

AVERAGE INTEREST RATE ON UNMATURED DEBT



The following table shows the high and low yields together with the yield on the last issue of three-month bills for the fiscal years ended March 31, 1955 to 1959 inclusive.

TABLE 49
TREASURY BILL YIELDS

Fiscal year ended March 31	Three-month bills		
	High per cent	Low per cent	Last issue per cent
1955.....	1.62	0.78	1.13
1956.....	2.64	1.08	2.64
1957.....	3.81	2.40	3.70
1958.....	4.08	2.27	2.27
1959.....	4.30	0.87	4.30

Indirect debt or contingent liabilities

In addition to the direct debt set out in the statement of assets and liabilities the government has assumed certain indirect or contingent obligations. These consist of securities of the Canadian National Railways, guaranteed as to principal and interest, or as to interest only, and a number of miscellaneous guarantees, the chief of which are the guarantee of insured loans made by chartered banks and other approved lending institutions under the National Housing Act, 1954, deposits maintained by the chartered banks in the Bank of Canada, bank advances to the Canadian Wheat Board, advances under the Export Credits Insurance Act and bank loans under the Farm Improvement Loans Act.

The government's liability under its guarantee of insured loans under the National Housing Act, 1954 was \$2,059 million at December 31, 1958, compared with \$1,398 million at December 31, 1957.