

MR. MATTHEWS MINISTER AT WASHINGTON: The Department of External Affairs announced on November 10 that Mr. W.D. Matthews, Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy, Washington, had been promoted to the rank of Minister.

Before his transfer to Washington earlier this year, Mr. Matthews was assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs in the Department at Ottawa.

The Department also announced that Canadian participation in arrangements for continuing consultation agreed upon at the sterling-dollar tripartite talks in Washington last September would be effected through the Embassy and that in addition to his other duties as Minister, Mr. Matthews would be acting in these matters as Deputy to the Ambassador, Mr. Hume Wrong. In this connection it would be recalled that the final communiqué issued by the representatives of the U.K., U.S. and Canada at the end of the Washington talks in September stated that "Arrangements for continuing consultation - supplementing the usual channels of communication between governments - will be used to keep under review the effectiveness of actions already agreed upon and to prepare, for governmental consideration, measures which could carry further those adjustments which are considered necessary".

Mr. Matthews was born in Toronto, July 2, 1906, and attended Ridley College, St. Catharines, and the Royal Military College, Kingston. He graduated from the University of Toronto with the degree of B.A. in 1929 and studied law at Osgoode Law School. From 1929 to 1930 he served as an Attaché at the Canadian Legation in Washington. From 1933 to 1939 he was engaged in the practice of law and in business in Toronto. After four years' service with the Foreign Exchange Control Board, beginning in 1939, he joined the Department of External Affairs in 1943.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR: Arrangements have been completed for an all out effort to redirect a substantial proportion of British Machine Tool and Scientific Instrument exports to the dollar markets, spearheaded by a mammoth exhibit at the 1950 Canadian International Trade Fair, according to Sir Holland Goddard, prominent U.K. industrialist. He heads the British Mission which has been in Canada for three weeks to finalize a multitude of details involved in what amounts to a major shift in trade patterns for the industry.

NEW EMPLOYMENT RECORD: Canada's civilian labour force reached an estimated 5,253,000 persons in the week ending August 20 this year, an increase of 144,000 over the estimated total of 5,109,000 in the week ending September 4 last year. Of this year's August total, an estimated 5,155,000 had jobs, an increase of 113,000 over September last year and the

largest number of job holders ever recorded in Canada. The number idle and seeking work at 98,000 was 31,000 greater than in September last year.

These figures are based upon the quarterly sample survey of households by the Bureau of Statistics. For the purposes of this survey, the civilian labour force includes all persons 14 years of age and over who, during the survey week, were at work, had a job at which they did not work because of illness, temporary layoff or other reasons, or who did not have a job and were looking for work. The group at work includes both those who worked for pay or profit or did unpaid work that contributed to the running of a farm or business.

The rise of 144,000 in the labour force from September last year to August this year is the largest shown for the time of year in the four years of the quarterly surveys. It compares with an increase of 28,000 from 5,081,000 in August 1947 to 5,109,000 in September last year, and of 104,000 from 4,977,000 in August 1946 to August 1947. During this period the total non-institutional civilian population 14 years of age and over has risen from an estimated 8,792,000 in August, 1946, to 9,343,000 in August this year. From September last year the non-institutional population had expanded by 183,000 in August last.

A breakdown of the latest estimate shows 4,522,000 persons working 35 hours or more during the survey week as against 4,449,000 in September, 1948; 312,000 working 15 to 34 hours compared with 314,000; and 92,000 working under 15 hours compared with 102,000. There was a total of 229,000 with a job but not at work as against 177,000. In connection with the latter figure, the Bureau reports that the August surveys have consistently shown a relatively large number in this category due to the prevalence of vacations at this time. Thus, of the 229,000 in August last, 176,000 were reported on vacation and 40,000 absent from work because of temporary illness.

SOLDIERS HONOURED FOR BRAVERY: Acts of outstanding bravery last summer have won the King's Commendation for Brave Conduct for two Canadian Army Active Force soldiers, it was announced on November 12 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton.

The men are Cpl. Edward Pearson Shaw, 27, a section commander with the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and formerly of Chase, B.C., and Cpl. Earl Thomas White, 25, a wireless operator with the Northwest Territories and Yukon Radio System and formerly of Verdun, Quebec. Cpl. Shaw is presently stationed at Calgary, Alta., and Cpl. White at Fort Chipewyan, Alta.

Cpl. Shaw won his award by saving a trainee from death or serious injury in a grenade throwing accident last June at Sarcee, Alta.

Cpl. White, although not a strong swimmer, plunged into fast, dangerous waters at Fort Chipewyan, Alta., last July, to save a civilian carpenter from certain death.

Both men are veterans of the Second World War.

FIELD MARSHAL SLIM TO VISIT: Field Marshal Sir William Joseph Slim, GBE, KCB, DSO, MC, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, will visit Canada from November 23 to 26, the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton announced on November 14.

He will come to Canada at the invitation of Lt.-Gen. Charles Foulkes, CB, CBE, DSO, Canadian Army Chief of Staff, and during his visit will be the guest of His Excellency the Governor General, Field Marshal Lord Alexander, staying at Government House, Ottawa.

Field Marshal Slim will have discussions with Lt.-Gen. Foulkes and the Canadian Chiefs of Staff. He will also pay a short visit to the National Defence College at Kingston.

At the conclusion of his Canadian visit, Field Marshal Slim will leave for the United States where he will be the guest of the U.S. Army.

NORTH WEST STAGING ROUTE: Reductions in the three units of the United States Air Force Military Air Transport Service remaining in the Canadian section of the North West Staging Route were announced in Washington on November 11 by Major General Lawrence S. Kuter, Commander of MATS and, in Ottawa, by Royal Canadian Air Force Headquarters.

Airways and Air Communication Service, Air Weather Service and Continental Division personnel and units were participants in this move, completed on November 1, from the Staging Route airfields at Edmonton, Alberta; Fort Nelson, British Columbia; and Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. However, a minimum number of MATS weather and liaison personnel will remain at these points to service MATS transport operations between the United States and Alaska and insure proper disposition of U.S.A.F. property.

Normal U.S.A.F. transport activities over the North West Staging Route will continue despite the withdrawal of MATS units, but the primary responsibility for the support of MATS aircraft will now rest with the R.C.A.F.

While the air stations along the portion of the Staging Route that lies in Canada are controlled and maintained by the R.C.A.F., after the war small MATS units remained at the three airfields mentioned, primarily to service U.S. Military aircraft passing between the United States and Alaska. The Staging Route is one of the R.C.A.F.'s major air transport routes, being used by many R.C.A.F. aircraft supplying northern Canadian installations and detachment points.

MANUFACTURING UP 17 PER CENT: Canada's manufacturing industries had a gross value of production of \$11,800,887,000 in 1948, showing an increase of \$1,720,917,000 or 17 per cent over the preceding year. The 1948 total was an all-time record. Gains were registered for each of the nine main groups of industries, largest dollar advance being shown by the iron and its products section, while the largest percentage rise was shown by the non-metallic minerals group, reports the Bureau of Statistics.

The iron and its products group of industries -- largest of the nine -- had a gross production value of \$2,251,392,000 in 1948, rising 21.4 per cent over the preceding year. Gains were widespread throughout the group, all but one of the 18 individual industries participating in the rise. Marked dollar value increases were shown in agricultural implements, automobiles, machinery, primary iron and steel, railway rolling stock, and sheet metal products.

The wood and paper group -- second in gross value in 1948, and first in 1947 -- had a gross production value of \$2,207,361,000 as against \$1,953,243,000 a year earlier. There were increased production values shown by 26 of the 27 industries making up the group, the single exception being the cooperage industry. Among the industries of the group, there were substantial gains in pulp and paper, sawmills, printing and publishing, planing mills, sash and door factories, and paper boxes and bags.

The vegetable products section -- third largest -- had a gross value of production of \$1,903,778,000 up nine per cent over the 1947 total of \$1,743,992,000. There were increases recorded by 15 of the 21 industries making up the group. Largest among the increases were tobacco, cigars and cigarettes, sugar refineries, fruit and vegetable preparations, confectionery, cocoa, and bread and other bakery products.

Gross value of the animal products group was \$1,560,761,000, up 24 per cent over 1947, marked increases being shown in slaughtering and meat packing, butter and cheese, and fish curing and packing. The non-ferrous metals group, at \$1,261,284,000, was 21.9 per cent higher, sharply increased totals being shown for non-ferrous smelting and refining, electrical apparatus and supplies, and brass and copper products.

The textiles and textile products group was increased to \$1,225,238,000 from \$1,062,041,000, non-metallic minerals to \$711,468,000 from \$563,120,000, chemicals and chemical products to \$554,110,000 from \$488,306,000, and miscellaneous industries to \$125,495,000 from \$120,601,000.

MERCHANDISE IMPORTS: Canada's total merchandise imports in September increased to \$221,600,000 from \$212,100,000 in August,