

armed forces in uniform who, at the time "O Canada" is played, are not under the authority of an officer commanding a parade. Formerly, the foregoing procedure was observed only when the National Anthem was played for a Royal Salute.

PEACE TREATY RIGHTS

RESTORATION OF PROPERTY: Canadian citizens who may have had legal rights and interests in Italy, Roumania, Hungary and Finland, or who may own property in those countries, are reminded by the Department of External Affairs, that under the peace treaties with these countries, the respective Governments have undertaken to restore to Canadians all such legal rights as they existed on the date of Canada's entry into war with each of those countries. Moreover, these Governments have undertaken to restore all Canadian property as it now exists to the rightful owners. If it is impossible to restore the property in complete good order, the ex-enemy Government concerned is to pay compensation in local currency, to the extent of two-thirds of the value of the damage sustained.

The only persons entitled to consideration under these treaties, are those who possessed Canadian nationality at the date of the armistice between Canada and the country concerned, and have retained that nationality up until the date of the coming into force of the peace treaty with that country. So far as Canada is concerned, the date of the armistice with Italy was September 3, 1943; with Roumania, September 12, 1944; with Hungary, January 20, 1945; and with Finland, September 19, 1944. So far as Canada is concerned, the peace treaty with Italy came into force September 15, 1947, and those with Roumania, Hungary and Finland on September 19, 1947.

Any Canadians who are interested in this portion of the treaties are advised to take immediate steps through regular private commercial or legal channels to obtain restoration of their property rights in these countries. At this time there is no necessity to refer the matter to the Canadian Government. When the information is available, the Department of External Affairs, in a subsequent press release, will advise concerning the name and address of the agency set up by each ex-enemy Government to handle claims arising under this part of the peace treaty.

TO HAND BACK LOOT: The Department of External Affairs announces that under the peace treaties which Canada has signed with Italy, Roumania and Hungary, the Governments of these respective countries have undertaken to hand back all allied looted property at present within their territories or held in third countries in the names of persons under their jurisdiction.

Canadian residents who may be interested in this provision of the peace treaties are reminded by the Department of External Affairs

that claims for the restitution of such property should be submitted immediately to the Government of the allied country from which the property was removed. The Government of that allied country in turn, must present the claim to the ex-enemy Government concerned within a period of six months from the effective date of the peace treaty. So far as Canada is concerned, this period will expire in the case of Italy on March 15, 1948, and in the case of Roumania and Hungary on March 19, 1948.

Canadians are reminded that only identifiable property removed by force or duress is eligible for restitution. There is no need to refer these claims to the Canadian Government. They should be referred directly to the Government of the country from which the property was removed, through private commercial or legal channels.

\$409 MILLION IN WAR SURPLUS SALES: Sales of surplus war material, by War Assets Corporation to the end of November brought in an aggregate of \$409,559,142, according to figures released by the Corporation.

By periods receipts were as follows:

April 1, 1944 - March 31, 1945	\$ 9,507,128
April 1, 1945 - March 31, 1946	124,878,368
April 1, 1946 - March 31, 1947	219,205,532
April 1, 1947 - Nov. 30, 1947	55,968,114
TOTAL	\$409,559,142

Sales of principal commodities in order of dollar return were in round numbers:

Ships.....	\$115,500,000
Automotive vehicles and equipment.....	66,000,000
Machinery, machine tools, etc.....	57,500,000
Lands and Buildings.....	44,500,000
Clothing, Footwear, Textiles..	32,800,000
Metals.....	15,000,000
Aircraft, components and equipment.....	9,000,000

NOVEMBER MERCHANDISE EXPORTS: Canada's merchandise export trade was maintained at a high level in November, being valued at \$253,100,000 compared with \$250,800,000 in October and \$232,200,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total for November was \$27,500,000 in excess of the monthly average to the end of October. Aggregate value of commodities exported during the eleven months ending November was \$2,508,700,000 compared with \$2,100,300,000 in the similar period of 1946, an advance of 19.4 per cent.

A gain in exports to countries of the British Empire was a feature of the month's trade, the total rising from \$91,531,000 in November last year to \$111,202,000, while the aggregate for the eleven months ending November

increased from \$816,720,000 to \$1,061,171,000. Exports to foreign countries in November rose from \$140,687,000 to \$141,901,000, and in the eleven months from \$1,283,593,000 to \$1,447,576,000.

Exports to the United Kingdom advanced from \$57,885,000 in November last year to \$69,254,000, and in the eleven months from \$538,146,000 to \$678,657,000. November exports to the United States advanced from \$89,228,000 to \$92,856,000, and in the cumulative period from \$804,073,000 to \$928,278,000.

Exports to other leading markets in November were as follows, totals for November last year being in brackets; Newfoundland, \$6,511,000 (\$4,050,000); British South Africa, \$5,121,000 (\$8,570,000); Australia, \$3,942,000 (\$4,991,000); New Zealand, \$6,307,000 (\$1,754,000); Argentina, \$3,992,000 (\$2,757,000); Brazil, \$5,800,000 (\$5,230,000); Belgium, \$6,310,000 (\$3,643,000); France, \$4,490,000 (\$7,911,000); China, \$3,873,000 (\$5,616,000).

ESTIMATED LABOUR INCOME: A total of \$530,000,000 was received by residents of Canada in wages, salaries and supplementary labour income in September, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The figure was \$13,000,000 higher than the corresponding total for August, and \$84,000,000, or 19 per cent higher than in September, 1946. For the first nine months of 1947, labour income amounted to \$4,404,000,000, an increase of 18 per cent over the similar period of last year.

A decrease in the domestic purchasing power of the Canadian dollar is indicated by a ten per cent rise in the average cost-of-living index for the months from January to September, 1947, over the comparable average for 1946. At the same time, the average index of employment in nine leading industries for the two periods, rose nine per cent, reflecting distribution of aggregate earnings among larger numbers of workers. It would appear, therefore, that there was little change in the average workers' total income to the end of September, 1947 compared with the first nine months of 1946.

FUEL OIL SHORTAGE: In a statement issued to the Press, Dec. 23, the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply, Mr. Howe, states that it is not proposed at the present time to invoke restrictions on the importation of fuel oil. Arrangements are being made, however, to reduce substantially the imports during the early part of 1948.

The industry and distributors are circularizing their customers suggesting various ways in which fuel oil can be conserved. It is of the utmost importance that the consumers should cooperate fully with the industry and distributors in carrying out these suggestions for conservation. Careful attention to these suggestions should prevent the development of a situation which might result in serious

hardship if the shortage position becomes more acute.

LESS TIME LOST FROM STRIKES: Time loss due to work stoppages arising out of industrial disputes in November was only about 28 per cent of the time lost during the previous month but was substantially higher than in November, 1946, it was shown by the monthly summary of strikes and lockouts issued by the Minister of Labour, Mr. Mitchell.

Preliminary figures for November, 1947, show 28 strikes and lockouts, involving 14,735 workers, with a time loss of 119,602 man-working days, as compared with 46 strikes in October, 1947, involving 27,560 workers and a time loss of 428,170 days. In November, 1946, there were 20 strikes, involving 7,915 workers, with a time loss of 33,278 days.

DEATH OF DUNCAN CAMPBELL SCOTT: Duncan Campbell Scott, one of Canada's great poets, died at his Ottawa home, Dec. 19, at the age of 85.

For many years, Dr. Scott was deputy superintendent-general of the Department of Indian Affairs. He did not begin to write until he was 25--his first interest had been in music.

His first book, "The Magic House and Other Poems," was published when he was 30.

In 1896 he published a book of short stories of French Canada, entitled "In The Village of Viger." Other works followed: "Labour and The Angel," in 1898; "New World Lyrics and Ballads," in 1905; "John Graves Simcoe," a biographical collaboration with Pelham Edgar in 1905; "Lundy's Lane," in 1916, "Beauty and Life," in 1921; "The Witching of Elspie," short stories of the Hudson Bay region, in 1923, and "Collected Poems," in 1926.

WEEKLY SECURITY PRICE INDEXES: The following are security price index numbers of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for the week ending December 18, 1947, a week and month earlier:

	Dec. 18	Dec. 11	Nov. 20
	(1935-39=100)		

INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX

(100 Common Stocks).....	105.5	106.4	108.1
74 Industrials.....	99.7	100.4	102.0
18 Utilities.....	111.2	112.1	114.8
8 Banks.....	132.2	134.1	135.4

MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX

(27 Stocks).....	84.5	88.4	92.3
23 Golds.....	72.3	77.3	81.7
4 Base Metals.....	107.2	108.6	111.2