

PRODUCTION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Production of motor vehicles in Canada in August reversed the downtrend in evidence since January, rising 28.4 per cent to 5,889 units from 4,585 in the same month last year. Output in the January-August period was 11.6 per cent below a year ago at 250,612 units compared to 283,342.

Production of passenger cars rose 34.9 per cent in August to 3,585 units from 2,657 a year earlier, and, with decreases in all previous months of the year except June, output in the January-August period fell 10.5 per cent to 206,682 units from 230,831.

August production of commercial vehicles was higher than a year earlier for the first time this year, advancing 19.5 per cent to 2,304 units from 1,928. Output in the first eight months of this year dropped 16.3 per cent to 43,930 units from 52,511 a year ago.

CHILD DISEASE FUND APPOINTMENT

On September 8, Prime Minister Diefenbaker, announced that the Queen had approved the appointment of Dr. H.J. Spooner of Regina, Saskatchewan, to the board of trustees of the Queen Elizabeth II Canadian Fund to Aid in Research on the Diseases of Children. This fund, approved by Her Majesty, was set up in 1959 in honor of her visit to Canada, to study the diseases of children and their causes prevention and treatment.

Dr. Spooner, a well-known surgeon, is an authority on orthopaedics and Chief of the Section of Orthopaedics, Department of Surgery, the Regina General Hospital. He replaces Dr. D.M. Baltzan of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, who resigned upon appointment to the Royal Commission on Health Services.

Dr. Spooner received his public and high school education in Regina and graduated in medicine from the University of Toronto in 1932. He served in Great Britain and Italy as Major Surgeon Specialist in World War II and was discharged with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1945.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

The average hourly earnings in manufacturing in June declined to \$1.83 from \$1.84 in May, but with an increase in the average work week to 41.0 hours (the longest reported since October 1959) from 40.5, and average weekly wages increased to \$75.07 from \$74.44, according to advance figures that will be contained in the June issue of "Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings With Average Weekly Wages", issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Hourly earnings in June last year averaged \$1.79, weekly wages \$72.19, and the work week 40.4 hours.

In durable-goods manufacturing, the average hourly earnings in June were unchanged from the preceding month at \$1.99, while the work week rose to 41.2 hours from 40.8 and the average weekly wages to \$81.99 from \$81.36. All major groups reported a longer work week. An increase in employment and average hours worked on the part of lower-paid workers in wood products and less premium pay in primary iron

and steel offset the influence of wage-rate increases in transportation equipment and some other industries, leaving average hourly earnings unchanged from a month earlier.

In non-durable goods manufacturing in June, the average hourly earnings decreased to \$1.68 from \$1.70, while an increase in the work week to 40.8 hours from 40.1 resulted in a rise in average weekly wages to \$68.72 from \$68.04. Increases in the numbers of lower-paid seasonal workers in food processing and reduced premium pay in chemical products contributed to the drop in hourly earnings.

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INCREASING

Support by the National Research Council and the Medical Research Council for research at Canadian universities reached a record \$10,477,031 in 1960-61. Figures released for the science, engineering and medical programmes of the two Councils show an increase of \$1.11 million over 1959-60, and \$7 million over 1956-57. This rate of growth has been dictated by steadily-increasing student enrolments at the universities, and the resulting expansion of staff and research facilities.

The major responsibility in deciding how and where this money can best be spent rests with university scientists sitting on NRC and MRC committees.

Direct research support for science and engineering in 1960-61 amounted to \$7,169,402. Eighty-two per cent of this went for research grants to approximately 800 university staff members. The remainder provided scholarships and fellowships for more than 800 graduate students. Medical research awards totalled \$2,307,467. This included 300 research grants, and the support of 52 Medical Research Fellows and 20 Medical Research Associates. Publication of Canadian scientific journals, contributions to scientific organizations and conferences, and administration of the programme - described as indirect support - amounted to \$1,000,162.

EUROPE TASTES CANADIAN FOOD

Gourmets in West Germany, as well as from many other European countries, will be offered a taste of top-quality Canadian food-stuffs of nearly every type when the Provisions and Fine Foods Exhibition (ANUGA) opens in Cologne on September 23.

Under the sponsorship of the Department of Trade and Commerce, leading Canadian producers of fine foods, including lobsters and maple syrup, cheddar cheese and Canadian whisky, will display their wares at ANUGA -- largest international food fair in Western Europe -- from September 23 to October 1.

In addition to standard food displays, the Canadian section of ANUGA will feature a fully-equipped demonstration area and sampling room where various Canadian foods will be prepared and offered to the public for sampling.