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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT: The Fifth Session of the Twentieth Parliament of Canada opened at three p.m. on Wednesday, January 26.

The Speech from the Throne, read by His Excellency the Governor General, was as follows:

"Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

"The first concern of Government in world affairs is to ensure peace and security. To this end, Canada continues to support the principles of the United Nations Charter. Our foreign policy is based on the realities and dangers of the existing situation. One of these is the Communist menace. Until the United Nations are able to provide an adequate guarantee of peace and security, peace-loving nations will also be obliged to seek security by combining their strength. The North Atlantic nations, including Canada, are negotiating a Security Pact. The Treaty when concluded will be laid before you for approval. The North Atlantic Treaty will supplement the Treaty of Mutual Guarantee signed by the Western European nations at Brussels last year. Such regional arrangements are provided for in the United Nations Charter.

"Despite unsettled conditions and the disruptive activities of international Communism,

the nations of Western Europe are making progress toward recovery. Aid from North America is contributing substantially to the restoration of economic activity, thereby increasing their ability to resist internal and external aggression.

"At home we have been blessed with good crops. Industrial expansion is taking place at an unprecedented rate. There have been few differences between employers and employees leading to stoppages in work. Inflationary pressures are less pronounced. Employment is at higher levels than ever before. In striking contrast with Communist countries, the free economy of our country is demonstrating its ability to provide for all a high standard of living, social justice and individual freedom. It is the view of my Ministers that a steady advance toward the goal of social justice for all is an effective safeguard against the influence of subversive doctrines.

"The people of Newfoundland, by a majority vote in a referendum, expressed their desire to enter Confederation. The precise terms of Union were subsequently negotiated with an authorized delegation from Newfoundland. You will be asked without delay to approve the agreement, signed on December 11, and to make provision for the entry of Newfoundland as a province of Canada on March 31. I am confident the Union will be of mutual advantage to Newfoundland and Canada.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR: Preliminary review of initial applications received for exhibitors' space at the 1949 Canadian International Trade Fair indicate that the Textile and Apparel group will again occupy greater floor space than any other of the 21 trade classifications in the mammoth show. It will be held again in the Exhibition Grounds, Toronto, from May 30 to June 10.

Special interest will be roused by the composite exhibit of British textiles which is expected to occupy from 15,000 to 20,000 square feet, according to Sir E. Raymond Streat, CBE, Chairman of the British Textile Committee on Exhibitions and Fairs. Among the associated groups said to be reserving substantial space are 25 members of the National Wool Textile Export Corporation, and members of the Furnishing Fabric Federation and the rayon industry in the United Kingdom.

The Czechoslovak textiles which attracted so much attention, and were reported to have done very substantial business at the first Trade Fair, will be back in full force. Particularly noteworthy among the newcomers will be the 1200 square feet reserved for the Union Textile of France, whose famous fashion fabrics were not represented at the 1948 Fair. Up until this date there have been reservations for space to exhibit textiles from three countries not represented in this classification last year, and several additional newcomers are expected. It would appear now that Canadian textiles, which led the field in point of space occupied last year, will probably take second place to the United Kingdom in 1949.

Allocation of space is now being made by the space committee on the basis of applications in hand covering every one of the 21 different trade classifications. Initial preference is being given to 1948 exhibitors, but later applications will be subject to the availability of space.

FISHERIES CONFERENCE: The Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Fisheries have announced the composition of the Canadian Delegation to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Conference to be held in Washington beginning January 26, 1949.

Head of Delegation

Mr. Stewart Bates, Deputy Minister of Fisheries

Alternate

Dr. A. W. H. Needler, Assistant Deputy Minister of Fisheries

Advisers

Mr. S. V. Ozere, Department of Fisheries
Mr. F. M. Tovell, Department of External Affairs

Secretary to the Delegation

Mr. F. H. Wooding, Department of Fisheries

The Conference is being convened by the United States Government to discuss joint international co-operation in the investigation and, where necessary, the conservation of the fishery resources of the Northwest Atlantic.

Invitations to the Conference have been extended to the following countries which are actively engaged in fishing operations in the waters of this area: Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Newfoundland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

PHYSICAL FITNESS APPOINTMENTS: J. H. Ross of Calgary, Ernest Lee of Vancouver and Dr. W. C. Ross of Halifax have been re-appointed members of the National Council on Physical Fitness, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, announced January 22.

All three are the directors of physical fitness and recreation in their provinces. The Alberta and Nova Scotia representatives have been members of the National Fitness Council since its organization early in 1944, and Mr. Lee has represented British Columbia for the past year and a half. The present appointments are for a further term of three years each.

The National Council on Physical Fitness meets twice yearly to advise the federal Government on the development of the fitness and recreation operated under the National Physical Fitness Act.

WHOLESALE SALES UP: Dollar volume of wholesale sales in November was two per cent below the October level, but seven per cent in excess of November 1947, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Cumulative sales for the 11 months ending November were four per cent higher than in the similar period of 1947. The general unadjusted index of sales, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 316.2 compared with 321.9 for October and 295.0 for November, 1947.

All regions registered increases in dollar volume of sales over November, 1947, Quebec leading with a gain of 10 per cent, followed by British Columbia with a rise of eight per cent, and the Prairie Provinces seven per cent. Wholesalers in Ontario and the Maritime Provinces showed lesser advances of four and one per cent, respectively.

RAILWAY OPERATING REVENUES: During October last year Canadian railways earned a record \$82,839,900 from operations, an increase of 4.2 per cent over the previous monthly high of \$79,481,743 in September and of 18.6 per cent over the earnings of \$69,820,158 in October a year earlier. Normally, October is the most active month of the railway year in Canada.

"PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES, 1944-47"

D. B. S. REVIEW: Price movements in Canada during the nine years 1939 to 1947, embracing war and postwar years, will long remain a fertile field for students of prices, states the Bureau of Statistics in its publication "Prices and Price Indexes, 1944-47" -- the 21st in a series dating from 1918-1922.

During the early part of the period 1939-1947, Canada with many other countries established a highly organized system of controls over prices, wages and industrial production. Virtually complete control lasted about four years.

Wholesale prices and living costs in Canada during the Second World War followed the same general pattern. During the first few weeks of hostilities, there was a sharp upsurge, followed by a period of gradual but accelerating advance. The general wholesale commodity price index moved upward to 83.2 in March, 1940, from an August 1939 low of 72.3. During the German offensive in the spring of 1940 there was a minor reaction and the wholesale index dropped back to 81.7 in June. From that point it began to recover, at first gradually, and later with increasing rapidity as output of war materials gained in volume. This rise in prices led to the establishment of over-all price "ceilings" in December, 1941, when the index stood at 93.5. By that time the cost-of-living index had moved up from 100.8 in August, 1939, to 115.8.

During the next four years, every effort was made to minimize advances in consumer price levels, and they showed very little change. Producers' and other intermediate prices in some instances were less rigidly held, and by July, 1945, general wholesale prices had reached 104.6. The termination of war was followed by a very slight reaction lasting approximately two months, after which a sharp rise began as the systematic removal of price controls proceeded. There was a lull in the third quarter of 1946 but prices moved ahead again unchecked throughout 1947. By December of that year the general wholesale in-

dex had reached 143.5. This was well above any level touched since 1920, but still considerably short of the 164.3 peak recorded for May of that year.

In the four years following the imposition of price ceilings increasing upward pressure on consumer price levels was eased to some extent by the use of subsidies. These were applied at varying price levels. In the important case of milk, production was encouraged by special producer payments, while at the same time a subsidy at the retail level reduced consumer prices. The success of efforts to control the retail price level is indicated by the fact that the cost-of-living index for December, 1945, was 120.1, only 4.3 points above the December, 1941 level.

The decontrol phase may be dated for practical purposes from February, 1946. The removal of price controls and the withdrawal of subsidies proceeded gradually during 1946, but by the end of 1947 rent control was the only major phase of the consumer price stabilization programme still in operation. The reaction of prices to decontrol was sharp, as indicated by a 25.9 point rise in the cost-of-living index during 1946 and 1947.

Although the over-all increase in the cost-of-living index between August, 1939 and December, 1947 was 44.8 per cent, advances in indexes for budgetary groups varied widely from this average increase. Comparable figures showing the average price rise recorded for principal budget groups were as follows: foods, 80.0; rent, 15.5; fuel and light, 21.5; clothing, 59.1; home furnishings and services, 53.5; and miscellaneous items, 18.3.

Taking account not only of the increases shown by these groups, but also of their comparative importance in calculating the rise of 44.8 per cent in the total index, price changes in each budget group made the following contributions to the over-all increase: foods, 24.5; rent, 2.9; fuel and light, 1.3; clothing, 7.1; home furnishings and services, 4.8; and miscellaneous items, 4.2.

APPOINTMENTS: The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced on January 25 the following appointments:

Mr. Charles Pierre Hébert, who has been Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Canada in Cuba, has been appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Canada in Mexico, to succeed Mr. Sydney David Pierce, who was recently appointed Associate Deputy Minister of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Mr. R. G. Riddell, Head of the United Nations Division, has been appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. John W. Holmes, who was First Secretary and Chargé d'Affaires at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow from November, 1947, to September, 1948, has returned to Ottawa and has been appointed Acting Head of the United Nations Division.

Brief biographies are as follows:-

CHARLES P. HÉBERT: Born at Montreal in 1899. Educated at Mount St. Louis Collegiate, McGill University, (B. A.) and New College, Oxford (B. A. and M. A.). Served as a member of the Canadian Tariff Board, a Commissioner on the Trade and Industry Commission, and on the staff of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

During the Second World War served as officer in the Fusiliers Mont Royal in Iceland, the United Kingdom, Sicily, Italy and Northwest Europe. For a time served as Military Attaché to the Canadian Missions in Brussels and The Hague. On returning to Canada, he was appointed Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in Washington and later was with the Economic Division of the Department of External Affairs. In November, 1947, was a delegate to the International Trade and Employment Organization Conference in Havana, Cuba. He presented his Letter of Credence as Canadian Minister in Cuba on March 16, 1948.

ROBERT G. RIDDELL: Born at Edmonton, Alberta in 1908. Graduated from University of Manitoba in 1930 (Honours Degree in Arts), University of Toronto (Master of Arts) and awarded I.O.D.E. Overseas Scholarship for study in New College, Oxford (B.A. 1933, Bachelor of Letters and Master of Arts, 1933-4). Lectured in history in University of Toronto from 1934-42. In 1942, joined Department of External Affairs as Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary and in 1946 appointed Head of the United Nations Division. Has attended a number of international conferences including the Third Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris, 1948, as an alternate delegate.

JOHN W. HOLMES: Born at London, Ontario, 1910. Graduated from University of Western Ontario (B.A.), University of Toronto (M.A.), and post-graduate studies at University of London, England. Former instructor at Pickering College, Newmarket, Ontario. In 1939 was appointed Information Secretary of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, later named National Secretary of the same organization. Joined Department of External Affairs, 1943, and later served in the Office of High Commissioner for Canada in London. Served at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow from November, 1947, to September, 1948. He has attended a number of international conferences including the Third General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris.

ONTARIO MANUFACTURING: With reconversion to peacetime production under way, gross value of production by the manufacturing industries of Ontario during 1946 declined \$210,545,000 from the 1945 value, amounting to \$3,754,000 as against \$3,965,069,000, according to the detailed annual report on Ontario manufacturing by the Bureau of Statistics. Output of many lines of consumer goods rose substantially during the year, but these gains were outweighed by the decrease in activity through cessation of production of war equipment and materials.

Reports were received by the Bureau from 11,424 establishments operating in 1946, an increase from 10,869 in 1945. Number of their employees totalled 498,120, down from 518,056

and salaries and wages paid amounted to \$845,-217,000 as against \$882,483,000 in 1945. Peak figure for wartime employment was 570,017 in 1943 and for salaries and wages, \$975,038,000 in 1944.

Between 1944 and 1946 the volume of manufacturing production in Ontario, measured by the number of persons employed, declined nearly 12 per cent. The iron and steel products group showed the greatest decrease with 69,545 less employees. Next were chemicals and allied products with a drop of 9,246, non-ferrous metal products with 8,878, and miscellaneous industries with 4,730. On the other hand, employment rose 13,682 in the wood and paper products group, 4,377 in textiles, 3,334 in vegetable products, 2,970 in animal products, and 1,764 in non-metallic mineral products.

68,103 DWELLING UNITS: During November an estimated 9,701 dwelling units were completed in Canada, bringing the estimated total for the 11 months of 1948 to 68,103 units. November completions were the highest for any month in 1948, comparing with the previous high of 8,164 in October.

During the 11 months of 1948, construction was commenced on 86,348 units and at the end of November the number under construction stood at 61,093. In November, 7,795 units were started as compared with 7,437 in October.

The average length of time required to build the dwelling units completed in November was 6.0 months, showing a slight decline from the October estimate of 6.1 months, but a moderate increase over the low of 5.4 months recorded in September. It is estimated from the types of dwelling units being constructed that 25 per cent of these completed in the first 11 months of 1948 are for rental purposes and the remainder will be owner-occupied.

LIVERPOOL OFFICE: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon, on January 21, announced the re-establishment of Canadian immigration facilities at Liverpool, England.

Pointing out that immigration offices are already in operation at London, and at Glasgow, Scotland, the Minister said that the re-opening of an office at Liverpool would facilitate the movement to Canada of residents of the United Kingdom. The Liverpool office was closed during World War II. The new immigration quarters are at 34 Moorfields Street.

Mr. MacKinnon stated that the opening of additional immigration offices in the British Isles is under consideration.

CARLOADINGS: Cars of revenue freight loaded during the week ended January 15 aggregated 74,970 cars as against 67,547 in the first week of the year and 76,307 cars for the week ending January 17, 1948. The indicated decline from last year was some 1,337 cars or 1.8 per cent.

INSTRUMENT FLYING: The R.C.N. Air Station, H.M.C.S. "Shearwater", Dartmouth, N.S., is expanding its training program to include an instrument flying course, it was announced at Naval Headquarters on January 27. The course will be conducted by No. 1 Training Air Group and will eventually be attended by all pilots of the Royal Canadian Navy Air component.

The instruction will be taken on Harvard and Firefly Trainers, the latter a dual controlled version of the Firefly fighter reconnaissance and anti-submarine aircraft at present in operational use in the Royal Canadian Navy.

The Instrument Flight, under the administration of the Training Air Group, will be staffed by operational pilots who are qualified flying instructors well versed in the latest all-weather flying techniques.

The course will include high speed blind flying interceptions under radar and radio control, and various instrument landing techniques designed to give the highest qualification required by a Naval pilot flying fighter type single seater aircraft.

ANTI-SUBMARINE COURSE: Twelve R.C.N. pilots and observers who, as aircrew of the navy's Firefly planes are specializing in anti-submarine operations, are attending a five-week anti-submarine course at the United States Naval Air Station at San Diego, California, Naval Headquarters announced on January 25.

The course, which commenced January 24, will be devoted largely to familiarization with anti-submarine equipment with which the R.C.N.'s Firefly Mark V aircraft are to be fitted. The first of these are to be embarked by H.M.C.S. "Magnificent" in the United Kingdom early next month.

Concurrently with the San Diego course, another of three weeks' duration will be conducted at the Royal Navy's Anti-submarine School at Londonderry, Northern Ireland, for pilots and observers of 825 Squadron who are to man the new Firefly V's. This course will also be attended by two R.C.A.F. officers, one from 10 Group Headquarters, Halifax, and the other from the Search and Rescue unit, Greenwood, N.S., who have made the overseas trip in the "Magnificent".

STEEL INGOT INCREASE: For the first time in history, Canadian production of steel ingots last year exceeded 3,000,000 tons. With December output, in spite of the holiday season, well up to the level of the preceding months, the year's total reached 3,089,027 tons, according to the Bureau of Statistics, showing an increase of 234,495 tons over the 1947 aggregate of 2,854,532 tons.

Last year's record output compares with the previous top figure of 2,958,906 tons in the wartime year 1942. Production amounted to 2,846,736 tons in 1943, advanced slightly to

2,878,407 in 1944, then declined to 2,747,206 in 1945 and still further to 2,253,437 in 1946. During the last two years production has thus risen about 37 per cent. Indicative of the year's gain, the daily average for 1948 increased to 8,440 tons from 7,821 in 1947.

WHEAT MARKETINGS: Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on January 13 amounted to 166,687,000 bushels, showing a decline of 3,015,000 bushels from the January 6 figure of 169,702,000, but up 31,837,000 bushels over last year's corresponding total of 134,850,000, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

347 REFUGEES: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon, on January 22 announced that the Immigration Branch has completed examination of the group of 347 refugees who arrived at the port of Halifax, December 13, aboard the Estonian vessel, "Walnut".

The immigrants will be admitted to Canada at the rate of one hundred a week and will be placed in employment by the Department of Labour.

PETROLEUM SUPPLIES: Canadian production of refined petroleum products increased 22 per cent in October over the corresponding month of 1947, advancing to 8,013,000 barrels from 6,579,000, according to the Bureau of Statistics. This brought the cumulative total for the 10 months of the year to 67,549,000 barrels as compared with 60,606,000 in the like period of 1947, a rise of 11 per cent.

Receipts of crude oil from all sources during the month rose to 8,588,000 barrels from the October, 1947 total of 6,967,000 barrels, raising the aggregate for the 10-month period to 74,327,000 barrels from 64,116,000 in the like period of 1947.

Receipts of domestic crude again rose sharply in October, totalling 1,132,000 barrels compared with 646,000 a year earlier, and in the 10 months to 9,559,000 barrels compared with 5,639,000. Amount of imported crude received in October was 7,456,000 barrels compared with 6,321,000, and in the cumulative period, 64,768,000 barrels compared with 58,478,000.

EGG PRODUCTION DOWN: Net production of eggs in Canada in 1948 declined to 383,076,000 dozen from the preceding year's total of 407,376,000 dozen, according to estimates by the Bureau of Statistics. Net output on farms in 1948 totalled 351,203,000 dozen compared with 373,696,000 in 1947, and elsewhere than on farms, 31,873,000 dozen compared with 33,680,000.

"Amendments to the Supreme Court Act to make the Supreme Court of Canada the court of last resort for Canada will be submitted for your consideration.

"You will be asked to approve, subject to the approval of the United States authorities, the agreement concluded in 1941 for the Development of Navigation and Power in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin.

"You will be asked to make the further legislative provision necessary to implement the agreements for the sale of agricultural products to the United Kingdom.

"With a view to assisting in the restoration of world trade, so vital to general security and our own prosperity, Canada participated in formulating the Charter for the International Trade Organization and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which will be submitted for your approval. Within the next few months Canada will engage in further negotiations with thirteen other countries to broaden the scope of the tariff concessions which we obtained at Geneva in 1947. The Government will continue to press vigorously for the lowering of tariff and other barriers and, as quickly as possible, the expansion of trade on a multilateral basis.

EXPORT MARKETS

"Meanwhile the Government is seeking to remove specific obstacles to the continued sales of Canadian products in our traditional export markets, and to that end is co-operating closely with the nations concerned in the implementation of the European Recovery Programme.

"The Continuing Committee established by the Governments of Canada and the United Kingdom to review the progress of trade between the two countries is presently meeting in London.

"In the interests of both domestic and foreign trade, legislation will be introduced with the object of promoting extensive and adequately safeguarded use of the national trade mark 'Canada Standard' associated with goods which conform to prescribed standards, and of requiring proper labelling of goods to prevent deception of the public.

"Improvement in our United States dollar position has resulted in the removal of certain restrictions imposed in November, 1947. Further restrictions will be removed as the position improves. So long as trading and financial conditions remain unstable, a degree of control over foreign exchange will be required. You will, accordingly, be asked to extend the Foreign Exchange Control Act for a further period.

"The Report of the Royal Commission on Prices will be laid before you as soon as it has been submitted to the Government.

"Your approval will also be sought for legislation to continue in force steel control and a limited number of price controls, including

control over the rental of housing accommodation.

"You will be asked to make legislative provision for governmental assistance by loan to the producers of basic steel for the purpose of increasing production.

"The Governments of the provinces have been advised that the Federal Government is prepared to discontinue rent control in any province in which the Government expresses the desire to assume the jurisdiction.

"The provision of housing has received and continues to receive close attention. More new housing units were provided during the last calendar year than ever before.

"Your approval will be sought for the establishment of a Department of Reconstruction and Development to continue the functions now vested in the Department of Reconstruction and Supply, including the ministerial responsibility for the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

TRANSCONTINENTAL HIGHWAY

"A measure for assistance in the provision of a transcontinental highway will also be laid before you.

"A Royal Commission has been appointed to enquire into and report upon all questions of economic policy within the jurisdiction of Parliament arising out of the operation and maintenance of national transportation. Together with the findings of the investigation by the Board of Transport Commissioners, the Report of the Royal Commission should furnish Parliament and the Government with the basis for a sound transportation policy.

"The National Health Programme, inaugurated by the Government last year, is receiving co-operation from all the provinces. In supplementing provincial health measures, the programme has already made a contribution to the health facilities of Canada and will thereby bring increasing benefit to our people.

"A Bill will be introduced to broaden the scope of the Family Allowances Act, as a further instalment of the policy of the Government to provide a national standard of social security and human welfare designed to assure the greatest possible measure of social justice for all Canadians.

"The organization of the armed forces to provide for unification and coordination has been pressed forward. Steady progress has been made in the recruitment and training of officers and men of the active and reserve forces, so that the Navy, Army and Air Force may be in a position to meet the defence needs of Canada as these may change from time to time.

"Conditions of service in the armed forces are being further improved, and as rapidly as the results of research can be adequately tested, additional equipment is being made available. Amendments to existing legislation with respect to the armed forces will be recommended for your consideration.

"Other measures to which your attention will be directed include Bills respecting Forest Conservation, Overseas Telecommunications, the Control and Regulation of Inter-provincial and International Pipe Lines, and assistance for the Canadian Shipbuilding Industry. Your approval will be sought for measures to amend the Industrial Development Bank Act, the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act, and the Prairie Farm Assistance Act.

"It is the view of my Ministers that there should be an examination of the activities of agencies of the Federal Government relating to radio, films, television, the encouragement of arts and sciences, research, the preservation of our national records, a national library, museums, exhibitions, relations in these fields with international organizations, and activities generally which are designed to enrich our national life, and to increase our own consciousness of our national heritage and knowledge of Canada abroad. For this purpose, the Government intends at an early date to establish a Royal Commission.

Members of the House of Commons:

"You will be asked to make the customary provision for essential services.

"Prosperous conditions now prevailing are being reflected in the buoyant level of national revenues; a condition to which due consideration is being given by my Ministers in the preparation of forthcoming budgetary proposals.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

"The birth of a son to Their Royal Highnesses Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh has been the occasion of widespread rejoicing. Happiness over the birth of the Royal Prince has been tempered by regret over the indisposition of His Majesty the King. The people of Canada hope and pray for the complete recovery of the King's health.

"Since the close of your last session, Mr. Mackenzie King has retired as Prime Minister. I feel it is the hope of all Canadians that Mr. King will be spared, over a long period and with less exacting responsibilities, to continue his distinguished and devoted service to Canada and the free world.

"May Divine Providence bless your deliberations."

DR. COLEMAN'S APPOINTMENT: The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced on January 26 the appointment of Dr. E.H. Coleman, former Under-Secretary of State, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Canada in Cuba. This announcement was made as soon as the Canadian authorities had received a reply to the request which it is customary to address to a foreign Government for their agreement to a proposed appointment of a Head of Mission.

A brief biographical sketch of Dr. Coleman is as follows:

Born in Renfrew County, Ontario, in 1890. Educated at the University of Manitoba (LL.B. and LL.D.). Called to the Bar of Manitoba in 1922 and made a King's Counsel in 1929. Served as Private Secretary to the late Honourable Sir James Aikins, 1911-1918; Secretary-Treasurer of Canadian Bar Association, 1919-1933; Dean of Manitoba Law School, 1929-1933. Appointed Under-Secretary of State and Deputy Registrar General of Canada in 1933. Was Canadian representative at the Conference on Enemy Patents in London, 1946, and at the Commonwealth Conference of Nationality in London, 1947. Was made C.M.G. in 1944.

FARM CASH INCOME AT RECORD: Canadian farmers received an estimated record cash income of \$1,762,814,000 from the sale of farm products during the first nine months of 1948, an increase of more than 37 per cent over the \$1,282,112,000 shown for the same period of 1947, according to the Bureau of Statistics. With the inclusion of supplementary cash payments made under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act of 1946, 1947 and 1948, the Wheat Acreage Reduction Act of 1946 and 1947, and the Prairie Farm Income Act of 1946, amounting to \$15,821,000, their cash receipts aggregated \$1,778,635,000 as against \$1,292,306,000 for the same period of 1947.

The gain can be attributed in large part to a significant increase in the prices paid for farm products and to the substantial sums paid out as grain equalization and adjusting payments by the Canadian Wheat Board and western grain companies. During the first nine months of 1948, the Canadian Wheat Board paid out in the form of equalization and adjusting payments \$153,560,000 on wheat, \$3,762,000 on oats and \$4,684,000 on flaxseed. In addition, western grain companies paid out a total of \$7,625,000 on oats and barley delivered to them by farmers during the period, August 1 to October 21, 1947.

According to the index number of farm prices of agricultural products, the general level of farm product prices during the first nine months of 1948 was approximately 20 per cent higher than for the corresponding period a year earlier. Generally higher prices for grains, together with increased marketings of wheat and flaxseed, have more than offset smaller deliveries of coarse grains to give an increased cash income from this source in 1948.

Total cash income of \$968,496,000 from the sale of livestock and livestock products during the first nine months of 1948 was 36 per cent higher than for the corresponding period of 1947, while the total derived from the sale of field crops was \$765,986,000 as compared with \$550,552,000, a rise of 39 per cent. The sale of dairy products was the top contributor to the 1948 total, followed by wheat and cattle calves.

Without exception, gains in cash income

from the sale of farm products occurred in all provinces. In absolute terms, the largest gain in cash returns was registered in Saskatchewan, while on a percentage basis the greatest increase took place in Manitoba.

\$80,687,448,000 RECORD: Reflecting the high level of economic activity and advances in prices, cheques cashed against individual accounts during 1948 exceeded all previous years. Total for the year was \$80,687,448,000, according to the Bureau of Statistics, as compared with \$74,498,093,000 in the preceding year, a rise of 8.3 per cent. The country-wide total has shown advances year by year since 1938, the figure for that year amounting to \$30,924,363,000.

A sharp increase of 14.5 per cent was also shown in the amount of cheques cashed in December. The total for the month was \$7,800,091,000 as compared with \$6,811,076,000 a year earlier. All five economic areas, and all but four of the 33 clearing centres showed advances.

All five economic areas shared in the rise in 1948. Total for the Maritimes advanced from \$1,750,655,000 in 1947 to \$1,970,079,000, Quebec from \$22,919,909,000 to \$23,689,833,000, Ontario from \$30,433,876,000 to \$33,381,605,000, Prairie Provinces from \$12,853,736,000 to \$14,602,310,000, and British Columbia from \$6,539,916,000 to \$7,043,620,000.

Among the 33 clearing centres, Ottawa was the only one to record a decline in 1948, clearings for that centre falling 6.2 per cent to \$3,676,302,000. Total for Montreal rose from \$20,611,366,000 in 1947 to \$20,978,799,000, Toronto from \$20,210,585,000 to \$22,655,185,000, Winnipeg, from \$7,381,393,000 to \$8,375,791,000, and Vancouver from \$5,321,162,000 to \$5,765,370,000.

SECURITY TRANSACTIONS: Canada had a sales balance on her international security transactions in November for the first time since July, and only the fourth time in the 24 months to the end of November, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

Net sales to all countries in the month amounted to \$1,600,000, with sales at \$21,800,000 and purchases at \$20,200,000. Transactions with all countries in the first 11 months of 1948 resulted in net purchases of \$17,200,000, compared with net purchases of \$13,900,000 in the same period of 1947 and net sales of \$137,400,000 in the first 11 months of 1946.

The sales balance in November was due for the most part to an excess of \$1,500,000 in purchases by the United Kingdom over sales to that country. All other sales balances in the past seven years have resulted from net sales to residents of the United States and other foreign countries. In trade with the United States in the month the purchase balance was \$100,000. With other countries there was a purchase balance of \$200,000.

P.M. TO VISIT WASHINGTON: The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, made a statement in the House of Commons on January 27 on his proposed visit to Washington. He said:

"I hope it will be of interest to Honourable Members to learn that the President of the United States announced today that he had invited me to visit Washington on February 12, 1949, and that I had accepted his invitation.

"The United States Ambassador called on me yesterday morning to extend the invitation. I told Mr. Steinhardt I would naturally be pleased to accept President Truman's invitation.

"The President was kind enough to indicate that he would like to renew our acquaintance and to discuss the matters which are of common interest to our two countries as neighbours, and also the world situation as it affects our two countries.

"Everyone knows the friendly personal relations between the late President Roosevelt and our Prime Minister were of inestimable advantage to this continent and the world. President Truman has expressed the desire which I fully share to maintain these friendly personal relations between the leaders of the governments of our two countries. Honourable Members will recall that President Truman visited Ottawa in June 1947 at the invitation of my predecessor and that his visit was both pleasant and beneficial."

MINES BUREAU PRESS TOUR: For the first time in the history of the Bureau of Mines, the press of Canada was invited, last week, on a tour of the Bureau's laboratories where, the party was told, the main purposes was "to find out what goes on inside the skin of metals." Preceded by a press conference, the visitors, who included press gallery and local newspaper representatives, as well as free lance writers and writers for out of town mining publications, were escorted over the Bureau where they watched interesting and varied tests and processes. Reports a column and a half in length, together with pictures, were published locally, and the story was carried over News Roundup and the International Service of the C.B.C.

ARREST OF SAM CARR: Sam Carr who has been sought for three years following submission of the report of the Royal Commission on espionage, was arrested by the F.B.I. in New York on the evening of Thursday, January 27, the Canadian Press reported.

EMPLOYMENT AGAIN UP: Industrial employment and payrolls showed further small increases at December 1, in spite of seasonal contractions in manufacturing, construction and some other classes, to bring both to new high record levels. Seasonal expansion in trade and logging in Canada as a whole was the main factor contributing to the small increase.