

City	Branches Reporting	Membership Reported
Montreal.....	255	105,937
Toronto.....	254	87,451
Vancouver.....	171	61,159
Winnipeg.....	151	36,148
Windsor.....	59	23,940
Hamilton.....	87	19,330
Quebec.....	89	15,967
Edmonton.....	90	13,717
Calgary.....	76	10,788
Sudbury.....	18	10,688
Halifax.....	58	10,081
Ottawa.....	79	10,067

**LEADING MINERALS:** Reflecting the high level of activity in the Canadian mining industry, production of all but one of Canada's 16 leading mineral products was higher in July than a year ago, according to the Bureau of Statistics. In the seven months ending July, production was advanced in all but two items. In July the decrease was in copper, while in the cumulative period, lead and salt were lower.

This year's seven-month production was as follows by items, with figures for the same period of 1947 in brackets: asbestos, 390,028 (367,511) tons; cement, 7,780,104 (6,523,748) barrels; clay products, \$8,981,329 (\$7,521,662); coal, 9,877,481 (7,854,671) tons; copper, 284,612,658 (260,067,713) pounds; feldspar, 26,008 (19,302) tons; gold, 1,980,929 (1,775,317) fine ounces; gypsum, 1,493,911 (1,101,079) tons; lead, 175,594,919 (187,595,556) pounds; lime, 585,453 (552,076) tons; natural gas, 36,007,291 (32,287,483) M cubic feet; nickel, 162,618,611 (136,265,802) pounds; petroleum, 6,304,224 (4,217,843) barrels; salt, 415,501 (442,500) tons; silver, 7,829,758 (6,607,709) fine ounces; zinc, 268,275,153 (245,172,068) pounds.

**STEEL PRODUCTION UP:** Canadian production of steel moved to a higher level in August, the month's output amounting to 263,045 tons as compared with 244,872 in the preceding month and 233,754 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. During the eight months ending August 2, 103,522 tons were produced compared with 1,949,376 in the similar period of 1947.

**PENITENTIARY TRAINING:** The Canadian Vocational Training Advisory Council, now meeting in Ottawa, was asked October 5 to assist in the furthering of a vocational training plan in Canadian penitentiaries.

The plan now being carried out was outlined by J.A. McLaughlin, Assistant Commissioner of Penitentiaries, in an address to the Council at the opening of the second day of the three-day conference.

The assistance of the Council was asked in arranging trade tests for prisoners who had completed their vocational training just prior to their release. This was necessary Mr. McLaughlin explained in order to facilitate their employment, and to give them confidence in their own ability in the trade they had learned.

**PACIFIC COAST LOBSTERS:** Canadian lobsters, which up to date have been confined exclusively to eastern coastal waters, are the object of an important experiment on the Pacific Coast, according to Trade News, monthly publication of the Federal Department of Fisheries.

Experiments sponsored by British Columbia fishing interests were started in July 1946 with scientific assistance being given by the Fisheries Research Board of Canada. It was proven that Atlantic lobsters will live in waters off the British Columbia coast. In such waters along the coast that have a relatively low salinity, they also will develop satisfactorily, mate and produce eggs. It yet remains to be seen, however, whether the eggs will hatch and whether the young will survive.

The experiment, which began more than two years ago, and which has been carried on since with the Atlantic coast lobsters planted in a lagoon on Lasqueti Island, near Nanaimo, B.C., is being watched closely.

Of the original 2,000 "canner size" lobsters only a few are now kept in a floating cage at Lasqueti. Many died en route and others escaped from the lagoon or died. Five of the crustaceans now in captivity are berried females, and it is the intention of biologists of the Fisheries Research Board to carry them through the winter and endeavour to hatch eggs and rear larvae.

Records obtained from the caged lobsters reveal that there seems to be nothing in the water which would preclude the rearing of lobsters on the Pacific Coast.

**FUR SEAL AGREEMENT:** Under the Provisional Fur Seal Agreement with the United States, Canada this year will receive 14,028 Alaska fur seal skins, it is reported in Trade News, monthly publication of the Federal Department of Fisheries.

This summer's seal hunt, carried out on the Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea west of Alaska under supervision of U.S. authorities, has been completed and under the agreement, Canada receives 20 per cent. Of the "take". Over the past five years, Canada has received an average of about 13,000 skins yearly.

These skins will be dressed and dyed in several shades of brown and black and offered for sale by the Department of Fisheries by auction through the Canadian Fur Auction Sales Company in Montreal.

terms that the Canadian Government believed would constitute a fair and equitable basis of union. These terms were made known to the people of Newfoundland and Canada. A majority of the people of Newfoundland have since indicated in a plebiscite their support of Confederation with Canada.

"The Canadian Government welcomed the result of the plebiscite of last July. In a statement issued on July 30, 1948, shortly after the result was known, Mr. King said:

'As Prime Minister of Canada, it is a pleasure for me on behalf of Canada to welcome, warmly and sincerely, the decision of the people of Newfoundland... The Union, when effected, will seal in constitutional terms a close and fraternal association that has existed, in war and in peace, between the two countries over many years.... Together, as partners, we may look forward to the future with more confidence than if we had remained separate political communities.'

#### PROVINCIAL SPHERE

"For Newfoundland, entry into Confederation will not, of course, entail any loss of local identity. Provinces are well-defined units within the federal system, having complete autonomy within their constitutional jurisdiction. Included in the provincial sphere are, of course, such matters as education and property and civil rights, and these are fundamental to the preservation of what is peculiar to the local community in each part of Canada.

"Mr. King's statement on July 30th went on to say:

'The Government will also be glad to receive with the least possible delay authorized representatives of Newfoundland to negotiate the terms of union on the basis of my letter of October 29, 1947, to the Governor of Newfoundland, and the document transmitted with it. In these negotiations any special problem which may arise in connection with the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation will, I am sure, receive most careful consideration. Before final action is taken, the Government will recommend the resulting agreement to the Parliament of Canada for approval.'

"In the latter connection, Mr. King recalled his statement made in the House of Commons on June 23, 1947, that 'on the part of Canada no final decision would, of course, be taken without the approval of Parliament.'

"We are meeting here today with the authorized representatives appointed by His Excellency the Governor of Newfoundland. It is our mutual responsibility to examine and settle the final terms of union between Newfoundland and Canada.

"The following members of the Government have been designated, together with myself, to meet with you, the delegation from Newfoundland:

The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe;  
The Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton;  
The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott;  
The Minister of National Revenue, Dr. McCann;  
The Minister of Veterans Affairs, Mr. Gregg;  
The Minister of Fisheries, Mr. Mayhew;  
and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson.

"Our other colleagues will, of course, also be available to participate in our discussions whenever that may appear to be desirable.

#### PROCEDURE QUESTION

"It is the wish of the Government that the delegation from Newfoundland should have every possible assistance during the negotiations and a courteous and ready response to their requests for information. One of the matters to be settled is the question of procedure. That is a first joint task of the committee and the delegation.

"Much exacting and painstaking work has been done here during the last few months in preparation for your coming. I am sure that the labours on your part have been equally heavy. In the forthcoming discussions the people of Canada will, I know, wish both parties God-speed. For my own part and that of all my colleagues in the Canadian Government, I would assure you of our close and lively interest, in whatever degree each of us may from time to time directly participate.

"It is true that much of our discussion will relate to matters of detail; and that the representatives of Canada and Newfoundland alike have a duty to safeguard the interests of those whom they represent. But I like to think that we shall not lose sight of the fact that we are seeking to complete a union which will be one nation with an over-riding common interest and common loyalty for all its citizens. I dare to hope that the result of our labours will commend itself to the vast majority of the people of Newfoundland as well as to most of those who are already Canadians. I prefer to believe that many, if not most, of those who, in Newfoundland, voted for Responsible Government were not thereby necessarily voting against union with Canada, but were rather expressing a preference for a different method of approach. We in Canada believe we know something of responsible government; the very phrase itself originated here; and this very year is the centenary of the achievement of responsible government in Canada. One thing is sure, the objective itself is more important than the approach, and when union is achieved it will give to the people of Newfoundland the fullest measure of responsible government, both as an autonomous province, and as a full partner in a free and self-governing nation."