

flour, sugar, newsprint, sand and gravel, and motor vehicles and parts.

The heightened activity was shared by all types of movements through the ports. Foreign inward traffic increased by 9 per cent over 1960, while the corresponding increase in foreign outward traffic was 24 per cent. Domestic inward traffic was up by 22 per cent over 1960 and domestic outward movements increased by 13 per cent over the period reported.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Requirements for mass medical transportation in wartime emergencies will be the subject of an exhaustive study, it has been announced by Mr. J. Waldo Monteith, Minister of National Health and Welfare. Mr. Monteith has chosen the Emergency Health Services Division of the Department to carry out the survey and provide plans for this important phase of national survival.

Appointed to head the project is Lieutenant-Colonel Robert L. Mummery, formerly Assistant Director of Supplies and Transport, Royal Canadian Army Service Corps, at Army Headquarters in Ottawa. His duties will include the study of the problems involved in transporting casualties from disaster areas and their distribution to available hospitals, and recommendations for the control and suitability of civilian vehicles for patient-carrying. Other factors to be studied include the number and types of suitable vehicles operated by the armed forces, and transportation for the rapid distribution of blood and all types of medical supplies which would be required in the event of an emergency.

EXPORT CREDITS INSURANCE

The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Hees, recently tabled in the House of Commons the annual report of the Export Credits Insurance Corporation for 1961, which indicates that exports insured amounted to \$65,602,617 for the Corporation's account and \$65,607,223 for account of the Government under Section 21 of the Act. Since the establishment of the Corporation in 1945, a total of \$1,050 million in export sales has been insured.

There were 301 policies current at the end of 1961, the largest number in force at any time in the Corporation's experience. They covered a wide variety of products shipped to some 95 countries. Their classification by export volume shows that insurance protection was obtained by large, medium and small exporters.

LONG-RANGE FINANCING

The Corporation has also provided facilities for long-term financing under Section 21A of the Act, totalling \$41 million for capital goods to be exported to Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico, requiring more than 5.7 million man hours of Canadian labour to produce. In addition, the Corporation has given commitments to Canadian exporters in connection with the financing of prospective export orders totalling \$114 million.

The excess of premium income over expenses and policy-holders' claims amounted to \$809,635 for the year.

PURPOSE OF CORPORATION

The business of the Corporation is to provide insurance at an appropriate premium for Canadian exporters of goods and services who wish to protect themselves against certain risks of non-payment, such as the insolvency of a foreign buyer. Exporters are unable to protect themselves against this risk by means of ordinary commercial insurance, except in the case of sales to buyers in the United States. There is also the risk of cancellation of an import licence, and the risk of the buyer's inability to transfer the foreign exchange. These are risks over which the exporters themselves have no control, and against which ordinary commercial insurance is not available. Generally, the policies protect against losses arising from circumstances beyond the control of both the buyer and the seller.

A WATER RESOURCES PROBLEM

The Secretary of State for External Affairs has announced that the Governments of Canada and the United States have requested the International Joint Commission to investigate and report on what measures could be taken to develop the water resources of the Pembina River in the Province of Manitoba and the State of North Dakota.

The International Joint Commission was established pursuant to the terms of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 in order to facilitate the settlement of questions of mutual interest to Canada and the United States in the general field of boundary waters and related matters.

This new reference has been made by governments in the light of the conclusion of the Commission that detailed feasibility studies should be undertaken concerning possible development of the Pembina River basin.

OBJECT OF STUDIES

The Commission has been requested by governments to determine what plan or plans of co-operative development of the water resources of the Pembina River basin would be practicable, economically feasible and to the mutual advantage of both countries. The Commission is asked to bear in mind the requirements of domestic water supply and sanitation, control of floods, irrigation and any other beneficial uses of these waters. Governments have further asked the Commission, in the event that it finds a plan or plans meeting these criteria, to make recommendations concerning the choice and implementation of such plan or plans.

NATIONAL SAFETY MEET

Canada's annual national traffic-safety forum will be held this year on May 7, 8 and 9, it was announced recently by the Canadian Highway Safety Council. This will be the CHSC's eighth conference and is