

sharp decreases in sales to India, Pakistan and the Union of South Africa. Shipments increased substantially to Australia and New Zealand, and were slightly higher to the West Indies group.

Continuing the downward trend of 1953 from the 1952 peak, domestic exports to Latin America declined to \$186,661,000 from \$198,255,000. Shipments were off sharply in value to Peru and Venezuela and up substantially to Brazil, while other gains and losses were of moderate size.

Domestic exports to Europe showed a similar decline to \$350,082,000 from \$383,492,000 in 1953, largest decreases being in shipments to Belgium and Luxembourg, Denmark, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland. Partly offsetting these were increases, among the leading markets, to France, the Federal Republic of Germany, and Norway.

Sales to the remaining foreign countries totalled \$166,199,000 as compared to \$204,461,000 the previous year. The largest decrease was to Japan, down to \$96,474,000 from \$118,568,000, but still Canada's third largest market. Other larger decreases were to Egypt and Korea, while increases were recorded for the Philippines and Israel.

GAINS IN 1954

Four of the nine main commodity groups showed gains in value in 1954 over 1953. The wood and paper group increased to \$1,377,841,000 from \$1,295,396,000. Newsprint paper was up to \$635,670,000 from \$619,033,000, planks and boards climbed to \$324,724,000 from \$282,103,000, and wood pulp to \$270,905,000 from \$248,675,000.

The non-ferrous metals group rose to \$709,017,000 from \$682,183,000, aluminum, copper, lead, zinc and their products, and nickel and precious metals (except gold) showing moderate to large gains.

The chemical and allied products group was next in size of gain at \$161,293,000 compared to \$137,885,000 with increases in a varied range of chemical items.

The animals and animal products group also moved up to \$269,861,000 from \$250,919,000.

The agricultural and vegetable products group had the largest decrease among the commodity groups, dropping to \$803,481,000 from \$1,096,763,000. Exports of wheat were down to \$375,339,000 from \$567,907,000 in 1953, other grains to \$136,599,000 from \$224,687,000, and wheat flour to \$88,029,000 from \$102,160,000 for an aggregate decrease exceeding the group decline.

The iron and products group fell to \$290,068,000 from \$358,438,000, the main decreases being in motor vehicles, ferro-alloys, pigs, ingots, blooms and billets, and rolling-mill products, while increases were registered for iron ore, engines, and boilers, and farm machinery.

**INTERNATIONAL RIVERS BILL:** On February 4 the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. C.D. Howe, introduced in the House of Commons a bill respecting the construction, operation and maintenance of international river improvements. He explained the measure, in part, as follows:

"The purpose of this bill is to enable the Canadian Government to ensure that the construction, operation and maintenance of international river improvements are carried out in an orderly manner and in the national interest.

"By international river improvements I mean any works which alter the natural flow of waters going from Canada to the United States, and which also affect the actual or potential use of such water outside Canada.

COLUMBIA RIVER

"The provisions of this bill therefore relate to such international rivers as the Columbia and the Milk River, which cross the international boundary. They are not intended to apply to such boundary waters as the Great Lakes or the St. Lawrence River, or to rivers crossing provincial boundaries as, for example, the Ottawa or the Saskatchewan...

"It is the prime purpose of this international rivers bill to ensure that the long term national interest is safeguarded and is not prejudiced by development planned to serve immediate local purposes that may be inconsistent with the longer view. This legislation when enacted will enable the Government to control, by licensing, the construction, operation and maintenance of works in Canada that affect international rivers.

"The purpose will be to ensure the most advantageous development of a water system, taking into account alternative development opportunities that may exist now, or that may open up in the future. Control will also be exercised over projects within Canada which have as a prime objective the creation of energy or other benefits outside of Canada..."

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**LISBON, OTTAWA EMBASSIES:** The Department of External Affairs announced on February 9 that the Portuguese Government and the Government of Canada, considering the importance of their reciprocal interests and the close relations existing between the two countries, have decided to raise to the status of Embassies their Legations in Lisbon and in Ottawa.

The appointment of Ambassadors will be announced at a later date.

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Canada's Pacific coast line is 7,180 miles long.

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Montreal is the world's largest inland port.