on by the BBC and the Voice of America.

Some adjustments in the programme schedules of the International Service will be necessary, but it is felt that this new additional means of bringing information from the outside world to the people of Russia fully justifies the changes.