

## CANADA AT THE UNITED NATIONS

**WHEAT MARKETINGS:** Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on February 3 amounted to 157,062,000 bushels, showing a decline of 4,410,000 bushels from the January 27 figure of 161,473,000, but up 34,859,000 bushels over last year's corresponding total of 122,203,000, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

**FARM PRICES RISE:** The index number of farm prices of agricultural products for December is estimated at 251.6 as compared with 250.1 in November. This gain of 1.5 points reverses the downward trend which has been in evidence for the past three months. Increased prices for livestock, more than offsetting lower prices for some grains, potatoes, poultry and eggs, largely account for the upward movement in December.

The annual index of 244.2 for 1948, the highest on record, is approximately 40 points above the previous record of 204.0 established in 1947. With the exception of fruits and furs, the prices of all farm products considered in the index were higher in 1948 than in 1947. The greatest gain was recorded by the index of livestock prices, followed by potatoes, dairy products, sugar beets, poultry and eggs and vegetables.

**WEEKLY WAGE RECORD:** Average weekly wages of hourly-rated personnel employed by leading manufacturers at December 1 reached a new high figure of \$41.43, according to the Bureau of Statistics. This was 27 cents above the November 1 figure of \$41.16 and \$4.19 higher than the December 1, 1947 average of \$37.24.

On an hourly basis, earnings, averaged 95.9 cents -- also the highest in the record -- as compared with 95.5 cents at November 1. Revisions of wage rates in the electrical apparatus, automotive parts, sugar refining and other industries, together with the release of lower-paid casual labour in canning factories, contributed to the increase. At December 1, 1947 the average hourly rate was 85.6 cents.

**TOURIST CAR ENTRIES:** The number of foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits in January increased 15.4 per cent over January last year to reach a new high record total for the month. This is on a par with the advance of 16.2 per cent in January, 1948 over the same month of 1947.

The number of entries in the month amounted to 32,590 as compared with 28,243 in the corresponding month a year ago. The gain in the month was shared by all provinces except Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, the latter province showing a substantial decrease. These divergent trends across Canada may have been influenced by unusual weather conditions.

**50,000 TH "D.P.":** A milestone in Canada's Displaced Persons program is reached this week with the arrival of the fifty-thousandth DP to be brought to Canada under the auspices of the International Refugee Organization, it was announced on February 16 by the Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon.

Number 50,000 is eight-year-old Ausma Levalds of Latvia, travelling with her mother and sister to join her father who is a farm worker at New Hamburg, Ont. The family are travelling aboard the liner, "Samaria", due to reach Halifax on or about February 19.

Although Canada has admitted more than 58,000 Displaced Persons, the Minister pointed out, by far the largest number have been brought in under the auspices of the I.R.O. From the beginning, Canada took an active part in negotiations which led to the establishment of the Provisional Committee of the I.R.O. and, later, became the first non-European country to take practical action towards the resettlement of the Displaced Persons.

**TO COMMISSION H.M.C.S. "PORTAGE":** The Algerine minesweeper, H.M.C.S. "Portage", will be commissioned approximately March 15 to supplement the fleet during the 1949 reserve training program, Naval Headquarters announced on February 17.

The "Portage" will be commissioned at Halifax and will operate for the second successive year on the Great Lakes. Lt.-Cdr. D.M. MacDonald, R.C.N., 33, of Pictou, N.S., has been appointed commanding officer of the vessel.

From May 21, when the "Portage" will arrive at Montreal, until September 10, the ship will train personnel of the Naval Divisions at Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton, Windsor, London (Samia) and Port Arthur.

Built during the war, H.M.C.S. "Portage" saw service as a convoy escort vessel on the North Atlantic. Since her last commission in the summer of 1948, she has been maintained in the Reserve Fleet. On completion of her 1949 reserve training assignment, the ship will be employed in minesweeping training of R.C.N. personnel at Halifax.

**A.F. GILL RESIGNS POST:** Resignation of Alan F. Gill, Director of the Standards Division, was announced on February 16 by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe. Mr. Gill will be taking up private business in New Brunswick.

Mr. Howe paid tribute to Mr. Gill's contribution to the Department during the past two years, and expressed regret that the government service was losing a man of such ability and experience. Mr. Gill organized the Standards Division by co-ordinating the work of the Weights and Measures and Electricity and Gas Inspection Services, and the Precious Metals Marking Act.

**ILO COMMITTEE IN ROME:** Methods of stabilizing employment in the construction industry and of avoiding the "extravagant fluctuations" that have marked its past history will be among the problems considered by a committee of the International Labour Organization in Rome beginning March 16.

Employers, workers and Government representatives of 21 countries have been invited to attend the meeting of the Building, Civil Engineering and Public Works Committee, which is one of eight ILO committees dealing with specific industries. The session will last about 10 days.

ILO Director-General David A. Morse announced on February 15 in Geneva that the delegates will discuss the following questions, in addition to the problem of employment stabilization:

Proposals to stimulate recruitment and training in the construction industry, including greater mobility of workers between countries and between regions;

Labour-management co-operation at the site, industry and national levels;

Improved methods of collective bargaining;

A general report dealing with recent developments in construction; ILO studies ordered at the committee's first session at Brussels in 1946; and action taken as a result of the Brussels meeting.

The 21 countries invited to attend are Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, India, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Union of South Africa and United States.

Nineteen nations were represented at the first session at Brussels.

**INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS:** Technical standards to cover international flights carried out by aircraft which do not fly regularly on scheduled air services are being drafted by the Inter-Civil Aviation Organization's Operations Division which is holding its third session in Montreal. ICAO has already written operational standards for airliners flying on scheduled routes.

There is an ever-increasing need to draft operational standards for non-scheduled international operations. It is impossible to apply the existing standards to the non-scheduled operators without some changes because of the differences in working conditions created by the nature of irregular operations. Just as one example, the present ICAO operational standards require each airline captain to have flown over his scheduled route, and to have made landings at every regular and alternate airport along that route, before he takes command. It is impossible to apply such a regulation to a charter aircraft which, one week, may be carrying passengers through South America and the next week may be hauling air

cargo in the Far East.

Other subjects to come before the Operations Division include the procedures to be followed in loading aircraft. Present aircraft design takes into account varying temperatures, aerodrome height above sea level, runway length, and the physical obstacles which surround the aerodrome. To ensure complete safety of operation, these factors must also be taken into consideration each time the aircraft is loaded before a flight.

Chairman of the Operations Meeting is Mr. R.D. Hoyt, United States; vice-chairman is Major A. Heum, Norway. The meeting is being attended by technicians representing 23 nations and 3 international organizations. It is expected to continue until about the beginning of March.

**ICAO APPOINTMENTS:** The International Civil Aviation Organization has appointed 18 persons to fill vacancies in its Secretariat, Dr. Albert Roper, Secretary General, announced on February 14. The 18 appointees are citizens of 9 different nations. They are:

External Relations Officer, E.R. Marlin, United States; Deputy Chiefs, Air Navigation Bureau, Frank Entwistle, United Kingdom; and T.S. Banes, United States.

Chief, Communications Section, H.R. Adam, Australia; Chief, Operations Section, P.M. Norman, United States; Chief, Joint Support Section, Joseph Dubsy, Czechoslovakia; Chief, Facilitation Section, R.J. Moulton, United States; Chief, Conference Section, Poeliu Dai, China; Chief, Statistics Unit, Economic Analysis & Statistics Section, Bartholomeus Kortekaas, Netherlands;

Technical Officer, Rules of the Air & Air Traffic Control Section, Jacques de Vienne, France; Technical Officer, Accident Investigation Section, J.A. Newton, United Kingdom; Supervisor, French Unit, Language Section, Lucien Brunet, France; Supervisor, Spanish Unit, Language Section, Nicolas Jané, United States; Assistant to Secretary General, John Hutchison, United Kingdom.

Translator, Language Section, Leon Boussard, France; Bernardo Meana, United States; G.J. Miret, Argentina; and I.P. Mortished, Ireland.

**9 ICAO APPOINTMENTS:** The appointment of nine aviation experts to the Air Navigation Commission of the International Civil Aviation Organization was announced on February 17 by Dr. Edward Warner, President of the ICAO Council. Chairman is Mr. D.W.J. Binaghi of Argentina. Other members are:

Major J.N.F. Gomes, Brazil; Mr. Stuart Graham, Canada; Mr. Y.C. Wu, China; Colonel C. Teyssier, France; Mr. J. van der Heijden, Netherlands; Mr. A. Hansen, Sweden; Mr. G.J. Warcup, United Kingdom; Mr. H. Walker Percy, United States.