

The cumulative retail value of \$337,972,704 was about on a par with the \$342,471,519 reported for the January-October period last year.

Passenger car sales in the month totalled 14,520 compared with 15,365 a year ago, while the sales of commercial vehicles amounted to 6,021 as compared with 8,282. In the 10 months, the sales of passenger cars totalled 112,078 as compared with 130,858 in the same period last year, and trucks and buses 62,236 units compared with 61,059.

**ELECTRIC ENERGY:** Electric energy generated by central electric stations increased by almost 51 per cent in the period from 1937 to 1946, while the number of domestic customers served rose by about 40 per cent, according to the annual review of the central electric stations industry by the Bureau of Statistics. Average domestic consumption increased considerably along with the installation of electric appliances.

In the 10-year period, revenues have risen from \$143,546,643 in 1937 to \$226,096,273, or by 57.5 per cent. Revenues from domestic or residential use rose from \$55,735,696 in 1945 to \$62,820,120 in 1946 or by 12.7 per cent, from commercial lighting \$32,911,620 to \$37,204,822 and from street lighting from \$5,029,181 to \$5,261,115. Small power users paid \$11,322,392 in 1946 compared with \$10,947,854 one year earlier while large power customers, such as paper mills and smelters, contributed \$109,487,824 as against \$110,481,122, down 0.9 per cent.

#### REPORTED EXPENSES

Reported expenses, which include only four items -- wages, power purchased, fuel and taxes, increased from \$135,104,091 in 1945 to \$150,750,488. Wages rose from \$39,521,365 to \$46,422,998 with an increase of 3,294 employees, taxes were \$22,169,479 against \$19,125,746 in 1945, cost of purchased power (interchanged between stations) advanced from \$71,358,219 to \$76,572,805 while fuel costs were up nearly \$487,000 at \$5,585,206 for 1946.

Pole line mileage increased considerably during the year at 89,931 miles compared with 83,178 miles in 1945 and with wooden pole mileage advancing from 74,477 miles to 80,759. Customers numbered 2,476,830 in 1946, which was double the number 20 years previous and 143,600 above 1945. Domestic or residential service customers, including farms, represented 2,104,549 or 84 per cent of the national total. The farm customers added during the year aggregated 18,194 with the total 148,272, an increase of 14 per cent against an advance of 5.3 per cent in other domestic service customers.

Total production of all stations amounted to 41,736,987,000 kilowatt hours, of which 2,481,631,000 or 5.9 per cent was exported to the United States. Imports from Boulder Dam by

British Columbia stations totalled 8,651,000 kilowatt hours during 1946 while total imports were 9,527,000 kilowatt hours. Commercial stations generated 26,997,716,000 kilowatt hours during the year or 64.7 per cent of the total for Canada while municipal stations contributed 14,739,271,000 kilowatt hours or 35.3 per cent.

However, municipal stations purchased considerable of the output of commercial stations at wholesale and distributed it to their widespread customers. This is particularly true of Western Quebec where commercial stations deliver a large part of their production to the Ontario Hydro Commission's system. Revenues of municipal stations were \$117,427,501 in 1946 compared with \$108,668,772 for commercial stations and the municipal group had twice as many customers as the commercial.

**FINANCING OF MOTOR VEHICLES:** Financing of motor vehicle sales is still rising in Canada. Total volume was moderately higher than both September this year and October a year ago. New vehicle financing showed a reduction from October last year while the increase in used vehicle financing was quite pronounced.

There were 4,524 new vehicles financed in October this year for \$6,221,077, of which 2,921 were new passenger cars. In October last year, 5,148 new vehicles, including 3,154 passenger cars, were financed for \$7,219,360.

A total of 9,457 used vehicles were financed to the extent of \$6,767,509 compared with 7,520 units financed for \$4,540,615 in October last year. Used passenger models financed numbered 7,678, 26 per cent higher than the 6,091 financed in the same month of 1947. The gain for used trucks and buses amounted to 25 per cent.

**WORLD FOOD SUPPLY:** Supplies of food available for consumption in 1947-48 were greater than in the previous year in most countries of the world except western Europe. But total available supply is not all the picture; availability per person is just as important. The world's population has been increasing and at different rates in different regions. These population increases, it is pointed out in the October Current Review, a publication of the federal Department of Agriculture, over the 11-year period 1936 to 1947, vary from 3.5 per cent in Europe to 24 per cent in Latin America. As a result of this population increase, food supplies per person have fallen more rapidly, compared with pre-war, than the total quantities of food produced.

As regards the energy value of the food supplies, the current situation shows that apart from the Argentine, Oceania, Canada, the United States and a few European countries, the food supplies of any single country would be nutritionally inadequate even if distributed evenly throughout the population.... (Farm News)

**MR. CHEVRIER'S TORONTO SPEECH:** Willingness by the Great Powers to reduce armaments provided they have some assurance that the Soviets would faithfully do likewise, was expressed December 1 by the Minister of Transport, Mr. Chevrier, who has recently returned from Paris where he was Canada's Chief Delegate to the General Assembly of the United Nations. In addressing members of the Canadian Exporters' Association at Toronto, the Minister characterized as "meaningless, insincere and calculated to deceive the world" the proposal by Soviet Russia for a one-third reduction in armaments and armed forces during the year.

Reporting his impressions of the problems facing the United Nations and the difficulties experienced in making headway in the face of the "rigid and inflexible position" presented by the minority, consisting of the representatives from Eastern Europe, Mr. Chevrier said that the Western delegates had attempted to meet the U.S.S.R. on any common ground. Despite this, he said, the Russians "returned to the familiar charge that everyone else in the world was preparing war against them and that the nations of the West were controlled by irresponsible and provocative war-mongers. They made no concrete suggestion for the solution of these problems except that other nations should cease to make preparations which they (the Western nations) feel to be necessary because of the aggressive character of the Soviet policy."

#### DISARMAMENT ISSUE

It was on the issue of disarmament that Soviet strategy at the United Nations became clear, Mr. Chevrier said. "In an apparent magnanimous gesture they said: 'We will reduce our armaments and armed forces by one-third. Are you willing to do likewise?' Ostensibly this looked good to the world and was excellent propaganda for the U.S.S.R." The Minister pointed out, however, that the U.S.S.R. was "unwilling to open its doors to observer teams so that these could ascertain the size of its armed forces and whether it was actually reducing them by one-third."

Inasmuch as the U.S.S.R. had marched into Poland, has overrun the Baltic States, dominated Roumania, Hungary, Albania and Bulgaria, was master of Manchuria and was responsible for conducting an elaborate plan of sabotage in Western Europe to prevent recovery from the effects of the war, Mr. Chevrier asked "How then could we be expected to pool our security with a nation which would not and is determined not to reveal to the world what it is doing?" He further stated that the Soviet resolution "did not take account of the fact that quantitative disarmament of this nature works to the disadvantage of countries which are already largely disarmed."

The reply of the Western Nations to the Soviet resolution was that "plans for disarmament must be made by different means," the Minister told his Toronto audience. "The

Security Council already has in existence a Commission for Armaments which is trying to work out means by which a general plan of disarmament, which will not work to the disadvantage of any one nation, can be put into effect." He added that "until the U.S.S.R. is willing to co-operate in it, there is little possibility that the confidence which will make disarmament possible will be developed. The effort to secure agreement on disarmament will, however, go forward as a result of this Assembly."

Outlining another equally contentious problem which faced the General Assembly, Mr. Chevrier referred to the debate which took place on the subject of Greece which, he said, "was complicated and violent, although the issue is a relatively simple one." He explained that the Balkan Commission to Greece, appointed by the United Nations a year ago, had reported that armed interference in the affairs of Greece was taking place across her northern borders whereby the Greek Guerillas were "being aided and abetted by Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria." This report shows that there is armed interference in the affairs of Greece and "this is a matter over which the United Nations has, clearly, jurisdiction. So long as this continues, it is a challenge against the fundamental principles of the charter: namely, international peace and security."

In conclusion, the Minister said that in spite of its present difficulties, the United Nations "is our principal hope for peace."

**H.M.C.S. "CORNWALLIS":** H.M.C.S. "Cornwallis", former naval training base near Deep Brook, N.S., and at one time the largest establishment of its kind in the British Empire, has now been returned to the Royal Canadian Navy for use as a New Entry Training Establishment, it was announced December 2 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton.

"Cornwallis" was declared surplus January 21, 1946. Since then some of its buildings have been used by the Department of Veterans Affairs as a hospital, and the balance have been in the hands of War Assets Corporation.

It is intended to re-open a portion of "Cornwallis" as a Youth's Training Establishment for New Entry ratings in May, 1949. In the meantime, work and repairs necessary to fit and equip the base for this purpose will be undertaken.

The present maintenance staff of the D.V.A. hospital will be retained and such other civilian personnel as are required will be taken on strength.

Patients in the D.V.A. hospital will be transferred to Camp Hill hospital, in Halifax, a large addition to which is now nearing completion.

H.M.C.S. "Naden", at Esquimalt, B.C., which has served since the war as the Navy's new entry training establishment, will revert to its former status as a naval Barracks.