

**1949 INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR:** Next year's Canadian International Trade Fair will be held in Toronto from May 30 to June 10, 1949, Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe announced September 17. He stated that the inaugural Fair in 1948, attracting exhibitors and businessmen from more than seventy different countries, had gone far toward confirming the Government's expectation that a new world market-place in the tradition of the famous European "sample" fairs can be successfully established on this continent.

The plans authorized by the Government for next year are intended to utilize fully the benefit of the experience gained in 1948. The lessons learned are being applied to the improvements planned for 1949. The same three permanent exhibition buildings will be used again, providing space in excess of 750,000 square feet. Although official application forms have not yet been made available, replies have been received from 238 of last year's exhibitors who were questioned concerning their intentions for 1949. Over 95 per cent indicated their intention to exhibit again, and all but one have requested as much or greater space in 1949 than they used in 1948, an over-all average increase of 16 per cent. Inquiries and applications for space have already been received from 144 firms who did not participate in 1948.

**KEEN INTEREST IN U.S.**

Emphasis is being laid upon attracting still greater attendance of visiting businessmen, particularly from the United States. A keen interest has been aroused in U.S. business circles by the success of the first Trade Fair, the Minister pointed out. The August 21 issue of "Foreign Commerce Weekly", published by the U.S. Department of Commerce, devoted its cover and leading article to the Trade Fair, which it called "Canada's Great Experiment in World Trade Promotion", and expressed the possibility that a similar fair might eventually be held in the United States. It stresses the value of the Canadian example by pointing out that stimulation of soundly increased imports into the United States is an economic "must", and that the International Trade Fair is an outstanding means for fostering such imports by presenting to the rich United States' market those needed goods which foreign countries can supply.

Final figures on the 1948 Fair reveal the impressive extent of participation by world businessmen. Products of 1,455 manufacturers from 28 countries were included among the exhibits, of which 624 (or 43 per cent) were from abroad. Reports of the business done indicate numerous instances of transactions satisfactorily completed directly between representatives of other nations, in which Canada played no part except as host. This international aspect of the Trade Fair is an encouraging evidence of its usefulness in promoting world trade.

**LONDON IMMIGRATION OFFICES:** The Hon. James A. MacKinnon, Minister of Mines and Resources, announced September 17 the opening of new Immigration Branch offices in London, England.

Mr. MacKinnon said that a four-storey building had been obtained at 42-46 Weymouth Street West, and that it provides much more space than was available in Sackville House, the former location of the Immigration staff.

Quarters in the new building have been allotted to medical officers of the Department of National Health and Welfare, who co-operate closely with the Immigration Branch in the examination of prospective emigrants to Canada.

Space is also provided for officials of the Department of Labour, who assist the Immigration officers in dealing with British craftsmen and other persons interested in learning about labour conditions in Canada.

The offices will be under the direction of Guy G. Congdon, Superintendent of European Emigration.

**TRIBUTE TO COUNT BERNADOTTE:** The Acting Prime Minister, Right Honourable L. S. St. Laurent, issued to the press September 18 the following statement with regard to the assassination of Count Folke Bernadotte:

"The Canadian Government is shocked to learn that the United Nations Mediator in Palestine, Count Folke Bernadotte, has lost his life by assassination. It wishes to pay tribute to the selflessness and devotion with which the Mediator undertook and carried out his most difficult task. In endeavouring to bring about a peaceful settlement in Palestine under the conditions prevailing in that land, Count Bernadotte and his associates have not spared themselves in the cause of peace. By the sacrifice of his life as the climax of tireless efforts, Count Bernadotte has set an example of the highest public service to all nations. The Canadian Government hopes that the United Nations will continue the work of Count Bernadotte, inspired by his example and by his faith in human reason and moderation.

"The Canadian Legation in Stockholm has been asked to convey to the bereaved family of Count Bernadotte, through the Swedish Government, an expression of the sympathy of the Canadian Government and people."

**OCTOBER CONFERENCE:** The third Dominion Provincial conference to discuss the Canadian tourist industry will be held in Ottawa, October 18, 19 and 20, Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced September 17.

Results of the 1948 tourist season will be reviewed, the problems facing the industry from coast to coast discussed and an attempt made to find practical solutions. Among the

items on the agenda are accommodation and services, advertising, publicity, and the part the tourist trade can play in improving Canada's dollar position.

Participating in the conference will be ministers and deputy ministers of travel in the various provincial governments; officials of the transportation companies; representatives of the Bank of Canada, the National Film Board, and federal Government departments concerned with the Canadian travel industry.

Arrangements for the conference are being made by D. Leo Dolan, Director, Canadian Government Travel Bureau.

**ICELAND AIR AGREEMENT:** Air navigation facilities and services on the North Atlantic island of Iceland, required for the safe operation of transatlantic air traffic, will be financed internationally as a result of an agreement concluded here September 16 between the International Civil Aviation Organization and the Government of Iceland. The agreement was signed by Dr. Edward Warner, President of the ICAO Council, and Mr. Agnar Kofoed-Hansen, Director of the Iceland Aeronautics Board.

According to the terms of the agreement, the sum of 7,500,000 kronur (about \$1,000,000) will be paid to Iceland for expenses incurred in maintaining the air navigation facilities, which include weather reporting and forecasting stations, area traffic control, and telecommunications networks, from 1946 until December 31, 1948. Beginning in 1949, 10 nations (including Iceland) will defray the costs of the services, up to a maximum of 4,225,000 kronur (about \$650,000) a year.

Apportionment of these payments among those of its member nations which are concerned with air transport across the North Atlantic was made at an ICAO joint support meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland, last June. Basis for the apportionment was the use each nation's airlines have already made of the facilities provided, together with the use they expect to make of them in the future. Each nation will pay the following percentages of the total costs:

	1946-1948 Total	1949
Belgium	1.2%	1.8%
Canada	9.3	7.1
Denmark	1.85	1.7
France	4.6	4.1
Iceland	----	17.5
Netherlands	5.6	4.9
Norway	1.85	1.7
Sweden	2.8	2.6
United Kingdom	11.1	9.9
United States	61.7	48.7

The new Icelandic agreement is the third joint support arrangement designed to produce air safety and regularity, which has been concluded by the International Civil Aviation Organization. Two years ago 10 member nations

agreed to maintain a network of ocean weather stations in the North Atlantic to serve as meteorological reporting stations, telecommunications relay points and search and rescue bases. Last year, five nations whose airlines make use of LORAN (long range radio aid to navigation) in flying across the North Atlantic, together with Iceland, agreed to finance a LORAN station at Vik, Iceland.

**WHEAT STOCKS:** Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on September 9 rose to 93,493,000 bushels from last year's corresponding total of 86,692,000 bushels, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Deliveries from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending September 9 totalled 31,489,000 bushels, an increase of almost 21 per cent over the previous week's total of 26,046,000 bushels.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending September 9 amounted to 1,470,000 bushels compared with 1,538,000 in the corresponding week last year.

**DEPARTMENT STORE SALES:** Expenditures in department stores in the past few years account for more than 11 out of every 100 dollars spent by consumers in retail stores, according to a bulletin released by the Bureau of Statistics covering sales and inventories of department stores in the period January 1941 to July, 1948. Because of the broad range of commodities handled, some reasonably close relationship might be expected between total retail trading and department store sales.

From 1930 to 1933, department store sales made up between 13 and 14 per cent of all retail sales, but in the period, 1933 to 1937, readjustments in the relationship occurred in which the proportion was reduced to 11 per cent. Since 1937 the proportion has been consistently between 11 and 12 per cent of total retail sales.

Department store sales in 1947 reached an aggregate value of \$706,845,000, well above the 1946 total of \$613,611,000, and 87 per cent in excess of the \$377,806,000 registered in 1941.

**ARMY WEEK ADDRESS:** The Acting Prime Minister, Right Hon. L.S. St. Laurent, delivered a radio address over a national network on the evening of September 19 as part of ceremonies marking the inauguration of Army Week. The Minister of National Defence, Hon. Brooke Claxton, also spoke and appealed for recruits for the armed forces.

In his references to Canada's responsibilities in world affairs Mr. St. Laurent spoke, in part, as follows:

"... As Canada has grown into a nation through times of prosperity and peace, and