

PROVINCIAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE: Both the total net general revenue and the total net general expenditure of Canada's ten provincial governments increased substantially in the fiscal years ended March 31, 1952, over the previous year, with net general revenue showing a somewhat greater percentage advance than net general expenditure, according to a preliminary analysis of revenue and expenditures of these governments compiled and released by the Bureau of Statistics.

The analysis is based, so far as possible, on actual results for ten months and a forecast for the remaining two months and is intended to be only a preliminary forecast of what the final tabulations will reveal when the provincial public accounts are all available.

Net general revenue of the ten provinces totalled \$1,047,983,000 in the year ended March 31, 1952, an increase of 13.5 per cent over the preliminary total of \$923,571,000 for the previous twelve months; and net general expenditure aggregated \$1,082,747,000, up 12.5 per cent from the preliminary total of \$962,406,000 for the previous year.

The yield of all taxes in the 1952 year totalled \$554,864,000, a rise of \$88,700,000 or about 19 per cent from \$466,164,000, accounting for the major part of the gain in total revenue. Among the major items in tax revenue, the yield from taxes on sales of motor fuel and fuel oil rose to \$180,863,000 from \$154,116,000, from corporation income taxes to \$159,771,000 compared to \$122,889,000, and from general sales taxes to \$90,226,000 from \$72,415,000. Profits from liquor sales continued to rise, amounting to \$111,863,000 as against \$107,556,000. Revenue from privileges, licences and permits also increased to \$219,485,000 from \$199,937,000.

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PIPED OIL RECORD: Deliveries of oil through Canada's network of pipe lines jumped to a record 10,060,973 barrels in July, an increase of 10.2 per cent over the revised June movement of 9,133,760 barrels, and 18.4 per cent over last year's July total of 8,498,635 barrels. This brought the cumulative total for the first seven months of 1952 to 56,291,979 barrels, for an increase of 18.6 per cent over last year's corresponding total of 47,446,761 barrels:

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CANADA-U. S. TRAVEL: Travel between Canada and the United States by rail, bus, boat and plane was higher in August than in the same month last year, the total number of passengers by all four means of travel rising to 457,264 from 429,556 in August, 1951. Entries of visitors from the United States increased to 276,494 from 264,408, while returning Canadians rose in number to 180,770 from 165,148.

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE: At the end of the first nine months' operation, 81,016 persons were receiving financial aid under the federal-provincial old age assistance programme for persons between 65 and 69 years of age, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Paul Martin, disclosed at Ottawa on November 20. This is about 16 per cent of the number of persons in Canada in this age group.

The programme, begun last January, provides for a payment of up to \$40 per month to persons with a limited income. The cost is shared equally by the federal and provincial governments, with the federal share to the end of September totalling \$11,701,580.

Federal welfare officials noted that the number of persons receiving assistance is considerably lower than the estimated figure of 140,000 anticipated when the programme was discussed in the parliamentary committee on old age security two years ago. Initial costs to the federal government will also be well below the estimated \$32,000,000 a year.

At the end of September the number receiving old age assistance by provinces was: Newfoundland, 4,754; Prince Edward Island, 494; Nova Scotia, 4,230; New Brunswick, 4,996; Quebec, 28,148; Ontario, 19,424; Manitoba, 3,656; Saskatchewan, 4,065; Alberta, 4,210; and British Columbia, 7,039.

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WHEAT SUPPLIES: Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America during the week ended November 6 amounted to 246,044,000 bushels as compared with 227,005,000 on the corresponding date last year. Farmers' marketings of wheat totalled 11,675,000 bushels against 9,465,000 a year ago, bringing the aggregate for the crop year to date to 167,450,000 bushels compared with 162,230,000 in the similar period of 1951-52. Overseas export clearances during the week amounted to 6,628,000 bushels compared with 4,151,000, and in the cumulative period, 75,937,000 bushels against 62,663,000.

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ELECTRIC OUTPUT HIGHER: Output of electric energy by central electric stations climbed 13 per cent in September to 4,993,148,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 4,405,976,000 in the same month last year. This raised the cumulative total for the first nine months of 1952 to 45,610,401,000 kilowatt hours against 42,488,230,000 a year earlier, or by seven per cent.

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HOUSING STARTS INCREASE: Housing starts in Canada showed an upward trend during May, June and July of this year, numbering 29,700 dwellings, or eight per cent above the number of starts in the corresponding period of 1951.