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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT: The following statement was issued August 25 by the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King:--

"I stated in the House of Commons before Parliament prorogued, and again at the recent Liberal Convention, that, once a successor to myself in the Leadership of the Party had been chosen, I would confer with him as to future plans, and in particular the time at which it would appear to be most appropriate for me to seek retirement, from the Leadership of the Government.

"Since the Convention I have made clear to Mr. St. Laurent and my other colleagues of the Cabinet that in deciding upon the precise time of tendering to His Excellency my resignation as Prime Minister, I desired to be governed by what would appear to them to be most in the public interest, having in view the many matters to which the new leader is now obliged to give consideration, and for which he has to make suitable provision.

"A question to which, in this connection it has been felt necessary to give most careful consideration is whether I should seek retirement from office forthwith, thereby occasioning the immediate formation of a new administration, and the immediate transfer from myself to Mr. St. Laurent of the full responsibilities of office, or whether that step should be deferred until after the meeting of Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth to be held in London in October.

"The meeting in London is not, as some have assumed, in the nature of an Imperial Conference at which several ministers and their advisers will be present, and where decisions upon policy will be made. It is a meeting between the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and certain other nations of the Commonwealth to discuss matters of common interest in a manner which will permit of the freest possible exchange of views for reference back to their respective governments. The meeting had been planned originally for the months of June or July. It was deferred owing to the difficulty of securing a representative gathering at that time.

"Mr. St. Laurent feels that he should have a little more time to make the necessary preparations before assuming the duties of the head of a new administration. He also feels that it would be unfortunate were he obliged, almost immediately after assuming office, to be away from Canada for a possible absence overseas of some weeks, and this at a time when so many matters require consideration at home, a great number of which are related to the preparation of the business of the next session of Parliament. For these reasons, Mr. St. Laurent has expressed the wish that I should represent Canada at the meeting of Prime Ministers in London in October, and also head the Canadian delegation at the early sessions of the Assembly of the United Nations which meets in Paris next month. After consul-

MOBILE IONOSPHERIC OBSERVATORY: Canada's first mobile ionospheric observatory will be put into operation Monday, August 23 by the Defence Research Board on the railroad to Fort Churchill, it was announced August 19 by the Department of National Defence.

The new observatory, housed in a converted railway coach, is expected to be a vital link in an international chain of stations supplying information essential to the development of radio communication and radio navigation in the north.

Canada already has a number of ionospheric stations in operation in the north country but this is the first mobile observatory to be used in this important research work. The "lab" will operate under the direction of Mr. J. H. Meek of Defence Research Board headquarters in Ottawa, and will operate over the Hudson's Bay Railroad between Portage la Prairie and Churchill. One round-trip will be made every three months, in each of the four seasons of the year, with week-long stops going and coming at such intermediate points on the rail line as The Pas, Waboden, Pickwitonei, Gillam, Herchmer and Churchill.

The auroral (northern lights) zone, which covers all of northern Canada, is highly suitable for the study of ionospheric conditions because charged particles, emanating from the sun, are deflected closer to earth by the earth's magnetic field in this area. The charged particles come from sun spots which last year reached their highest point in 200 years of recording.

The new mobile ionospheric station will send radio beams as high as 200 miles above the earth. These are reflected by the ionosphere to the point of origin, and from the beams can be deduced required information about conditions in the upper regions. Based on this information, predictions can be made of future radio transmission conditions and selection of suitable frequencies for long distance radio communication is made easier.

The recordings of Canadian stations are coordinated with those of 63 other stations in various parts of the world, and from the mass of information are produced monthly predictions of useful radio frequencies and daily ionospheric storm warnings.

30,785 DISPLACED PERSONS: Figures released August 20 by the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources show that 30,785 Displaced Persons had arrived in Canada up to July 31.

Arrivals during April, May, June, and July totalled 16,535, an increase of more than 2,000 over the total of 14,250 for the entire twelve months of the fiscal year ended March 31, 1948.

Indicative of a speed-up in the movement of close relatives of residents of Canada was the announcement that 6,316 of these people had been welcomed since April 1, as compared

to a total of 5,042 for the previous twelve months. Total of close relatives arrivals as of July 31 was 11,358. Orphan children placed in homes throughout Canada numbered 710.

Those who arrived in group movements of workers in response to requests of industry totalled 18,717, broken down as follows: farmers, 2,244; family farm group, 744; woodworkers, 3,599; textile workers, 247; domestic married couples, 142; garment workers, 1,350; garment workers' dependants, 826; railway workers, 1,911; hydro workers, 1,666; building construction workers, 173; steel and foundry workers, 306; steel and foundry workers' dependants, 24; miners, 2,042; domestics, 3,443.

The racial origins as distinct from the nationality of the Displaced Persons now in Canada were the following: Croatian, 325; Czech, 141; Dutch, 1,706; Estonian, 965; German, 667; Hebrew, 3,782; Yugo-Slav, 814; Latvian, 1,894; Lithuanian, 3,508; Polish, 7,835; Russian, 869; Servian, 639; Swedish, 5; Ukrainian, 6,976; Greek, 13; Slovak, 47; Hungarian, 335; Roumanian, 196; Finnish, 8; French, 3; Turkish, 2; Austrian, 11; Bulgarian, 17; Dalmatian, 5; Italian, 9; Albanian, 7; Montenegrin, 3; Moravian, 1; Spanish, 1; Norwegian, 1.

LONDON EMPLOYMENT OFFICE: A branch office of the National Employment Service has been opened in London, England, according to an announcement August 20 by Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour.

This office will function for the present in the manner of a combined Regional and Local Office in Canada, Mr. Mitchell stated. The purpose of this office will be the counselling of intending emigrants to Canada and interviewing them in regard to job opportunities.

This office will be of great service to British emigrants by advising them if there is a current demand for their particular experience or skill. It will also advise what locality in Canada offers the best opportunity for their employment.

The fullest cooperation is being maintained with the United Kingdom Department of Labour and Employment Exchange. This is working out so well that, in some instances, requirements for certain types of skilled labour in Canada may be cleared through all local offices of the British Employment Exchange.

It is not the desire of the Canadian Government to attract needed personnel from British industry, the Minister pointed out, but where they can be spared we can often obtain craftsmen and technicians who may be badly needed in Canada.

The London Office will form an extension of the clearance system now operating in Canada. This system is used as a means of enlarging, when necessary, any particular labour recruiting area by circulating job opportunities to local employment offices outside the locality where the orders were first placed. It is

often an effective method of matching the worker with the job.

In addition, the London, England, branch will comprise a headquarters for specific and authentic information on all matters pertaining to employment in Canada.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AMENDMENTS: The recent amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1940, which become effective on October 4, 1948, will not affect the present wage ceiling for insurable employees which now stands at \$3,120 a year, Arthur MacNamara, Deputy Minister of Labour, has stated.

In January, 1948, the wage ceiling for employees paid other than at an hourly, daily, piece or mileage rate was raised from \$2,400 a year to \$3,120 a year.

For employees paid on an hourly, daily, piece or mileage rate there is no ceiling. They are insured regardless of earnings.

Salaried employees paid at weekly, monthly, or annual rate are insured unless their earnings exceed \$3,120 a year. This scale is still in effect and is in no way affected by the recent amendments to the Act, Mr. MacNamara pointed out.

The Deputy Minister made this statement to clarify any misunderstanding which may have arisen among employers from the recent announcement regarding the increased benefits under the amendments, which set up another contributing class from among those already insured under the Act.

ARMY WEEK IN SEPTEMBER: Army Week will be held for the Canadian Army commencing Monday, September 20. Army camps and establishments across the country will hold "open house" to which the public will be invited. Army Headquarters has announced.

"The main purpose of Army Week is to acquaint the Canadian public with the function of the Canadian Army, and the activities of its professional soldiers and Reserve Force personnel", stated Maj. Gen. E. G. Weeks, C.B., CBE, M.C., M.M., Adjutant General.

The Army, from Halifax, N.S. to Whitehorse, Y.T., will present displays and exhibits, demonstrations with modern equipment such as radar and anti-aircraft artillery to the visitors.

"Above all, we want the Canadian people to meet the men of the Canadian Army; to see how they live and work, and to understand some of the constructive jobs they perform in their peacetime role. Army Week will provide the Army with the opportunity to entertain the Canadian public", the General added.

Army Week is being held this year for the first time since the formation of the new Active Force in 1946. In future, it will be held as an annual event.

HIGH LEVEL OF IMPORT TRADE: Canada's import trade was maintained at a high level in June, being valued at \$233,000,000 as compared with \$225,100,000 in the preceding month and \$231,100,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. During the first half of this year the aggregate was \$1,270,100,000 as against \$1,256,700,000 in the similar period of 1947.

Merchandise imports from the United States, however, continued the decline of preceding months from the levels of a year ago, falling to \$154,918,000 from last year's corresponding figure of \$174,669,000. This further decline reduced the total for the first half of 1948 to \$884,468,000 as compared with \$880,939,000 in the similar period of 1947, a decrease of almost 10 per cent.

Purchases from the United Kingdom again increased in June, rising to \$56,003,000 from the June 1947 total of \$18,118,000, and in the first six months of this year to \$139,130,000 from \$84,635,000. Purchases from Latin American countries in the month rose to \$19,681,000 from \$12,872,000 a year ago, and in the six-month period to \$107,071,000 from \$70,106,000.

Imports from Europe were down both in the month and in the cumulative period. The month's total for the area was \$5,767,000 as compared with \$10,180,000, and for the six months, \$28,061,000 as against \$31,551,000.

Imports from India and Pakistan together rose from \$2,752,000 in June last year to \$8,229,000, Trinidad and Tobago from \$304,000 to \$1,023,000, British Guiana from \$881,000 to \$1,157,000, Gold Coast from nil to \$1,620,000, Nigeria from \$1,093,000 to \$1,422,000, Ceylon from \$1,270,000 to \$1,693,000, British Malaya from \$1,582,000 to \$1,891,000, New Zealand from \$652,000 to \$1,541,000. Imports from Australia fell from \$1,509,000 to \$1,443,000, Belgium from \$2,268,000 to \$1,906,000 and Philippine Islands from \$1,320,000 to \$1,105,000.

Among the commodity groups, there was a sharp advance in non-metallic minerals and moderate gains in agricultural and vegetable products and iron and products. The remaining groups registering declines of varying degree.

The non-metallic minerals group rose from \$39,185,000 in June last year to \$57,646,000, and in the six months from \$191,756,000 to \$262,244,000. In June, imports of coal, crude petroleum and petroleum products accounted for most of the advance. The agricultural group advanced from \$30,160,000 in June last year to \$33,091,000, with declines in fruits and vegetables, and advances in sugar and products, cocoa and chocolate, coffee and chicory, tea, vegetable oils and rubber. Group total for the six months was \$165,559,000 against \$173,577,000.

The fibres and textiles group fell from \$36,582,000 in June last year to \$29,685,000, and in the six months from \$220,253,000 to

\$179,055,000. In June there were decreases in cotton and products, artificial silk and other textiles, but gains in wool and products, and flax, hemp and jute. The iron and its products group rose moderately from \$69,150,000 in June last year to \$69,388,000, with advances in iron ore, rolling mill products, farm implements and machinery, and other machinery. Aggregate for the six months ended June was \$393,393,000 as compared with \$362,394,000 a year ago.

Group total for non-ferrous metals in June was \$13,905,000 compared with \$15,399,000, and in the six months, \$77,125,000 against \$78,892,000. June figure for wood, wood products and paper was \$6,153,000 against \$8,008,000, and the six months, \$38,071,000 against \$45,341,000. June imports in the chemicals sections amounted to \$9,370,000 compared with \$9,528,000 a year ago, with the six-month aggregate at \$58,570,000 compared with \$58,088,000. For the miscellaneous commodity group the June total stood at \$8,859,000 against \$13,230,000, and in the six months, \$57,758,000 against \$79,228,000.

HIGHEST TRADE AGGREGATE: With moderate gains both in imports and exports, Canada's total foreign trade during the first half of 1948 increased to \$2,602,000,000 as compared with \$2,602,000,000 last year, according to total trade figures for June released by the Bureau of Statistics. The half-year aggregate value was the highest ever recorded for the period, comparing with the wartime peak of \$2,633,200,000 in 1944.

Cumulative value of domestic exports in the six months was about five per cent higher than in 1947, amounting to \$1,400,100,000 compared with \$1,328,500,000, while foreign goods re-exported increased to \$18,700,000 as against \$16,800,000. Merchandise imports, showing a smaller gain, totalled \$1,270,100,000 as compared with \$1,256,700,000.

The favourable over-all balance of trade for the half-year was \$148,800,000, substantially above last year's low total of \$88,500,000 but below the 1946 half-year balance of \$194,000,000. There was a sharp drop in the adverse trade balance with the United States to \$228,200,000 from \$488,000,000 in the first half of 1947, while the favourable balance with the United Kingdom also declined to \$220,900,000 compared with \$269,000,000.

Domestic exports and imports were nearly equal in June, the former amounting to \$233,500,000 and imports \$233,000,000. With the addition of foreign exports, the favourable balance of trade stood at \$3,000,000 as compared with \$62,400,000 for May and \$45,300,000 for June last year.

Imports from the United States in June increased to \$154,000,000 from \$145,000,000 in May, while domestic exports to that country declined to \$109,800,000 from \$114,700,000. As a result, the adverse trade balance with the

United States for June increased to \$43,500,000 compared with \$28,700,000 for May but was less than half last year's June figure of \$90,500,000.

Canadian trade with the United Kingdom in June was at a lower level than in May, exports amounting to \$54,200,000 compared with \$85,100,000, and imports to \$26,000,000 compared with \$27,400,000; the favourable trade balance declining to \$28,300,000 as against \$57,800,000.

SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS: Volume of international transactions in securities rose sharply in June, amounting to \$60,000,000 as compared with \$44,800,000 in the preceding month and \$23,200,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Aggregate for the first six months of this year was \$239,600,000 as compared with \$241,100,000 in the like period of 1947.

Sales to all countries in June were valued at \$28,300,000 as compared with \$19,500,000 in the preceding month and \$11,000,000 in the corresponding month last year, while purchases totalled \$31,700,000 compared with \$25,300,000 in May and \$12,200,000 a year ago. Aggregate sales for the first half of 1948 were \$111,900,000 compared with \$116,800,000 a year ago, and the purchases, \$127,700,000 compared with \$124,300,000.

Sales to the United States in June were valued at \$27,900,000 as against \$19,100,000 in May and \$10,800,000 a year ago, and purchases, \$30,900,000 compared with \$24,200,000 in May and \$11,300,000 last year. During the first half of this year, sales to the United States were \$107,800,000 compared with \$108,900,000 in the like period of 1947, and purchases, \$121,600,000 compared with \$114,200,000.

M. M. MACLEAN APPOINTMENT: The Honourable Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour, announced August 23 the appointment of M.M. Maclean, Director of Industrial Relations in the Department of Labour, as Chief Executive Officer of the Canada Labour Relations Board.

Mr. Maclean has been Chief Executive Officer of the Wartime Labour Relations Board (National), which the new board replaces on September 1st-the day the new Labour Act becomes operative.

At the same time, the Minister announced the appointment of Bernard Wilson, Industrial Relations Officer and Chief Assistant to Mr. Maclean, as Secretary to the Board. Mr. Wilson was also associated with the Wartime Board as Secretary.

Their new duties will be in addition to their regular duties with the Department of Labour, Mr. Mitchell said, and the staff of the Industrial Relations Branch of the Department has been authorized to perform necessary administrative duties for the new Board.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE NOMINATIONS

BY NATIONAL GROUP OF CANADA: The Department of External Affairs announced August 23 that the National Group of Canada has met at the invitation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to nominate qualified persons in a position to accept the duties of a judge of the International Court of Justice as provided for by the Statute of the Court.

The International Court of Justice is a tribunal of fifteen judges established by the Charter to decide, in accordance with international law, such disputes as states may wish to submit to it and to deliver such advisory opinions as may be requested by the competent organs and agencies of the United Nations. The judges are elected for a period of nine years. However, Article 13 of the Statute of the Court provides that of the judges elected at the first election (held on February 6, 1946) the terms of five judges shall expire at the end of three years, and the terms of five more judges shall expire at the end of six years.

According to the Statute of the Court, each country is required to nominate a National Group to select candidates. In May, 1948, the Canadian Government appointed the following persons to constitute the National Group of Canada:

The Right Honourable Thibaudeau Rinfret,
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of
Canada;

The Honourable J.C. McRuer,
Chief Justice of the High Court of Ontario;

The Honourable Thane A. Campbell,
Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island;

The Honourable W.M. Martin,
Chief Justice of Saskatchewan.

John T. Hackett, B.Sc., K.C., M.P., President of the Canadian Bar Association, consented to act as adviser to the Group.

National Groups are authorized to nominate only four candidates for election to the Court, though there will be five vacancies to be filled. Under the Charter of the United Nations, these vacancies are to be filled by elections conducted by the General Assembly and the Security Council before February 7, 1949. It is expected that they will be filled during the third session of the General Assembly which opens in Paris on September 21, 1948. The National Group of Canada has nominated the following persons as candidates for election to the Court and it has advised the Secretary-General of the United Nations of its nominations.

Judge J.E. Read	(Canada)
Judge Hsu Mo	(China)
Judge Abdel Hamid Badawi Pasha	(Egypt)
Sir Benegal Narsinga Rau	(India)

Following are brief biographies of the persons nominated by the National Group of Canada.

Read, John Erskine

John Erskine Read was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 5, 1888, and brought up in that city. He went through Dalhousie University at Halifax, took his bachelor of arts degree in 1909, had a year of scholarship at Columbia Law School in New York City and then three years as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University.

Mr. Read attended University College at Oxford and chose the Honor School of Jurisprudence, took his bachelor of civil law degree in 1913 and returned to Halifax to practise law. At the beginning of World War I he enlisted as a private in the 25th Battalion, but was discharged on account of poor eyesight. He was later commissioned in the field artillery and went overseas with the first replacements for the First Division in France. He was mentioned in despatches, was wounded and spent 18 months in hospital.

After the war, Mr. Read lectured at Dalhousie Law School. He became dean of the law school and Munro professor of law. In 1929 he left the university to assume the position of legal adviser to the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa, a position he held until February 1946. As legal adviser he appeared as counsel for the Government before the International Joint Commission, the Supreme Court of the United States, and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. In December 1944, Mr. Read was raised to a rank equivalent to that of Ambassador.

He was elected a Judge of the International Court of Justice in February, 1946.

Hsu Mo

Hsu Mo, who was born at Soochow, China, on October 22nd, 1893, was educated at Peiyang University, Tientsin and George Washington University, Washington, D.C., graduating with the degrees of LL.B. and M.A. He afterwards received the degree of LL.D. (honoris causa) from Melbourne University in Australia. In 1918 he passed the Judicial Examination held in Peking and in the following year he passed the Diplomatic and Consular Service Examinations with the highest honours.

He was Professor of International Law and International Relations in Nankai University, Tientsin, and then Dean of the College of Arts of that University, 1922-1925. While teaching, he wrote Notes on China's Diplomatic History and contributed many articles on political and legal subjects to Chinese newspapers and magazines. In 1926 he received the appointment of Judge, and subsequently Presiding Judge, of the Criminal Chamber of the District Court in Shanghai and then that of President of the District Court in Chinkiang.

From 1928 to 1931 he served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, successively as Counsellor, Director of the European-American Department

and Director of the Asiatic Department. In 1931 he was appointed Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and held that post continuously for ten years, being, at the same time, Dean of the School of Diplomacy of the Central Political Institute.

From 1941-1944 Hsu Mo was Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary with ambassadorial rank to Australia, and during 1945-1946 he was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Turkey.

He participated at Washington in the work of the United Nations Committee of Jurists to prepare a draft Statute of the International Court of Justice, in April, 1945. Subsequently he was Adviser to the Chinese Delegation to the United Nations Conference on International Organization, San Francisco.

In February, 1946, he was elected a Judge of the International Court of Justice.

Badawi Pasha, Abdel Hamid

Abdel Hamid Badawi Pasha was born in 1887 at Mansourah, Egypt.

He obtained the degree of LL.D.; and from 1922 to 1936 acted as legal adviser to the Government of Egypt. During the years 1926 to 1940 he was Chief Legal Adviser.

In 1937 he attended the Montreux Conference. He held the position of Minister for Foreign Affairs from 1945 to 1946; was Chairman of the Egyptian delegation to the San Francisco Conference in 1945; also in that year was representative to the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations.

In 1946 he attended the General Assembly in London; and the Security Council.

He was elected a Judge of the International Court of Justice in February, 1946.

Rau, Sir (Benegal) Narsinga

B.A. Madras; B.A., Cantab; C.I.E., 1934; knighted in 1938; Indian Civil Service; Constitutional Adviser to the Governor-General.

He was born February 26, 1887, and was educated at the Presidency College, Madras, and Trinity College, Cambridge. He entered the Indian Civil Service in 1910, became District and Sessions Judge at Murshidabad, 1919 till 1920, District and Sessions Judge at Sylhet and Cachar, 1920-1925, Secretary to the Government of Assam Legislative Department and to the Assam Legislative Council, 1925-1933, Joint Secretary to the Government of India Legislative Department, 1934-1935; Officiating Judge at the High Court, Calcutta, 1935; he was on special duty with the Government of India for the revision of the Indian Statute Book, 1933-1938; he was Officiating Reforms Commissioner, 1938, and Judge of the High Court, Calcutta, 1939, Chairman of the G.I.B. Railway, Court of Inquiry, 1940. He was on the Hindu Law Committee in 1941, the INDUS Commission, 1941-42. He retired in February, 1944, and became Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, 1944-45. He was on special duty in the Governor-General's Sect. (Reforms) in 1945.

CARRY-OVER OF GRAIN: Stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions on July 31 were approximately 76,000,000 bushels as compared with 87,400,000 on the corresponding date last year, a decline of 13 per cent, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Exports have been maintained at extremely high levels relative to available supplies during the post-war period with the result that crop-year-end carry-over stocks of Canadian wheat for the last three years have been lower than at any time in the past 20 years with the exception of 1936-37 and 1937-38 when serious drought conditions prevailed in the West. The average July 31 carry-over of Canadian wheat for the 10-year period (1938-1947) was 270,200,000 bushels.

The lowest carry-over on record in the last 25 years was on July 31, 1938, when only 24,500,000 bushels were recorded, while the peak year was reached in 1943 at 594,600,000 bushels.

Stocks of Canadian oats on July 31 were 47,200,000 bushels as against 69,700,000 a year ago. Barley stocks in all positions this year amounted to 31,100,000 bushels as compared with 29,100,000. Over 800,000 bushels of Canadian oats and nearly 300,000 bushels of Canadian barley were held in United States positions at July 31 this year. Carry-over stocks of rye at 727,000 bushels were only slightly below last year's holdings but flaxseed stocks at 3,300,000 bushels were up sharply from the July 31, 1947 level of 800,000 bushels.

Total farm stocks of wheat at 39,200,000 bushels accounted for more than half of the July 31 wheat stocks this year. In 1947 farm-held wheat stocks were 26,000,000 bushels, accounting for less than one-third of the total wheat stocks. Farm stocks of oats were some 15,000,000 bushels below the 1947 mark. Farm-held barley stocks were up slightly from a year ago, while rye and flaxseed stocks declined somewhat. Most of the farm-held grain is located in western Canada.

RAILWAY CARLOADINGS: Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ending August 14 increased to 75,971 cars from 73,341 cars in the preceding week and 73,728 in the corresponding week last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Coal, which was light in 1947, increased from 4,323 to 5,844 cars; sand, stone, gravel, etc., increased from 4,974 to 5,592 cars; pulpwood from 4,801 to 5,103 cars, and gasoline and oils from 4,310 to 5,228 cars. Grain products, fresh fruits, vegetables, fresh meats and packing house products, and l.c.l. merchandise all showed decreases from 1947 loadings.

MARKETINGS OF GRAINS: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on August 12 totalled 35,778,000 bushels compared with 36,291,000 on August 5 and 49,919,000 on the corresponding date last

year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending August 12 amounted to 1,397,000 bushels compared with 1,047,000 in the preceding week. Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending August 12 amounted to 1,955,300 bushels compared with 2,360,900 in the corresponding week last year.

LABOUR FORCE 5,030,000: Canada's civilian labour force -- aggregate of employed and unemployed -- stood at 5,030,000 at the beginning of June, making the second time a level in excess of 5,000,000 has been recorded. Highest level of 5,080,000 was reached in mid-August last year. Number of persons at work in Canada in the week ending June 5 was estimated at 4,948,000, an increase of 127,000 over a year earlier, while the number unemployed was down about 10,000 to 82,000, according to the results of the latest quarterly survey of the labour force by the Bureau of Statistics.

Agricultural employment early in June was at the high level of 1,186,000, nearly 25,000 higher than in the comparable 1947 period and 220,000 greater than in the third week of February this year. In industries outside of agriculture, employment totalled 3,762,000, a rise of 58,000 over the third week of February and 104,000 above the total for the end of May last year.

The latest survey figures, compared with those for similar periods of 1946 and 1947, indicate that total employment in Canada is growing at the rate of 100,000 a year. Substantial gains were indicated for employment in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, while employment in the Prairies and the Maritimes seems relatively stable.

There was a general fall in unemployment among persons 14 years of age and over between the third week of February and the beginning of June this year. Of the total unemployment of 82,000, 18,000 were women. No significant change in the number of women unemployed has taken place since the spring of 1946. The percentage of the total Canadian labour force unemployed continues to hover around two or three per cent. Most of the unemployment was concentrated in manufacturing, trade and the service industries. The largest group was in manufacturing with 24,000, while the service industry was next with 15,000.

HIGHLAND BAND TO VISIT U.S.A.: At the invitation of the 244th Coast Artillery Group, U.S. Army, the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders Pipe Band, Hamilton, will leave for the United States on Friday, September 3.

The kilted pipers will give a series of concerts while guests of the Americans at Linwood Park, N.J., and Schenectady, N.Y. The band will return to Canada after a 10-day visit on September 13.

"D"-DAY MONUMENT IN FRANCE: The Government of France proposes to erect a monument at Bayeux, France, on which the names of allied regiments that took part in the D-Day invasion of Europe will be inscribed.

A list of the Canadian regiments is now being prepared by Army Headquarters, Ottawa, for inscription on the monument. Included will be four regiments of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps, six regiments of the Royal Canadian Artillery, together with 10 Royal Canadian Infantry Corps battalions.

BEAVER BY AIR: Fifty airborne beaver recently completed a 420-mile trip from Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan to their new home in Wood Buffalo Park, which is partly in northern Alberta and partly in the Northwest Territories. The transfer was carried out by the Northwest Territories Administration in co-operation with the National Parks Service of the Department of Mines and Resources.

Beaver had become too numerous in Prince Albert Park, and in Wood Buffalo Park their numbers had been reduced by trapping. The move was made to remedy both situations. A plane carried the beaver in two trips to Wood Buffalo Park and distributed them among seven lakes throughout the Park.

ROSTHERN BY-ELECTION: The Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, announced August 25 that an Order in Council had been passed fixing Monday, October 25, 1948, as the date of polling for the by-election in the electoral district of Rosthern in the Province of Saskatchewan.

DR. J.H. GROVE APPOINTMENT: Dr. J.H. Grove of Ottawa has been promoted by the Civil Service Commission to head the blindness control division of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Hon. Paul Martin, Minister of National Health and Welfare, who made the announcement here August 25, explained that this division works closely with provincial pension authorities and with other branches of the federal Health and Welfare Department in administering pensions for civilian blind, authorizing pension examinations and issuing certificates of blindness. Nearly 9,900 blind persons receive pensions totalling about \$2,000,000 a year.

SOCIAL WELFARE STUDY: Three top-ranking experts in social welfare have arrived in Ottawa to study specific phases of Canada's social security program and welfare services. They are Luis M. Manalang of Manila, the Philippines; Y.S. Djang of Shanghai, China; and Dr. Behram H. Mehta of Bombay, India.

The visits to Canada were arranged under a United Nations fellowship program. Its purpose is to give an opportunity for governments of countries whose welfare services need development to send their welfare experts abroad to observe the experience of other countries.

tation with my other colleagues, I have agreed to meet Mr. St. Laurent's wishes in these particulars.

"In agreeing to delay the time of my retirement from office, I have been influenced by the fact that, during my absence abroad, Mr. St. Laurent will be Acting Prime Minister, and that the consideration of all matters of policy, and the preparation of the session's program will be under his immediate direction. We have arranged that, if at any time during the course of the London meeting, Mr. St. Laurent's presence in London would appear to be desirable, he will endeavour to join me there.

"I should perhaps add that much as I would have welcomed the opportunity while in Europe to accept the invitations repeatedly extended to me by the governments of Italy and Greece to pay an official visit to those countries, I feel that this would not now be possible, and have so advised our ambassadors in Rome and Athens.

"It is my intention to seek retirement from office as soon after my return from London as may serve to meet my successor's convenience."

CANADIAN DELEGATION

At the conclusion of the statement the Prime Minister announced that the Canadian Delegation to the Third Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which will meet in Paris on September 21 next, will be as follows:--

Representatives:

The Right Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King
Prime Minister and President of the
Privy Council, Chairman of the Delegation

The Hon. Lionel Chevrier
Minister of Transport

The Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson
Leader of the Government in the Senate

General the Hon. A.G.L. McNaughton
Canadian Permanent Delegate to the United
Nations

Major-General George P. Vanier
Canadian Ambassador to France

Alternates:

Hugues Lapointe
Parliamentary Assistant to the
Minister of National Defence

Ralph Maybank
Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of
National Health and Welfare

Norman A. Robertson
Canadian High Commissioner in the
United Kingdom

L. Dana Wilgress
Canadian Minister to Switzerland

R.G. Riddell
Department of External Affairs

The Canadian Delegation will be assisted by technical advisers and secretarial staff drawn from Canadian diplomatic missions abroad and from the Department of External Affairs.

FURTHER CROP IMPROVEMENT: Favourable weather during the past two weeks has further enhanced crop prospects in the Prairie Provinces. This is particularly true for late-sown crops which are filling well. Wet weather in Manitoba, where much of the grain is ready to harvest, has delayed operations somewhat in many parts of that province. In Saskatchewan, harvesting is under way in all districts and fair progress is being made. Crops are late in Alberta but are filling satisfactorily. Harvesting of spring grains will be general next week. Grasshopper damage is continuing in the affected areas of Alberta and Saskatchewan and sawflies are causing some damage in southern districts of these provinces.

Frequent scattered showers in Manitoba have delayed harvesting during the past two weeks with the result that only fair progress has been made in some areas. South of the C.P.R. main line over half of the cereal crops are cut or swathed with 10 to 20 per cent threshed in some districts. Harvesting in most northern sections is getting well under way. Rust may adversely affect yields from late stands of flax. Reports indicate the cereal crop sample is generally of high quality with yields turning out from good to excellent. Sunflower, corn and sugar beets also show promise of an excellent crop. Drier weather is now required to promote ripening and to facilitate harvesting and threshing operations.

HARVESTING IN SASKATCHEWAN

Harvesting is under way in all districts of Saskatchewan with about 40 per cent of wheat cut in southern and central areas and averaging about 25 per cent for the province as a whole. Favourable weather for filling during recent weeks has resulted in good to excellent quality of all grains. Harvesting of fall rye is nearing completion with outturns somewhat better than anticipated in most areas. Sawfly and grasshopper damage is quite general over southern, western and central districts and many fields are being swathed to reduce losses. Hail loss has been spotty and mostly confined to southern districts.

Crops in Alberta, though late, are maturing satisfactorily with weather conditions favourable for filling and ripening. Harvesting of spring grains has begun at scattered points and should be general next week. Barring the occurrence of frosts, fair to good yields are anticipated except in the eastern districts of the province where earlier drought damage is still evident.