

NON-AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

Productivity in the commercial non-agricultural industries of Canada has increased steadily since 1947, according to a report recently released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The report, which covers the period 1947-63, indicates that the output of employed persons has gone up by almost 40 per cent, or at an average rate of 2.3 per cent a year. Because of the gradual decrease in the length of the work week, the increase of man-hour output was higher at 56 per cent for the period covered, or at an average rate of 3.0 per cent a year.

Walter E. Duffett, Dominion Statistician, said that the new report was the first in a series on productivity studies to be conducted by the Bureau. He described productivity measures as one of the most important indicators in assessing the performance of the economy.

DEFINITION

In the 50-page report, entitled "Indexes of Output Per Person Employed and Per Man-Hour, Commercial Non-agricultural Industries, Canada, 1947-63", productivity is defined as a measure that shows the relation between output and the labour input used in its production. Productivity is a broad conception, the report says, which takes into account many aspects of the relation between output and the resources used in its production. It reflects such factors as the impact of technological change, the amount of capital available, managerial performance, and the degree of capacity utilization, as well as the skill and effort of the labour force.

MINISTERS TO FISHERIES MEET

Two Cabinet Ministers will deliver addresses next month at the North American Fisheries Conference which will be held in Washington from April 30 to May 5.

Trade Minister Sharp will speak on the theme "all the world's a market" at the May 4 session and Fisheries Minister H.J. Robichaud will address a lunch meeting on May 5.

The conference is sponsored by the National Fisheries Institute, Inc., Washington, Camara Nacional de la Industria Pesquera, Mexico, and the Fisheries Council of Canada, Ottawa.

NORTHERN WATER AND SEWAGE SERVICE

Some 140 families at Inuvik in the Northwest Territories will benefit from new regulations covering water and sewage services in areas not served by utilidor. Commissioner B.G. Sivertz said Inuvik was the first community affected by a new policy, announced at the February session of the Northwest Territories Council, which calls for the provision of safe water and sewage services in all northern centres. "Our programme is to take on two or three communities each year," he said.

Inuvik households with minimal plumbing chemical toilet and sink may pay \$5.00 a month to have 90 gallons of water delivered to their homes three times a week. Those who do not want this service, or who cannot afford it, can obtain water from conveniently located points.

Sewage will be removed three times a week from every home.