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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

ATOMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The Right Hon. C.D. Howe has announced the appointment of an Advisory Committee to the Atomic Energy Control Board on the mining and exploration of uranium and other radioactive minerals. The Committee consists of the following:

G.C. Bateman, Chairman, Mining Consultant, Montreal;

W.B. Timm, Director, Mines, Forests and Scientific Services, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa;

Eugene Laroche, Secretary, Western Quebec Mining Association, Quebec;

Dr. W.F. James, Geologist, Toronto;

Don Cameron, President, Don Cameron Exploration Company Limited, Toronto;

W.J. Bennett, President and Managing Director of Eldorado Mining and Refining (1944) Limited, Ottawa;

F.M. Connell, Mining Engineer, Toronto;

J.G. McCrea, Dome Exploration Canada, Limited, Toronto.

Mr. Howe stated that while he was now announcing the formal constitution of the Committee, the Committee had actually been set up informally some months ago and had been considering problems relating to the search for radioactive minerals. The recent announcement of Government policy with respect to the participation of private interests in the exploration for and the mining of radioactive minerals was based on the Committee's recommendation.

SEA SAFETY CONFERENCE: The Hon. Lionel Chevrier, Minister of Transport, stated Thursday that in view of Canada's extensive coast lines and her greater role in maritime matters, the Government attaches considerable importance to the International Conference on the Safety of Life at Sea to be held in London on April 23 next. The Minister announced the Canadian delegation as follows:

Jules Leger, of the Department of External Affairs, and at present attached to Canada House, London (chief Canadian delegate);

H.V. Anderson, Director of Marine Services, Department of Transport, Ottawa (alternate chief delegate);

Captain J.W. Kerr, Supervisor of Nautical Services, Department of Transport, Ottawa (delegate);

A.A. Young, Chief Inspector of Hulls and Equipment, Steamship Inspection Branch, Department of Transport, Ottawa (delegate);

L.E. Coffey, Radio Representative, Department of Transport, Ottawa (delegate);

Lieutenant Peter G. Chance, Naval Representative, Ottawa, (Technical Adviser and Observer);

Walter R. Gray, Canadian Marconi Company, Montreal, (Technical Adviser and Observer);

A.E. Lawes, Montreal Shipping Federation, Montreal (Observer);

Captain R.W. McMurray, Managing Director of Canadian Pacific Steamships Ltd., Montreal, (Technical Adviser and Observer).

(C. W. B. April 16, 1948)

COMMUNICATIONS DEAL: The Governments of Canada and the United States have announced that an agreement has been concluded concerning the future operation of certain of the telephone and telegraph lines constructed during the war between Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, and the Alaska-Canadian border.

These lines provide direct communication between Canada, the United States and the interior of Alaska. They are available for transmission of telephone and telegraph messages of private industry and individuals and are handling a steadily increasing volume of commercial traffic. They were built during the war under the technical supervision of the United States Army Signal Corps and at the conclusion of hostilities sold to and are now operated by the Canadian Government.

These facilities parallel the Highway from Edmonton, Alberta to the Alaskan-Canadian border, which is approximately 1700 miles from Edmonton. At the boundary the Canadian portion of the lines connects with the Alaska Communication System which provides telephone and telegraph service for the Territory of Alaska. Under the present agreement the Canadian Government makes available certain channels on the lines within its boundaries for use by the United States on a rental basis.

These several telephone and teletype channels are leased in accordance with standard commercial rates. The United States Government agrees to maintain the facilities in Alaska, operation and maintenance of the facilities in Canada being the responsibility of the Canadian authorities. In both cases, maintenance is to be carried out in accordance with standard practices.

The agreement is to remain in force until the two Governments mutually consent to terminate it or after one year's notice by either Government.

CHINESE GENEROSITY: The generosity of a Chinese official in supplying the Canadian Embassy in China with plants and trees for the new compound is described in a letter recently received by the Department of External Affairs from the Canadian Ambassador in China, the Honourable T. C. Davis.

Last year Mr. Ho Pei-heng, a member of the Szechuan Provincial government and Director of the Reconstruction Bureau, called on the Ambassador and was taken to the site of the Embassy compound. Some time later a large consignment of plants and trees arrived at the Embassy in the company of a technical expert and a workman. The expert handed the Ambassador a letter which read in part:

"During my stay in Nanking last year I had the privilege of visiting the new site of your Embassy at the invitation of your Ambassador. I am sending you various kinds of plants and trees of Szechuan as a present for your Embassy and have asked Mr. Chin, technical expert,

assisted by a workman, to escort them to Nanking.

"These plants and trees were transported from the different districts of Szechuan to Chungking for transshipment to Nanking. I cannot say for sure how many of these trees and plants will ultimately grow.

"All travelling expenses for Mr. Chin and for the workman have been paid by this Bureau. Please do not pay any expenses whatsoever. For your perusal I am enclosing a list of the names of the plants and trees."

Mr. Davis said in reply the Embassy staff was "very, very pleased" to receive the plants and trees. "We have been touched by your kindness and generosity. The plants and trees have arrived and have been transported by us to our new Embassy site and have been placed in a bed for replanting as soon as we can decide on a plan of general landscaping which will involve the use of this wonderful present from you. It was more than thoughtful of you to think of making a gift of this character and the fact that it came without any previous warning increased our pleasure in receiving it.

"We have told your technical expert that as we will be delayed in doing the transplanting, there is no need for him and his workman to remain here, but that we would arrange for transplanting and locating through the University of Nanking gardens. It was enough for you to send us this present without going to all the trouble of sending these men along to escort the present to Nanking."

TWO BY-ELECTIONS: The Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, announced Friday that Tuesday, June 8th, had been fixed as the date of polling for the by-elections in the electoral divisions of Ontario and Vancouver-Centre. The by-elections will be held on Tuesday, June 8th, because Monday, June 7th, has been fixed as the day for the observance in Canada of the King's birthday.

HOLLYWOOD COOPERATION: An initial and concrete progress report on Hollywood's plan of co-operation toward the alleviation of Canada's U. S. currency problem was outlined last week to Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe by J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation, and Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association of America.

The report was delivered at a luncheon in the Quebec Suite of the Chateau Laurier. U. S. Ambassador Ray Atherton and a group of prominent Dominion Government officials were present.

Mr. Harmon stated that the industry recognized the importance of the Canadian market and desires to co-operate for the mutual benefit of both Canada and the industry. This co-operation has already taken concrete shape in plans to use more Canadian news shots, scenic backgrounds, studios and other facil-

ities in current film production, Mr. Harmon explained. Thirty-one Canadian shots have appeared in U. S. newsreels in February and March of this year as against ten in the same months of 1947, and three excellent short subjects -- "Calgary Stampede", "Snow Capers" and "Big Game Angling" -- have been filmed. A new feature picture "The Emperor Waltz", starring Bing Crosby, embodies sequences shot in the Canadian Rockies at a cost of \$750,000. Recently locations in Canada have been found for two producers who need background for a special type of gold mining and an Alpine-type village. Other locations and existing studio facilities are being studied in connection with an extensive list of Canadian stories which are considered suitable for film treatment.

One of the purposes of the discussions in Ottawa was to establish effective and continuing liaison with Canadian sources of information. Catalogues are being prepared listing all the stock shots and various scenic sequences available in the library of the National Film Board and other Canadian producers, with the intention of incorporating them in appropriate Hollywood productions.

Special developments include the provision of Canadian news to a U. S. television programme which has a weekly audience of one million people, and the addition of an educational commentary on Canada to a picture which had already been completed with a Canadian background.

An important by-product of this display of Canadian film material in the United States was emphasized by Mr. Fitzgibbons of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation. He pointed out that it should be of immediate and material assistance to the tourist industry, and thus contribute to Canada's vitally important supply of U. S. dollars. Mr. Harmon added special tribute to the splendid co-operation of the Dominion government departments and private businessmen who had contributed greatly to the development of a programme of mutual co-operation from which so much could be expected in the way of practical results.

FARM INCOME AT HIGH: In spite of a continued rise in farm operating expenses, the net income of Canadian farmers from farming operations in 1947 reached a total of \$1,259,711,000, the highest figure recorded since the compilation of comparable statistics back to 1938, according to preliminary estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This figure compares with the revised estimate for 1946 of \$1,160,755,000, and the revised figure for 1944 of \$1,242,718,000, the previous high record.

Farm cash income also established an all-time high record of \$1,990,619,000 as against \$1,752,682,000 in the preceding year, and there were further increases in the value of

home-consumed farm produce. While the value of farm-held year-end inventories of live stock and grains declined \$100,111,000 it failed to offset gains in cash income and income in kind, the latter rising from \$300,557,000 in 1946 to \$323,465,000. As a result, gross income for 1947 also set a record, aggregating \$2,213,973,000 compared with \$2,012,015,000 in 1946.

Farm operating expenses in 1947 continued the upward climb which became quite noticeable in 1946. From \$868,210,000 in 1946 this item rose to \$965,838,000 in 1947, a gain of approximately 11 per cent. While gains were registered for nearly all of the expense items, the most significant increase occurred in the case of live stock feeds which climbed from approximately \$198,975,000 in 1946 to \$253,790,000 last year.

With the exception of Nova Scotia and British Columbia, all of the 1947 provincial net incomes were larger than in 1946 and without exception they were above the 1945 figures. Compared with 1946, the greatest absolute gain in provincial net income occurred in Saskatchewan, while on a percentage basis, Saskatchewan and Alberta, with gains of 19.6 and 19.3 per cent, respectively, were in the lead.

MINERAL PRODUCTION: Production of all but four of Canada's 16 leading minerals was higher in January than in the corresponding month of 1947, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Exceptions were coal, lead, salt and zinc.

Output for the month was as follows, totals for January 1947 being in brackets: asbestos, 46,633 (44,058) tons; cement, 500,492 (403,933) barrels; clay products, \$993,155 (\$863,266); coal, 1,385,776 (1,700,463) tons; copper, 40,894,610 (28,892,159) pounds; feldspar, 3,486 (1,952) tons; gold, 274,104 (234,137) fine ounces; gypsum, 138,534 (95,370) tons; lead, 22,135,773 (25,152,806) pounds; lime, 77,412 (74,595) tons; natural gas, 6,186,254 (5,970,806) M cubic feet; nickel, 21,548,839 (19,447,552) pounds; petroleum, 775,628 (597,572) barrels; salt, 55,975 (61,854) tons; silver, 859,901 (767,654) fine ounces; zinc, 34,332,614 (35,062,672) pounds.

MR. MCILRAITH'S ADDRESS: In an address to the Canadian Importers and Traders Association in Toronto on April 9, George J. McIlraith, M.P., Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Trade and Commerce, said in part:-

"It is still too early to hazard a guess on how soon our gold and U. S. dollar reserve will be raised to the point where import restrictions can be dropped. The immediate result seems to be favourable. In the three months, September to November, total exports exceeded total imports by \$30 million, which was less than half the total of a year earlier. In the three months following the establishment of

import restrictions, that is, December through February, the favourable balance was \$130 million, double the balance of a year earlier.

On our trade with the United States, which is the crux of the foreign exchange problem, an unfavourable balance of \$140 million in September-November 1946, had increased to nearly \$240 million in September-November 1947. In the three months following restriction of imports, the unfavourable balance was \$115 million, which can be compared with an unfavourable balance of \$180 million a year earlier. Similarly, there has been an increase in our holdings of gold and U.S. currency. This reserve dropped to \$460 million in mid-December, and increased to nearly \$530 million at the end of February, not including \$50 million drawn on the loan from the American Export-Import Bank."

UNIQUE PRESENTATION: A photograph of Winston Churchill on which he has written "To Fort Churchill and its friends since 1685", an engraving of the first Baron Churchill after whom the Churchill River was named, and a framed certificate of presentation have been sent to the Defence Research Board of Canada by four eminent British defence scientists following their visit to Canada last fall.

The scientists are Sir Henry Tizard, Chairman of the Defence Research Policy Committee; Sir Ben Lockspeiser, Chief Scientist, Ministry of Supply; Dr. O.H. Wansbrough-Jones, Scientific Adviser to the Army Council; and Dr. J.A. Carroll, Deputy Controller (Research and Development) of the Admiralty.

The framed presentations have been sent to Dr. O.M. Solandt, OBE, Chairman of the Defence Research Board, for the officers' mess of the armed forces' cold weather testing station at Fort Churchill. The actual presentation to the mess will be made by Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence, when he visits Churchill.

Baron Churchill of Aymouth, shown in the engraving, is the same man who later became Duke of Marlborough. He was the third governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, from 1685 to 1692. This explains the phrase "friends since 1685" autographed on his own photograph by Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, direct descendant of the Duke of Marlborough and British wartime Prime Minister.

WORLD WHEAT SITUATION: There has been a fairly steady flow of shipments from the four major wheat-exporting countries to deficit areas during the past few months. Record 1947 wheat crops in the United States and Australia, together with an excellent crop in the Argentine, have made it possible to maintain rations in these areas at better levels than had been hoped for earlier in the season.

Although Canada's 1947 wheat crop was below average and carry-over stocks at the outset of the crop year were very low, exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat will be close to the 200-million-bushel mark for the current crop year. It is estimated that, by the end of May, exports of grains and grain products from the United States will have amounted to 521.9 million bushels (in grain equivalent), this amount including 432.5 million bushels of wheat and flour in terms of wheat. It now appears likely that crop-year exports of all grains and grain products from the United States may approach a total of 570 million bushels, of which wheat and flour will make up considerably more than 450 million bushels. Exports of grains from Russia, too, have not been inconsiderable.

In the light of these favourable factors some international food authorities have forecast an end to the international allocation of cereal grains. Any such final decision, however, will likely hinge on the size of the United States 1948 winter wheat and corn crops in addition to satisfactory 1948 harvests in the world's deficit areas.

RETAIL SALES: Sales of retail stores in Canada were nine per cent higher in February this year than in the same month a year ago, according to the composite index for 14 trades. Combining the 18 per cent increase in January with the nine per cent February gain, sales in the first two months of this year were 13 per cent above the corresponding period of 1947. The decline between January and February this year was consistent with the normal seasonal trend of sales. Unadjusted indexes, on the base 1935-39=100, were 198.7 for February, 211.8 for January, and 183.1 for February, 1947.

Food stores had the largest of the increases for individual trades in the first two months of this year; sales averaged 18 per cent above the corresponding period a year ago. The 14 per cent increase for February was not quite as substantial as a 23 per cent gain recorded in January, but nevertheless ranked high among the gains recorded by various trades. Price increases have undoubtedly been one of the major factors in this trend in food store sales.

Department store sales marked up a gain of only three per cent in February, an increase which is considerably lower than the January rise of 17 per cent. Sales averaged nine per cent higher in the two-month period. Country general and variety stores reported sales up seven per cent and 13 per cent, respectively in February.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: Claims for unemployment insurance benefit filed at local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission in

February totalled 88,016 as against 109,311 in January and 55,569 in the corresponding month last year. Ordinary claimants on the live unemployment register at the end of February numbered 146,074 compared with 130,798 at the end of January and 110,062 at the end of February, 1947. In addition there were 7,279 on the live unemployment register at the end of February, 14,462 as at January 31, and 2,358 a year ago.

CAR LOADINGS: Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended April 3 increased to 74,459 cars from 68,813 cars for the preceding week and 66,639 cars for the corresponding week last year; loadings for both of these weeks were depressed by the holiday on Good Friday. Grain loadings were lighter than in the same week last year by 1,150 cars and grain products also declined by 311 cars. Coal loadings increased from 3,037 cars to 6,188 cars, only 1,066 cars being loaded in the eastern division in 1947.

SASKATCHEWAN FARMS: Both proportion and area of occupied farms in Saskatchewan operated by owners increased from 1941 to 1946, according to preliminary figures of the 1946 Prairie Census. This is a reversal of the trend recorded in the preceding five years. Out of 125,612 occupied farms in the province at June 1, 1946, 71,035 or nearly 57 per cent were owner-operated as compared with 52.6 per cent of the 1941 total of 138,713 occupied farms. In 1936 owner-operated farms formed 60.3 per cent of the 142,391 farms. While the number of farms, both total and owner-operated thus decreased during the 10 years, the area of owned farms in 1946 was 6.7 per cent higher than in 1941 and 2.5 per cent above 1936.

COST OF LIVING: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released cost-of-living indexes for eight regional cities for March 1, together with those for February 2 and March 1 last year. Five of the eight cities -- Halifax, Saint John, Montreal, Winnipeg and Saskatoon -- showed increases of 1.2 points between February 2 and March 1, while the index for Edmonton moved up 0.8 points, and that for Vancouver advanced one point. Toronto recorded the smallest change with a rise of 0.3 points.

The Bureau points out that in interpreting the city indexes it should be understood that they compare changes in living costs in each city, but do not compare actual levels of living costs as between cities. It is incorrect to conclude, on the basis of these indexes, that it costs more to live in one city than it does in another. The comparable Dominion cost-of-living index, on the base August 1939 was 149.6 for March 1 this year.

The following table shows the city cost-of-living indexes for March 1 this year, February 2, and March 1, 1947.

	March 1 1947	Feb. 2 1948	March 1 1948
(August 1939=100)			
Halifax.....	126.7	144.3	145.5
Saint John.....	126.9	147.7	148.9
Montreal.....	130.8	152.8	154.0
Toronto.....	126.9	147.8	148.1
Winnipeg.....	124.8	144.4	145.6
Saskatoon.....	130.2	151.9	153.1
Edmonton.....	126.0	145.1	145.9
Vancouver.....	129.0	148.7	149.7

LESS BUTTER: Creamery butter production in March amounted to 11,384,000 pounds as compared with 12,240,000 pounds in the corresponding month last year, a decline of seven per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the first three months of this year, 28,410,000 pounds were produced compared with 30,744,000 in the like period of 1947, a decrease of 7.6 per cent. There were declines in both the month and quarter in all provinces except Alberta.

WHEAT STOCKS: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on March 31 totalled 88,103,500 bushels compared with 92,239,300 bushels on March 24, and 105,505,300 bushels on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Visible on the latest date comprised 85,834,900 bushels in Canadian positions and 2,268,600 bushels in United States positions.

3,178 "D.P.'S" LAST MONTH: Three thousand one hundred and seventy-eight Displaced Persons arrived in Canada last month, raising the total number of homeless Europeans received in Canada since April 1947 to 14,250, it was announced by the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources.

The figure for March was the highest on record, bettering by 670 the previous monthly high of 2,508 reached in January, and exceeded the February mark by 1,959.

Of the total of Displaced Persons now in Canada, 5,042 are close relatives of residents of this country, 8,702 are workers brought forward in groups in response to requests submitted by industry, and 506 are orphan children.

The groups who have arrived are as follows: domestics, 1,798; woodworkers, 3,599; textile workers, 207; miners, 983; garment workers, 803; garment workers' dependants, 569; steel workers, 124; steel workers' dependants, 20; railway workers, 289; foundry workers, 64; hydro workers, 246.

AGE LIMITS: Army Headquarters said this week that until existing regulations are brought up to date, the following maximum age limits apply for applicants for commissions in the Canadian Army Reserve Force: in Armoured Corps, Artillery, Infantry or Army Service Corps units, 28 years; in Engineer, Signals, Ordnance or RCME units, 30 years; and in the Medical, Dental, Pay, Provost or Intelligence Corps, 35 years. Maximum age limit for the appointment of Chaplains to units of the Reserve Force is 50 years. The age restrictions apply only to first commissions in the rank of 2nd Lieutenant or Lieutenant.

All applicants between the ages of 17 and 45 years are eligible for enlistment in the ranks.

ROYAL VISITOR: The following particulars with respect to the forthcoming visit to Ottawa of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Belgium have been given to the Press by the Department of External Affairs.

His Royal Highness will be accompanied on his visit to Ottawa by Mr. Paul Henri Spaak, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, Mr. Paul de Groote, Minister of Economic Co-operation of Belgium, and by members of their staffs.

The Prince Regent will arrive in his own aircraft at Rockcliffe Airport at noon on Friday, April 16, where he will be welcomed to Canada by the Deputy Governor General, the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and other members of the Government. His Royal Highness and the members of the Belgian Government will lunch informally with the Prime Minister at the Chateau Laurier Hotel. During the afternoon the Prince Regent will visit the Parliament Buildings. Mr. Spaak, the Prime Minister of Belgium, will meet the press. In the evening His Royal Highness will be the guest of the Government of Canada at a dinner in his honour at the Country Club.

At one o'clock on Saturday, April 17, His Royal Highness will lay a wreath at the National War Memorial, after which he will entertain at luncheon at the Belgian Embassy. In the evening the Prince Regent will be the Prime Minister's guest at dinner at Laurier House and afterwards at the Minto Follies.

On Sunday, April 18, the Prince Regent will leave Canada by air for Belgium from Rockcliffe Airport.

FOREIGN TRADE: Foreign trade of Canada in February was valued at \$392,500,000, the highest figure ever shown for the month, but the lowest monthly total since the corresponding month last year when the value was \$358,900,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The increase over February 1947 was 9.3 per cent. For the two months, January

and February, the aggregate value was \$837,600,000 as compared with \$743,200,000 in the similar period of 1947.

Merchandise imports in February, with a value of \$182,200,000 were at a record level for the month, although lower than in any month since February last year, comparing with \$206,100,000 in January and \$177,100,000 in February, 1947. During the first two months of this year, imports were valued at \$388,200,000 compared with \$350,900,000 in the like period of 1947.

Merchandise exports in February were valued at \$208,300,000, a peacetime high figure for the month, although the lowest month's total since April last year. The figure for January was \$235,400,000 and for February last year, \$179,500,000.

The overall commodity trade balance was favourable to Canada to the extent of \$28,100,000 compared with \$33,000,000 in January and \$4,700,000 in February last year. Favourable balance with the United Kingdom in February was \$33,900,000 compared with \$43,400,000 in January and \$34,500,000 a year ago. The debit balance with the United States declined further to \$40,500,000 compared with \$43,200,000 in January and \$67,100,000 in February last year.

MERCHANDISE IMPORTS: Canada's merchandise imports in February were valued at \$182,200,000, showing a small advance over last year's corresponding total of \$177,100,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total for the first two months of this year was \$388,200,000 as compared with \$350,900,000 in the similar period of 1947, an increase of 10 per cent.

Imports from the United States showed a slight recession in February, being valued at \$136,847,000 compared with \$138,429,000 in February last year, while the total for the two months, January and February, was \$286,823,000 as against \$274,877,000 in the like period of 1947, a rise of four per cent. Imports from the United Kingdom were higher in February, amounting to \$17,872,000 as against \$10,515,000, bringing the two-month total to \$39,462,000 as against \$24,773,000.

Imports from Venezuela, the next largest source of supply during the month, were valued at \$4,967,000 as against \$2,548,000, followed by India and Pakistan at \$2,140,000 compared with \$5,531,000, Cuba \$2,052,000 compared with \$759,000, Mexico \$1,930,000 compared with \$781,000, Brazil \$1,698,000 (\$481,000), Gold Coast \$1,270,000 (\$831,000), New Zealand \$1,236,000 (\$1,520,000), Netherlands West Indies \$856,000 (\$385,000), Philippine Islands \$847,000 (\$688,000), and Colombia \$845,000 (\$1,516,000).

Declines were shown for seven of the nine main commodity groups of imports. Sharpest drop was registered by the fibres and textiles group which fell from \$32,700,000 in February

last year to \$22,300,000. Cotton and products, flax, hemp and jute, and artificial silk were lower, and wool and products higher. The iron and products group rose from \$48,604,000 to \$61,031,000, with advances in farm implements and machinery, other machinery, automobile parts, engines and boilers, but decreases in freight and passenger automobiles.

The non-metallic minerals group rose from \$25,198,000 to \$36,090,000, gains being shown for coal, coal products, crude petroleum and petroleum products. The non-ferrous metals group was down slightly at \$10,195,000 compared with \$11,173,000, as was the chemicals group at \$8,411,000 compared with \$8,466,000.

The agricultural and vegetable products group fell from \$25,675,000 to \$22,678,000, fruits, vegetables, tea, vegetable oils, and rubber being lower, and sugar, cocoa and chocolate, and coffee and chicory higher. The animals and animal products group fell from \$8,225,000 to \$7,118,000, wood, wood products and paper from \$6,520,000 to \$5,797,000, and the miscellaneous group from \$10,555,000 to \$8,594,000.

ALBERTA FARMS: The total number of occupied farms in Alberta on June 1, 1946 was 89,541, as compared with 99,732 in 1941, according to preliminary Census figures. Of the 1946 total, 3.5 per cent were farms 1-50 acres in size, 1.9 per cent were 51-100 acres in size, and 31.6 per cent, 101-200 acres in size. This compared with 3.4 per cent in 1941 and 3.0 per cent in 1936 in the 1-50 acre size; 2.1 per cent in 1941 and 2.0 per cent in 1936 in the 51-100 acre size; and 36.9 per cent in 1941 and 40.3 per cent in 1936 in the 101-200 acre size.

The reduction in the total number and percentage of farms in the 101-200 acre size reflects the decrease in the number of quarter section farms in Alberta. In fact the total number of farms of 200 acres or less declined by 21.6 per cent in the five-year period from 1941 to 1946. There was an increase in the percentage of farms in all size groups over 200 acres in 1946 when compared with 1941 and 1936. Between 1941 and 1946 there was actually an increase of 2.1 per cent in the total number of farms of 640 acres or over.

NATIONAL PARKS IMPROVEMENT: Honourable James MacKinnon, Acting Minister of Mines and Resources announced that the Governor in Council had approved the recommendation that a Calgary Company be awarded the contract for the reconstruction and preparation for hard-surfacing of the 67-mile Jasper Park end of the Banff-Jasper Highway and the improvement of the 7-mile road which leads to Mount Edith Cavell also in Jasper Park, Alberta. The same company will reconstruct and prepare for hard-surfacing a substantial portion of the Banff-Windermere

Highway in Banff and Kootenay National Parks. The estimated total expenditure involved in these projects will be in the neighbourhood of \$900,000.

The Minister pointed out that quick action had been taken to implement the previously announced policy of improving National Parks highways with a view to maintaining and increasing the valuable flow of tourist travel to these great scenic and recreational areas. To date contracts, with a total value of more than \$2,000,000, have been awarded.

AERIAL PHOTO OPERATIONS: The RCAF's 1948 aerial photo operations have started, with three Dakota aircraft of 414 Squadron, Rockcliffe, on their way to Calgary, to commence photo flights in that area, it was announced by Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa. The three aircraft, making up one of the numerous detachments which will operate in the field during the season, left Rockcliffe Monday morning, and are scheduled to arrive in Calgary on Tuesday, after an over-night stop in Winnipeg.

The detachment will move north from Calgary around May 1, depending upon snow conditions, and will operate from Whitehorse, Y.T., Watson Lake, Y.T., and Fort Nelson, B.C., and it is expected that more than 81,000 square miles will be covered by the three planes, before they return to Rockcliffe around the first of September.

In all, it is hoped that approximately 550,000 square miles will be covered this year by the RCAF's No. 22 Photo Wing, although it is emphasized by Air Force officials that coverage is greatly dependent upon the weather. Last year's crews covered over 400,000 square miles, despite bad weather conditions.

IMMIGRATION INCREASE: A 133.4 per cent increase in immigration to Canada for the first two months of 1948 over the corresponding period of last year, was announced by the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources. The Branch also announced the scheduled arrival early next week of the steamship "Kota Inten" carrying 740 Dutch immigrants to Canada.

The immigrants aboard the "Kota Inten" are family groups who will be going to farms in all nine provinces. This is the second trip of the "Kota Inten," which brought an earlier group of Dutch families to Canada on March 22.

During January and February, 12,457 immigrants reached Canada, as compared to 5,337 in the same months of 1947. Immigrants from the British Isles numbered 6,313, a 77.7 per cent increase over the total of 3,552 for the corresponding months of 1947.

There was a marked rise in the numbers of immigrants from continental Europe, the two-month figure being 5,223, as against only 545 for the same period a year ago.

CANADIAN NATIONAL ANNUAL REPORTS

NET INCOME DEFICIT \$15,885,194: Last year the Canadian National Railways handled the heaviest volume of peacetime traffic in their history and their freight tonnage was even greater than that of any of the busiest years of the war, according to R.C. Vaughan, G.M.G., Chairman and President, whose annual report for the Board of Directors was tabled in the House of Commons Monday by Hon. Lionel Chevrier, Minister of Transport. The statistics for 1947 again demonstrated, he said, "the magnitude of the work carried on year after year for the people of Canada by the System in all its branches and its importance as a primary factor in the national economy."

The unprecedented load of freight -- 86,221,279 tons -- was nearly double the tonnage of 1939. Handling it was made possible in spite of the continent-wide shortage of car equipment because of close attention to operating performance and the co-operation of shippers. Maximum loading requirements introduced during the war were continued. Gross and net train loadings, the average car load and freight car miles per day were improved as compared with 1946 or any year before the war.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC

While there was a reduction in passenger traffic as a whole, Mr. Vaughan noted an increase in holiday travel and said that the Railway "did its part in promoting the tourist industry and took full advantage to procure its full share of this increasing business."

The Company's twelve hotels continued to be operated at high levels of patronage and the business of the Canadian National Express and the Canadian National Telegraphs was greater than in any other year. The 20,548,605 Express shipments were an increase of 8.51% over 1946 and the Telegraphs handled nearly 13,000,000 messages, the largest number on record.

Gross revenues, at \$438,197,980, were compared with \$400,586,025 in 1946 and were only a fraction below the wartime peak years of 1943 and 1944. Operating expenses amounted to \$397,122,607, as compared with \$357,236,718 in 1946, and net operating revenue was \$41,075,373, as compared with \$43,349,307.

Taxes, Mr. Vaughan showed, increased \$2,765,075, mainly attributable to a settlement of claims by the cities of Halifax and Saint John, resumption of provincial taxes in Ontario and Quebec on the expiration of the wartime agreement with the Federal Government, and United States retirement and unemployment taxes, which were assessed at a higher rate on an increased payroll.

From the net operating revenue of \$41,075,373 there was deducted \$13,136,222 for taxes, equipment rents, etc., leaving \$27,939,150 available for the payment of interest. Interest

on bonds amounted to \$23,821,909 and Government interest was \$20,002,434. After payment of interest on bonds and all Government interest, there was a net income deficit of \$15,885,194.

REVENUE TOTALS

Passenger revenues for the year amounted to \$43,017,690, a decrease of \$7,110,533 as compared with 1946, and of \$26,758,567 in comparison with wartime peak. Amounting to \$342,582,003, freight revenues showed an increase of \$42,268,804 over 1946 and of \$17,682,280 over the wartime peak year.

Approximately \$21,000,000 in freight revenue resulted from freight rate increases granted in the United States which affected United States lines of the System and were followed by related increases in Canada authorized by the Board of Transport Commissioners in respect of international traffic and competitive import and export traffic through Canadian ports.

The freight rate increases in the United States amounted in all to 50%. "Application by the United States carriers for still further increases are now under investigation by the Interstate Commerce Commission," Mr. Vaughan stated. "It will be understood that the percentages referred to are nominal. On some commodities lower increases were granted, the increase applied to all freight averaging 39.1%."

These remarks served as an introduction to a reference to the application made by the Canadian railways to the Board of Transport Commissioners for an increase in rates. "In the same way," Mr. Vaughan pointed out, "the so-called 30% increase asked for in Canada would average 20% if applied to all freight; so it will be seen that the application is for an increase amounting to only half of that already granted to United States railroads."

RATE INCREASES

After mentioning the special application seeking authority to increase certain competitive rates in advance of decision on the main application, following the modification of price control regulations, which was disallowed, the railway president went on: "It is the view of the directors that the Railway should be compensated by increases in rates over and above any now to be granted, to the extent that costs of wages and materials have advanced beyond the levels prevailing at the time of filing the current application."

Increased expense was inevitable with increased business, but what the railways found burdensome were increased costs not related to additional traffic but brought about solely by increased wage rates and increased prices for material.

For the Canadian National these additional operating costs for wages or materials were

\$114.5 millions greater in 1947 than in 1939, of which \$73.1 millions was for labour and \$41.4 millions for material.

C.N.S.S. SURPLUS: Operating revenues of the Canadian National West Indies Steamships for the year 1947 reached an all time high of \$7,857,471, according to the annual report of the company tabled in the House of Commons by Hon. Lionel Chevrier, Minister of Transport.

The report, signed by R.C. Vaughan, C.M.G., president of the line, showed that exports increased by 50,886 tons, and imports increased by 49,766 tons over the previous year. This resulted in added freight revenue of \$1,665,011. The number of completed voyages was sixty-four, compared with forty-nine in 1946.

"The company," said Mr. Vaughan, "now faces keen competition in the trade it has done so much to build up. There is some apprehension as to the effect of the import restrictions which the Colonies have seen fit to impose as a result of their shortage of dollars, and the costs of operation have sharply increased. Nevertheless, the outlook for 1948 is reasonably good, and it must be remembered that over and above the financial returns is the tremendous goodwill for Canada which has been engendered and is being continually expanded by this national flag line."

PASSENGER REVENUES

The return of the Lady Nelson and Lady Rodney to civilian service last summer enabled the company to increase passenger revenues in 1947 to \$439,799, compared with \$96,727 for the previous year. The demand for accommodation, however, was greatly in excess of the capacity of the two ships.

A substantial increase was reported in operating expenses for the year 1947. This was attributed to the additional number of voyages, increased rates of pay, high cost of supplies, and increased insurance and depreciation charges. Operating expenses also had to absorb in 1947 a charge of \$700,000 in connection with the reconversion and overhaul of the two "Lady" ships after their return from war service.

The operating profit for the year was \$829,277, a decrease of \$880,610 from the previous year. After adding interest earnings and providing for fixed charges the company reported an income surplus for the year of \$522,677.

The company sold two of its vessels in 1947, the Chomedy and Colborne. The fleet now consists of the two Lady liners, Nelson and Rodney; three diesel vessels, Canadian Challenger, Canadian Constructor and Canadian Cruiser, and five freighters, Canadian Conqueror, Canadian Highlander, Canadian Leader, Canadian Observer and Canadian Victor.

INDIAN HEALTH SURVEYS: Almost half the Indian population of Manitoba was X-rayed during 1947 in one of the most extensive anti-tuberculosis drives yet undertaken among Canadian Indians, National Health and Welfare Minister Paul Martin revealed Wednesday. Plans are under way to X-ray the remainder of the Manitoba Indian population this year.

Most of the X-ray work was done by the Sanatorium Board of Manitoba, Mr. Martin said, through its travelling clinics, stationery clinics and health surveys in residential schools. On the southern reserves the federal government supplied X-ray equipment and film, with the Sanatorium Board providing technicians to man the equipment and to read the plates.

"The Sanatorium Board has been most generous in assistance and wholehearted in its co-operation," Mr. Martin said; "to the extent that it has absorbed nearly \$3,000 of expenses connected with the survey, and it has also X-rayed for us 737 Indians from Saskatchewan and 290 from Ontario."

A total of 6,665 Manitoba Indians were X-rayed by the travelling clinics and 1,104 by other means. Out of this total of 7,769, active tuberculosis was found in 252 cases, but of the latter 116 were of the childhood infection type for which hospital care was not recommended.

Under the supervision of Dr. W.J. Wood, regional medical superintendent of Indian health services for Manitoba, hospital care has been arranged as rapidly as possible for active tuberculosis cases.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:

April 8, April 1, Mar. 11 (1935-39=100)

INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX

Table with 3 columns: Index Name, April 8, April 1, Mar. 11. Rows include 100 Common Stocks, 76 Industrials, 16 Utilities, 8 Banks.

MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX

Table with 3 columns: Index Name, April 8, April 1, Mar. 11. Rows include 30 Stocks, 25 Golds, 5 Base Metals.

ROYAL ANNIVERSARY: Canada's warships will be gay with bunting from stem to stern on Monday, April 26 when the order to "dress ship" will be carried out in observance of the 25th wedding anniversary of Their Majesties King George Sixth and Queen Elizabeth, it was announced by N.S.H.Q. At noon on the day of the anniversary ships will fire a Royal salute of 21 guns.

CANADA AT THE UNITED NATIONS

ATOMIC CONTROL: At its 43rd meeting, the working committee of the Atomic Energy Commission adopted Monday a joint resolution submitted by the representatives of Canada, China, France and the United Kingdom which reads as follows:

"The working committee,

"Having examined in detail and as a whole the Soviet proposals of June 11, 1947 and the elaborations thereon, and in view of the conclusions set out in the preceding paragraphs,

"Finds that the Soviet proposals ignore the existing technical knowledge of the problem of atomic energy control, do not provide an adequate basis for the effective international control of atomic energy and the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons, and therefore, do not conform to the terms of reference of the Atomic Energy Commission.

"The working committee concludes that no useful purpose can be served by further discussion of these proposals in the working committee."

This resolution was adopted by a vote of 9-2, reported the U.N. Press Division. The two dissenting votes were cast by the Ukraine and the U.S.S.R. The "conclusions set out in the preceding paragraphs," in the text of the preamble of the resolution, refer to the statement of the four nations on the Soviet proposals made in the name of these countries by Richard Miles of the United Kingdom at the last meeting of the working committee.

Andrei A. Gromyko of the U.S.S.R. made a long and detailed statement. The U.S. delegation and its supporters had always stressed the importance of international atomic inspection, Mr. Gromyko said, according to the U.N. Press Division report: But, now, the positions had changed with the Soviet delegation trying to convince the U.S. delegation and others that international inspection was a very important measure, and the U.S. and others, on the other hand, declaring that inspection was not so important and that only together with other measures could inspection be considered as insuring effective control.

The two most serious defects of the joint statement, he said, were:

- (1) the mention only in passing of the prohibition convention. On this matter, the authors of the statement had a "very poor vocabulary" and did not produce any argument at all;
- (2) the statement overlooked entirely that one should speak of control not in terms of space but of time. The Soviet proposal in this field submitted a long time ago called for international control and inspection applied at once and simultaneously on all sources of raw materials and plants after the conclusion of the convention.

The joint statement, Mr. Gromyko concluded, was an additional sign that the U.S. delegation and the delegations supporting the U.S. had decided not to try again seriously to reach agreement. The results would be obviously harmful for the United Nations and the full responsibility for this would be with those delegations who had created this situation.

General A.G.L. McNaughton of Canada expressed "very sincere disappointment" at Mr. Gromyko's attitude towards the joint statement, which General McNaughton said, was the result of a most careful, objective and factual study and whose every conclusion was well founded. In essence, the statement was flat rejection, not supported by arguments which would have been justified by the care with which this statement had been drafted, reported the U.N. Press Division.

The working committee adjourned without setting a date for a new meeting.

CANADIAN AMENDMENT: Meeting for the first time since March 8, the working committee of the Commission for Conventional Armaments continued on Tuesday discussion of the United Kingdom draft resolution on the principles governing the formulation of practical proposals for the regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces, the U.N. Press Bureau reported.

Amendments to the U.K. resolution were submitted by the United States, Canada, and Columbia. The U.S. and Canadian amendments were accepted by Richard Miles of the United Kingdom. Mr. Miles reserved his attitude on the Colombian amendment. Suggestions for drafting changes in the U.S. amendment were made by the representative of China.

The discussion is to continue at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 13.

General A.G.L. McNaughton of Canada submitted an amendment to reword paragraph 5 (c) of the U.K. resolution to read as follows:

"It (an adequate system of safeguards which should be included in a system for the regulation and reduction of armaments and armed forces) causes the minimum interference with and imposes the minimum burdens on any aspect of the life of individual nations".

The original U.K. wording was "economic and industrial life."

VOICE OF THE NORTH: Twenty-five years after the opening of the Dawson City signal Station, one of Canada's first two far north message centres, another milepost in sub-arctic communications was passed by members of the Canadian Army, it was announced by Western Command at Edmonton. After months of preparation Royal Canadian Corps of Signals personnel in the Yukon Territories town carried out the first official radio broadcast of station CFYT.