

other flatfish, mackerel, swordfish and shellfish, were more than offset by the continued declines in the landings of all species of groundfish, sardines, other pelagic and estuarial fish, and lobsters.

The Pacific Coast fisheries seem to have been affected by the adverse weather conditions prevailing during the month under review. The total catch of 25,128,000 pounds, is 30.3 per cent lower than in July, 1948. Species showing the largest decreases were salmon -- except white spring -- soles, herring, tuna and oysters.

**STUDYING CORTISONE:** The Department of National Health and Welfare is maintaining close contact with the latest developments in the manufacture and use of the new compound, cortisone, now being used experimentally in the United States in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, stated on September 2.

Experimental clinical use of this adrenal cortical steroid first isolated by Dr. Edward C. Kendall of the Mayo Clinic, has produced startling results which it is hoped further research will confirm, Mr. Martin explained. It will be some time, however, before supplies of the drug will be available for general use.

The Minister cited three main reasons for the delay in supplying arthritic sufferers in both Canada and the United States with the compound--the present small supply of cortisone, the immensely complex task of synthesizing the compound, and the necessity for further research into the results of its use before making it generally available.

In the meantime, the Department of National Health and Welfare, the medical division of the National Research Council and the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, whose formation resulted from a conference called by the federal Department of Health last year, are following progress in the field closely. At recent meetings in Washington of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences committee on cortisone, Canada has been represented at the invitation of the American group by Dr. J.B. Collip of the University of Western Ontario, Director of the Medical Division of the National Research Council; Dr. Harold Ettinger, Lean of Medicine at Queen's University and Assistant Director of the NRC Medical Division; Dr. J.S.L. Browne of McGill University and the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, and Dr. Wallace Graham, President of the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society. Drs. Collip and Browne are also directors of Canada's Arthritis Society.

Canada has been invited to send representatives to all meetings of the American Committee, said Mr. Martin, and at the meetings held to date all information on the use of cortisone has been discussed freely in the presence of Canadian representatives.

**MOTOR VEHICLE SHIPMENTS:** Reversing the upward movement shown since the beginning of this year, factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles in July decreased 16 per cent from the high level attained in June, but were 68 per cent above July last year. During the first seven months of this year, shipments advanced 15 per cent as compared with the similar period of 1948.

According to the Bureau of Statistics, shipments for the month amounted to 25,383 units as compared with 30,096 in June and 15,106 in the same month last year. The cumulative total for the seven months ending July stood at 165,498 units as against 144,288 in the like 1948 period.

**DEPARTMENT STORE SALES:** Department store sales advanced 13 per cent during the week ending August 27 over the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures issued by the Bureau of Statistics. Largest gain of 35 per cent was shown in Quebec, followed by a rise of 19 per cent in Ontario, Manitoba 10 per cent, and the Maritime Provinces eight per cent. Sales in Saskatchewan were down 14 per cent, Alberta seven per cent, and British Columbia two per cent.

**EXCHANGE OF SCIENTISTS:** An exchange of scientists between Canada and the United Kingdom has been announced by Dr. O.M. Solandt, Chairman of the Defence Research Board.

Dr. H.M. Barrett of Toronto, Chief Superintendent of the Experimental Station at Suffield, Alta., will leave for England this month, at the request of the Ministry of Supply, to assume a post as Chief Superintendent of the Chemical Defence Experimental Station at Porton, Wilts., for the next two years. His post in Canada has been taken by Dr. E.A. Perren, member of the staff at Porton, who assumed his new duties recently.

"Both scientists will receive valuable experience from the exchange", Dr. Solandt said, "and both the Ministry of Supply, which operates the Porton station, and the Department of National Defence will profit by the direct liaison."

Dr. Barrett, who at 38 has a wealth of scientific experience to his credit, holds a BA, MA, Ph.D in Physical Chemistry, and has published 15 scientific papers. He was awarded the Order of the British Empire (civil) in 1946. The winner of a National Research Council Scholarship, he was at one time an associate professor of industrial hygiene at the University of Toronto from which he graduated. He has been employed with the Defence Research Board since its inception in 1947 and prior to his present position was employed as Superintendent of Research at Suffield.

Accompanying Dr. Barrett to the United Kingdom will be his wife and two children.

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pared with \$111,355,000. Wood pulp, next in order in the month, moved downward to the value of \$12,424,000 compared with \$18,781,000, and in the seven months to \$100,120,000 from \$123,398,000.

Aluminum exports were slightly lower in the month, being valued at \$8,427,000 compared with \$8,533,000 a year earlier, while in the seven months the total fell to \$51,498,000 from \$61,444,000. Lead exports, reversing the trend of previous months fell to \$2,573,000 in July from \$2,938,000; the seven month total was up to \$24,833,000 against \$16,049,000. Nickel exports rose in the month to \$8,215,000 from \$5,103,000, and in the cumulative period to \$57,133,000 from \$42,991,000. Copper and zinc exports continued to show gains, the former rising in July to \$7,776,000 from \$5,762,000, and the latter to \$4,239,000 from \$2,864,000; seven-month exports of copper were valued at \$50,186,000 (\$43,678,000 in 1948), and zinc \$33,514,000 (\$19,740,000 in 1948).

Exports of farm implements and machinery were again higher in July, valued at \$8,064,000 compared with \$6,655,000, raising the cumulative total to \$69,356,000 from \$42,735,000. Locomotives and parts were shipped abroad in July to the value of \$4,180,000, and in the seven months ending July, \$12,504,000, both totals being sharply above last year.

Wheat flour exports rose in July to \$7,498,000 from \$6,006,000, but were down in the seven months to \$57,556,000 from \$69,900,000. July exports of fish and fishery products were down slightly, totalling \$7,242,000 compared with \$7,301,000, and in the seven months, \$43,839,000 compared with \$48,879,000. Cattle exports were again higher in July, being valued at \$4,691,000 compared with \$3,027,000, raising the seven-month total to \$27,948,000 from \$15,513,000. Boosted by heavy shipments in July, cheese exports rose sharply in the month to \$5,363,000, bringing the seven-month total to \$9,236,000.

**M.F.N. TREATMENT FOR AUSTRIA:** The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson, announced on September 6, in Ottawa that Canada will extend most-favoured-nation tariff treatment to Austria with effect from September 7, 1949.

This means that henceforth Austrian products imported into Canada will not be subject to duties or charges higher than those levied on products of third countries. Similarly, Canadian products going into Austria will enjoy treatment equal to that given by Austria to the products of other countries.

Canada's exports to Austria in 1948 amounted to \$3,109,835 and included such items as canned fish and meat, leather and powdered milk. Canadian imports from Austria include such items as textiles, precious stones and scythes.

The new arrangement will not affect any advantages accorded by Canada exclusively to other parts of the Commonwealth.

**U.S. ARCTIC SHIPS RETURN:** It was announced in Ottawa and Washington on June 29 that three United States Navy vessels with Canadian representatives aboard would shortly be sailing to the Canadian Arctic regions in support of the joint weather station program which is being carried out by the Governments of Canada and the United States.

These three ships, the icebreaker U.S.S. Edisto, the cargo vessel U.S.S. Wyandot and the U.S.S. LST 533, which served as a cargo vessel, have now returned to east coast ports. During the summer they resupplied the joint weather station established in 1947 on Cornwallis Island, Northwest Territories, for redistribution to other joint weather stations at Prince Patrick Island, Ellef Ringnes Island and Ellesmere Island.

The U.S.S. Edisto carried two helicopters, which were used extensively and to great advantage on ice reconnaissance missions.

The ships which participated in the supply mission were under the command of Captain Basil Ritterhouse, U.S. Navy, embarked in the U.S.S. Edisto. The Edisto was commanded by Commander W.F. Morrison, U.S. Navy, the Wyandot by Captain T.S. Webb, United States Navy, and the LST 533 by Lieutenant J.E. Vautrot, United States Navy. The senior Canadian representative who participated in the supply mission was Mr. J.W. Burton of the Arctic Division of the Northwest Territories Administration, Ottawa.

**8 BY-ELECTIONS OCTOBER 24:** The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, on September 7, announced that by-elections to fill the eight vacancies which have occurred in the House of Commons since the June 27 General Election will be held on October 24. Five of the by-elections are in Quebec Province, one is in New Brunswick, one in Ontario, and one in British Columbia.

The Prime Minister also announced three appointments to the Senate, as follows:--Tom Reid, Liberal Member of the House of Commons for New Westminster, and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of National Health and Welfare; J. Wesley Stambaugh, of Bruce, Alberta, President of the Alberta Liberal Association; and Robert William Gladstone, Guelph, Ont., former Liberal Member for Wellington South.

**GOLD PRODUCTION:** Continuing the gains of earlier months this year over 1948, Canadian production of gold rose in June to its highest monthly point since March, 1943.

**PHYSICAL FITNESS DIRECTOR:** Ernest Lee, 42, Director of Physical Education and recreation for the Province of British Columbia since 1946, has been appointed National Director of Physical Fitness in the Department of National Health and Welfare and Chairman of the National Council of Physical Fitness.