

JUNE IMPORTS \$406,300,000: Canada's merchandise imports from all countries in June were valued at \$406,300,000, down narrowly from the monthly record of \$420,600,000 set in May, but up 25 per cent from last year's June value of \$324,300,000, according to final figures on imports for the month released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The rise in June -- tenth straight monthly gain -- boosted the January-June value to \$2,216,600,000 as compared with \$1,950,300,000 in the corresponding 1952 period.

Average prices of imported merchandise in June were slightly above those of last June -- the first time that import prices have risen above the previous year's level this year. The volume of imports soared almost 25 per cent. During the January-June period, prices of imports averaged 4.7 per cent under those of a year ago, but volume averaged 19.4 per cent higher.

Area values for imports were generally higher for June than a year ago, with substantial gains posted for the United States, the United Kingdom, some European countries and narrowly higher values for Latin American countries as a group, and the remaining group of Commonwealth countries. In the half-year period, totals for the United States and the United Kingdom were markedly above those of last year, Latin American countries slightly higher, but there were declines for the remaining group of Commonwealth and foreign countries.

PURCHASES FROM U.S.

Purchases from the United States in June rose in value to \$299,798,000 from \$235,300,000 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the half-year value to \$1,672,413,000 as compared with \$1,457,798,000. There were higher values in June for all nine main commodity groups, while six-month totals show gains in all but agricultural and vegetable products. Iron products -- largest of the nine -- rose in value in June to \$135,742,000 from \$103,163,000, and in the half-year period to \$729,255,000 from \$644,868,000.

Imports from the United Kingdom in June rose to \$42,831,000 from \$31,553,000, and in the January-June period to \$219,590,000 from \$161,420,000. There were gains both in June and the half-year in all nine main commodity groups, with fibres and textiles and iron and products rising most steeply.

Imports from all other Commonwealth countries were slightly higher in value in June at \$17,122,000 as compared with \$16,815,000 a year ago, but the half-year value was off to \$76,457,000 from \$91,765,000.

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Canadian telegraph companies handled 21,614,196 telegrams during 1952; of which 19,513,250 were sent through their offices and 2,100,946 were received from the United States.

GIANT EXERCISE MARINER: On Board HMCS Magnificent September 24 -- Aircrews flying from this Canadian carrier have been putting in long hours, and getting a wealth of realistic practice, in Exercise Mariner, giant NATO exercise now taking place in the North Atlantic.

During the first stage of the exercise, the Avenger aircraft of 881 Squadron and the Sea Furies of 871 Squadron operated on an almost round-the-clock schedule as the Magnificent and 14 USN destroyers shepherded a Blue Force convoy from Norfolk, Va., to the vicinity of Cape Race, Nfld.

The general Mariner plan calls for maximum contact between the opposing forces, with the result that the Magnificent's convoy and escorts were in frequent combat with the Orange "enemy". The latter consisted of submarines, long-range aircraft and a cruiser acting as a surface raider.

In the present phase of the exercises, the Magnificent and the Quebec (cruiser) are part of a fast carrier striking force which is operating near Ireland waters. After that they proceed to the Eastern Atlantic for the wind-up of the manoeuvres. Three other Canadian warships are in United Kingdom waters.

Three hundred ships, 1,000 aircraft and nearly half a million men are involved in Exercise Mariner.

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HONOURS FOR 25TH: Her Majesty the Queen has approved 31 operational awards to members of the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade for outstanding service in Japan and Korea, it was announced September 25 at Army Headquarters.

Highest honor goes to Lt.-Col. Edward Alfred Charles Amy, DSO, MC, Royal Canadian Armoured Corps, of Kentville, N.S., and Edmonton, Alta., who has been named an Officer of the Order of the British Empire. He won the award for services as General Staff Officer, Grade One, with Headquarters, 1st Commonwealth Division.

Lieut. (N/S) Josephine Isabel MacDonald, RCAMC, of Meota, Sask., receives the Royal Red Cross (2nd Class) for her outstanding work as sister in charge of the Canadian Ward at the British Commonwealth General Hospital in Kure, Japan.

In addition to these, 17 others from the brigade were appointed Members of the Order of the British Empire (MBE), four officers received the Military Cross, three NCOs were awarded the Military Medal and five men the British Empire Medal.

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Of the 577 establishments in Canada's men's factory clothing industry in 1951, 186 had a production value of less than \$100,000, 262 between \$100,000 and \$500,000, 75 between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000, and 54 more than \$1,000,000.