

A resolution was passed requesting the Commission to report to the Committee, at its meeting late in the fall, on the effects of economic policies on the operations of the NES. In this connection, the Committee feared that economies levied upon the NES, if unduly stringent, might hinder the Service from fulfilling properly its function of placing workers in employment. The Committee felt that an inadequately staffed NES might hinder improvement in the national economy.

#### TRAINING PROJECT APPROVED

Approval in principle was voiced by the Committee for the growing trend towards the provision of increased facilities for the academic training of unemployed workers to enable them to qualify for vocational training.

The Committee noted that the number of women in the Canadian labour force, viewed as a percentage of the estimated population 14 years of age and over, had increased rapidly over the previous four years, whereas the proportion of men in the same age group, in relation to population had decreased.

In July 1958, women over 14 years of age in the labour force made up 26.7 per cent of the population, whereas, by July 1962, this rate had climbed to 30 per cent. The percentage of men in the same age group in the labour force, in relation to population, declined from 84.4 per cent in July 1958 to 82.8 per cent in July 1962.

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#### AFRICAN EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Two observers from Canada attended the Conference on the Development of Higher Education in Africa held in Tananarive, Malagasy Republic, from September 3 to 12. This meeting was convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at the invitation of the Republic.

The object of the conference was to study and encourage the development of higher education in Africa. Its findings are expected to play an important role in the programme for the extension of education systems proposed at the conference of African states on the development of education in Africa held in Addis Ababa in May 1961, to which the Canadian Government sent an observer.

The Canadian observers to the Conference were Monsignor Louis-Albert Vachon, Rector, Laval University, Quebec, and Dr. E.F. Sheffield, Research Officer and Acting-Director, International Programmes Division, Canadian Universities Foundation, Ottawa.

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#### EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

Canada's total exports during the first half of 1962 were valued at \$3,012,700,000, a 12.4 per cent increase over the total of \$2,681,200,000 recorded for the first six months of the preceding year. Imports have also increased considerably, rising approximately 13.6 per cent, their value being estimated at \$3,139,100,000 for January-June 1962, compared to \$2,762,900,000 for the first half of 1961. Total Canadian trade for the first six months of 1962 was estimated at \$6,151,800,000, compared to \$5,444,100,000, an

increase of 13.0 per cent over the first half of 1961, and was the largest total recorded for the first six months of any year. The import balance for the first half of 1962 amounted to \$126,300,000, in contrast to \$81,700,000 for January-June 1961.

Total exports during the second quarter of this year, valued at \$1,617,400,000, were higher than in any April-June period of recent years and were 14.1 per cent above those for the second quarter of 1961, when the total was \$1,417,200,000. Imports for April-June 1962 were estimated at \$1,668,800,000, an increase of 12.7 per cent over the 1961 total of \$1,481,400,000 for the same period. The import balance for the second quarter of 1962 was estimated at \$51,400,000, compared to \$63,800,000 for the same three months of the preceding year.

#### UPWARD TREND

Although the absolute value of exports has oscillated from month to month in the current year, an upward trend is noticeable when totals for individual months are compared with those for the similar month of the preceding year. The same changes were evident in imports. Part of the increase in both was the reflection of the difference in the exchange value of the Canadian dollar. May was a particularly heavy month for both exports and imports, each of which were one-third more than in May of last year. Total exports in June 1962 were valued at \$542,033,000, a rise of 6.7 per cent over the June 1961 figure of \$507,950,000. Imports also increased, advancing 7.2 per cent to an estimated \$531,141,000 for this June, over \$495,436,000 in June of the preceding year.

#### TRADE WITH U.S.

For the current year, trade with the United States showed significant gains, total exports for the first six months being 24.4 per cent above those for January-June 1961 and estimated imports increasing 17.7 per cent over those in the first half of the preceding year. Newsprint remained the leading export at about the same level, followed by wood pulp and lumber, each of which rose by approximately a sixth in value over shipments in the same period of 1961. Deliveries of petroleum and nickel advanced sharply, while uranium fell by a fifth. Iron-ore shipments were more than three times as great, while aircraft more than doubled. Aluminium, natural gas, copper, non-farm machinery, electrical apparatus, cattle and zinc all advanced considerably. The United States was the destination for approximately 59.2 per cent of all Canadian exports (53.4 per cent for January-June 1961) and the source of 69.3 per cent of all imports (68.0 per cent). Part of the increase in imports from the United States was owing to some \$66-million worth of military aircraft imported under special arrangements, although details available only for the early part of the year point to substantial increases in machinery, automobiles and parts, rolling-mill products, engines, non-ferrous metals and electrical apparatus.

#### BRITAIN

Trade with Britain during the first six months of 1962 was slightly below that for the same period of last year, total exports dropping 0.3 per cent and imports about 7.6 per cent. Wheat was the leading ex-

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