

ment of Labour and National Employment Service, Ottawa, with the co-operation of the Maine Unemployment Compensation Commission, the United States Immigration and Naturalization Department, the Quebec Department of Agriculture which functions through the Local Parish Committees of the Province of Quebec.

**MONUMENT TO CROWFOOT:** A cut-stone monument in commemoration of Crowfoot, the famous Blackfoot Indian Chief who is often referred to by historians as "a statesman in paint and blanket", will be unveiled September 26 on the Blackfoot Reserve near Gleichen, Alberta. The tablet has been provided by the National Parks Service of the Department of Mines and Resources on the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board.

**JULY TRADE INCREASE:** Canada's total foreign trade showed a moderate increase in July, standing at \$478,600,000 as compared with \$466,500,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Domestic merchandise exports were higher, while imports and re-exports of foreign produce both were lower in value. Aggregate value of trade for the first seven months of this year was \$3,167,600,000 as compared with \$3,068,300,000 in the similar period of 1947, an increase of 3.2 per cent.

Exports of domestic merchandise in July were valued at \$250,900,000 as compared with \$233,500,000 in the preceding month and \$236,600,000 in the corresponding month last year. The month's figures show a further gain in exports to the United States, a continuation of the decline in the value of shipments to the United Kingdom, and augmented exports to Latin American countries. Cumulative value of merchandise exports in the seven months ended July was \$1,651,000,000 as compared with \$1,565,000,000 in the like period of 1947.

#### IMPORTS DECLINE

Imports entered for consumption were valued at \$225,100,000 in July compared with \$233,000,000 in June and \$226,800,000 in the same month last year. There was a further decline from the high levels of a year ago in the value of imports from the United States, while purchases from the United Kingdom again were higher in value. During the first seven months of this year the aggregate value of imports was \$1,495,200,000 as against \$1,483,500,000 in the same period of 1947.

The value of re-exported commodities in July was \$2,606,000 compared with \$3,062,000 in the same month last year, and in the seven months, \$21,351,000 compared with \$19,838,000.

The favourable over-all balance of trade in July was \$28,400,000 as compared with \$3,000,000 in June and \$12,800,000 in July last year, bringing the seven-month favourable balance

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to \$177,200,000 as compared with \$101,300,000 a year ago.

Adverse balance of trade with the United States in July was reduced to \$28,600,000, comparing with \$43,500,000 in June and \$84,900,000 in July last year. In the seven-month period the debit balance fell from \$572,900,000 a year ago to \$256,800,000 this year.

In trade with the United Kingdom the favourable balance was \$27,100,000 as compared with \$28,300,000 in June and \$52,000,000 a year ago, and in the seven months, \$248,000,000 compared with \$321,000,000.

**MERCHANDISE IMPORTS DOWN:** Canada's merchandise imports were slightly lower in July, being valued at \$225,100,000 as compared with \$226,800,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. During the first seven months of this year the total was \$1,495,200,000, moderately above last year's corresponding total of \$1,483,500,000.

Merchandise imports from the United States continued the decline of preceding months from the levels of a year ago, falling to \$149,499,000 from last year's corresponding figure of \$168,874,000. The further decrease reduced the total for the seven months ended July to \$1,033,966,000 from \$1,149,813,000 in the like period of 1947.

Purchases from the United Kingdom again were higher in July, rising to \$29,377,000 from the July 1947 total of \$17,711,000, and in the seven months to \$168,508,000 from \$102,346,000. Imports from Latin American countries in the month increased to \$21,318,000 from \$13,196,000, and in the seven months to \$128,388,000 from \$83,302,000.

**EXCELLENT HARVESTING CONDITIONS:** Apart from northern areas in Alberta excellent harvesting weather has generally prevailed throughout the Prairie Provinces for the past month. Rapid progress in harvesting cereals has been made in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and southern Alberta where operations are nearing completion. A large proportion of the flax crop still remains to be cut and threshed. Recent rains have held up work in northern Alberta but conditions have now improved and given good weather all crops should be under cover within three weeks. Quality of cereals is generally high throughout Manitoba and Saskatchewan. In Alberta quality is variable, particularly in northern sections where frost and wet weather have affected the sample.

Harvesting of cereal grains is practically completed in Manitoba except in west-central and northern areas where only 20 per cent remains to be done. Yields and quality of all grains are uniformly high and ideal weather has aided in rapid progress in harvesting of crops. A considerable proportion of the flax crop remains to be harvested in northern areas whereas in the Red River Valley two-thirds of

the crop is garnered and elsewhere up to 50 per cent has been harvested. The outlook is still favourable for late crops -- corn, sunflowers and sugar beets.

Dry weather has resulted in rapid progress in harvesting of grain crops throughout Saskatchewan this past month. Wheat is nearly 90 per cent harvested and coarse grains over 70 per cent completed. About 45 per cent of the flax crop is cut and about 30 per cent threshed. The quality of grain crops is high in most districts. Fall seeding is being delayed because of extremely dry conditions.

#### HARVESTING OPERATIONS

Harvesting operations have been further delayed in northern Alberta by recent rains but the situation has now improved and harvesting will be general again this week. Rapid progress is being made in other areas and practically all cutting should be completed by the end of September. To date, about 35 per cent of the province's wheat crop has been threshed or combined and if good weather prevails all grain should be under cover within the next three weeks. Quite serious frosts have occurred in the Peace River area and slight to considerable scattered damage has occurred elsewhere. Grades are variable with wheat running from No. 1 Northern to Feed and oats and barley from No. 2 C.W. to No. 3 Feed. Hay yields have been satisfactory and grazing is generally good.

The prolonged dry spell which contributed materially to the successful harvesting of a bumper crop of fall and spring grains has had serious effects on the development of most late crops in Ontario. Late fruit crops are undersized and root crops have been adversely affected by lack of moisture. Fortunately, some late crops such as dry beans, soy beans and corn for husking were too far advanced to be greatly affected and indications are that yields of these crops will be satisfactory. Corn for ensilage is being cut earlier than usual in many localities to save it from being dried up. Pastures throughout most of southern Ontario have suffered serious deterioration and many dairy farmers have resorted to stable feeding their cattle in an effort to maintain milk production. Continued lack of rain has delayed the seeding of fall wheat and indications are that the intended acreage will be greatly reduced. Little fall ploughing has been done to date and soaking rains are needed in most areas to enable farmers to proceed with this work.

Rainfall in Quebec during the past two weeks has been insufficient to improve pastures which are dry and short. Consequently, there has been some drop in dairy production. Harvesting is progressing and yields per acre are higher than in 1947 and compare favourably with the long-time average.

In British Columbia harvesting is underway throughout the province. Wet weather, however, has delayed operations and some spoilage of

cereals is reported. The apple crop is maturing rapidly but the size of the fruit is smaller than usual. Harvesting of hops is nearly completed.

Harvesting of grains is still in progress in the Maritime Provinces with one-third to one-quarter of the crop still to be cut. Potato blight is severe in Prince Edward Island but in New Brunswick the damage is not serious. Pastures and aftermath throughout the area are particularly good. Reduced crops of apples are expected in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and in Nova Scotia apple scab and codling moth have reduced the quality of the fruit.

**PORT AUTHORITIES TO CONVENE:** Robert Knowlton Smith, LL.B., K.C., of Ottawa, Chairman of the National Harbours Board, and this year's President of the American Association of Port Authorities, will preside over the thirty-seventh annual convention of that body which opens in Montreal on September 28th next. This year's convention meetings will be held on the s.s. "Quebec" of the Canada Steamship Lines and visits will be made to the National Harbours of Montreal, Three Rivers and Quebec on the St. Lawrence River and Chicoutimi on the Saguenay.

Over two hundred delegates will attend the convention, representing the main port authorities of the United States, Central and South America, as well as Canada. In addition to officials from the different National Harbours of Chicoutimi, Quebec, Three Rivers and Montreal, the Harbour Commissions of Toronto and Hamilton will be represented. The delegates in the main are Harbour Commissioners, port managers, superintendents and other water-front operators and representatives of governmental policy-making bodies.

A number of special functions are planned for the Convention. On September 28 the formal opening ceremonies will be held, an inspection tour of the Harbour of Montreal will be made, a reception will be given at the City Hall by Mayor Camilien Houde and members of the City Council and a dinner will be held aboard ship with the Right Honourable C.D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce and Acting Minister of Transport, as guest speaker.

**GOLD PRODUCTION:** Gold production during June reached the highest point since August 1943, amounting to 288,944 fine ounces as compared with 287,055 fine ounces in May and 268,900 fine ounces in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. During the first six months of this year, 1,684,741 fine ounces were produced as against 1,513,920 in the similar period last year. The output for August 1943 was 293,358 fine ounces.