

FARM INCOME DOWN 7.5 P.C.: Farmers in nine Canadian provinces (Newfoundland excluded) took in an estimated \$1,093,900,000 from the sale of farm products and from participation payments on previous year's wheat crops in the first 6 months this year, 7.5% less than the \$1,182,600,000 collected in the first half of 1953 and nearly 12% under the all-time January-June peak of \$1,241,700,000 in 1951. About \$72,600,000 of the total decline of \$88,700,000 from the first-half of last year occurred in the second quarter of 1954.

Contributing to the reduced income in the first half of this year were substantial cuts in cash income from wheat, barley, barley participation payments, rye, corn and potatoes. Wheat accounted for more of the decline than any other single commodity, much smaller marketings and lower prices reducing total receipts 45% to \$132,700,000 from \$242,900,000 in the first 6 months of 1953.

LIVESTOCK

On the other hand, income from the sale of livestock and products increased. Larger marketings for all livestock more than offset lower prices for all classes except hogs to increase the total return 16% to \$368,500,000 from \$317,400,000 in the first-half of 1953. Income from cattle and calves rose about 7% to \$185,800,000, while income from hogs jumped nearly 27% to \$180,500,000

Lower egg prices were more than offset by higher marketings and total cash income from the sale of eggs rose to \$62,300,000 from \$60,300,000. Farm income from dairy products totalled \$200,500,000, up from \$196,500,000 last year.

The Prairie Provinces and Prince Edward Island accounted for the entire reduction in farm cash income in the first 6 months this year, declines ranging from 6% in Prince Edward Island to 36% in Saskatchewan. Gains in the other provinces ranged from less than 1% in New Brunswick to about 9% in Quebec.

BORDER CROSSINGS UP: Volume of highway traffic between Canada and the United States was 5% heavier in July than in the corresponding month last year. Border crossings in July totalled 2,098,000 vehicles as compared with 1,990,000 a year earlier, bringing the January-July figure to 7,710,000 as compared with 7,582,000.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN SUNDAY: Battle of Britain Sunday, in honour of the famous "Few" who won the battle over Britain in the dark days of 1940, is being observed on September 19 this year by the RCAF. The day will be marked by church parades and special services at RCAF units across Canada.

AUTO SALES DROP: Canada's motor vehicle industry cut July shipments 46% this year as the drop in dealer sales increased, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported on September 15. Shipments have been falling below last year's record level at a steadily rising rate since February, and in July fell to 26,128 from 48,691, the sharpest drop to date. Dealer sales, which have been down since the start of the year, fell over 21% in July to 33,677 from 42,801, also the biggest cut so far. Retail value was off almost one-fifth to \$85,797,000 from \$106,789,000

The tally for the first seven months of 1954 showed shipments down 19% to 269,475 from 332,389, and dealer sales down about 18% to 261,576 from 317,461. The decline in retail value was not quite as great, amounting to slightly more than 15% to \$673,579,000 from \$795,131,000.

Imported United States and European motor vehicles have also moved more slowly this year. Shipments of U.S. vehicles were off to 1,383 from 2,943 in July and to 16,501 from 21,446 in the first seven months. Sales of European vehicles were down to 2,531 from 3,407 in July and to 14,869 from 19,737 in the seven months.

WORLD WHEAT: Supplies of wheat remaining on or about August 1 in the four major wheat exporting countries for export and carryover at the end of their respective crop years totalled 1,993,400,000 bushels, some 23% greater than the 1,620,400,000 a year ago.

Estimated supplies in each of the four countries on August 1 with a year earlier figures in brackets were as follows: United States, 1,201,000,000 (1,087,900,000); Canada, 587,500,000 bushels (369,200,000); Australia, 121,300,000 bushels (61,400,000); and Argentina, 83,600,000 bushels (101,900,000). The United States 1954 crop, estimated at 977,500,000 bushels, is included in these calculations.

Exports from Canada in the 12-month period were down 34%, United States 35%, and Australia 41%. Reduced shipments from these three countries were only partially offset by the sharp increase (184%) in Argentine exports from the preceding year's low level.

PETROLEUM CLIMB: Canada's output of crude petroleum in the first half of 1954 climbed to a new peak total of 42,233,000 barrels. This was 26.5% above the preceding year's 33,391,000 barrels. Production reached 7,870,000 barrels in June, up from 7,161,000 in May and 6,809,000 a year ago.

Alberta accounted for 39,021,000 barrels of the half-year output (31,722,000 a year ago). Saskatchewan was the next largest source with 2,018,000 barrels (1,199,000), followed by Manitoba with 787,000 barrels.