

**STABLE LEVEL OF ECONOMY:** The Government adheres to the policy of doing everything possible to maintain an economic climate in which may flourish a high and stable level of employment and income, the Minister of Labour, Mr. Milton Gregg, said in addressing the Canadian Manufacturers' Association at Jasper on June 7.

An excerpt from his remarks is as follows:

"Present trends in industrial relations have been strongly influenced, there is no doubt, by the expanding economic activity of the past fifteen years. Industry has enjoyed prosperous conditions. This has contributed to the general success of collective bargaining relations in Canada.

"There are those who anticipate that the coming months will produce a different economic background for industrial relations, and who feel also that a change would be not altogether a bad thing. Personally I am not anticipating any marked change. Nor can I see any good reason for welcoming it.

"We, as Canadians, have got past the point where we are prepared to tolerate any prolonged or avoidable unemployment. Undoubtedly, some dislocations will continue to arise from time to time affecting particular industries or areas or groups of workers. During recent months, many firms have certainly found themselves subject to competition somewhat keener than existed in the period of peak activity.

"Such developments, however, whether their cause lies within Canada or beyond our borders, need not cause us to lose sight of the tremendous basic strength and potential of our economy.

"As my colleague, Mr. Howe, declared recently, the Canadian Government still adheres to the policy of doing everything possible to maintain an economic climate in which may flourish a high and stable level of employment and income. . . ."

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**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX:** Canada's general wholesale price index dipped 0.3% in April to 217.9 from 218.6 in March. Although four of the eight major groups declined, the major part of the decrease occurred in the vegetable products group which dropped 1.8% to 196.0 from 199.6

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**CANADA YEAR BOOK:** The Dominion Bureau of Statistics released on June 1 for distribution the 1954 editions of the Canada Year Book, and its smaller companion, the illustrated Canada Handbook.

The Canada Year Book, which is the official statistical annual of the resources, institutions and social and economic conditions in Canada, presents extensive statistical and analytical commentary designed to describe the essential elements in the progress of Canada.

**CAPITAL INFLOW:** Portfolio security transactions during the first three months of 1954 resulted in a net capital inflow of \$171,000,000.

This was the largest net quarterly movement into Canada since the end of fixed exchange rates in the third quarter of 1950, and reflected principally sales abroad of new Canadian issues for \$169,000,000. Provincial direct and guaranteed securities accounted for the largest part of the total, but corporate and municipal bonds were also of importance.

Sales of new issues of Canadian stocks were light. Retirements of foreign-held Canadian securities during the first quarter are estimated to have totalled \$16,000,000.

Trade in outstanding Canadian issues led to a sales balance or capital import of \$16,000,000. Net sales of Canadian stocks amounted to \$21,000,000 and were partly offset by net repurchases of other Canadian securities.

This was a reversal of the direction of movements during the final quarter of 1953. In that quarter there were net repurchases by Canadians of stocks, partly offset by net sales of other outstanding Canadian securities.

Taking into account trading in both Canadian and foreign outstanding issues, in the three months ending March there were capital inflows of \$8,000,000 from the United States and \$12,000,000 from the United Kingdom and other overseas countries. In the preceding quarter there had been outflows of \$6,000,000 to the United States and inflows of \$20,000,000 from other countries.

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**25TH ADOPTS VILLAGE:** A war-devastated village in the Canadian sector of Korea is to be adopted by men of the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade and re-established through voluntary cash contributions of Canadian soldiers serving in the Korean theatre.

It is the first move of its kind among United Nations forces in Korea.

The tiny farming settlement of Chinmokchung, which was obliterated in the fighting of three years ago, will once again appear on the map of free Korea to shelter more than 850 men, women and children who have been widely scattered about the country in refugee camps, homeless and destitute.

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**SALES FINANCING ADVANCE:** Another record in financing of retail instalment sales raised the volume of business handled by sales finance and acceptance companies to a new high of \$942,746,000 in 1953, according to the Bureau's annual report. This was 15% above the previous peak of \$818,633,000 reached in 1952. Balances outstanding at the end of 1953 aggregated \$696,663,000, an increase of 29% over the preceding year's \$539,807,000.