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## CASH ADVANCES CONSIDERED

Parliament will be asked to consider a system of cash advances to farmers for unsold grain, Prime Minister John G. Diefenbaker announced on August 29. The proposal will be submitted for the Commons' consideration "at the earliest possible date".

Mr. Diefenbaker also announced that the Government was proclaiming the Prairie Grain Producers' Interim Financing Act to provide loans to farmers and that a special committee of the Cabinet had been appointed to consider proposals for increasing the sales of Canadian wheat. Members of the committee are the Hon. Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce; the Hon. Douglas S. Harkness, Minister of Agriculture; and the Hon. Alvin Hamilton, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

The text of Mr. Diefenbaker's statement follows:

Recognizing the difficulties affecting Western farmers at the present time due to the accumulation over the past six years of unusually large surplus stocks of wheat, and the consequent difficulties in making deliveries from the farms of the present crop, the Government of Canada is proclaiming the Prairie Grain Producers' Interim Financing Act as a stop-gap measure to be available to such Western farmers as desire to utilize it until the House of Commons has an opportunity to consider a system of cash advances. The Government recognizes that the provision of loans

does not meet all the problems of the Western farm economy but is proclaiming the Act to provide some assistance until Parliament can act.

The interest rate which has been in effect under the Act in the past five years has been 5 per cent. During that period interest rates have increased by 1 per cent but even so the rate of 5 per cent per annum will remain in effect.

The Government intends to propose for the consideration of Parliament a system of cash advances aimed at providing, on an emergency basis, the best possible arrangement to meet the farmers' needs this fall.

This proposal will be submitted to Parliament at the earliest possible date so that assistance in that regard will be made available to farmers.

The large surplus of wheat held in elevators and on farms in Western Canada is one of the factors that requires the proclamation of the Prairie Grain Producers' Interim Financing Act and the preparation of a plan for cash advances. Indeed, if the estimate made during the last few days of the amount of wheat in elevators and on the farms is correct, Canada's surplus has been underestimated during the last several years by about one hundred million bushels.

The disposal of these surplus stocks of grain is a problem of major importance to the entire Canadian economy. As an indication of

(Over)

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the importance which the Government attaches to the problem of disposing our surplus stocks of grain a special Committee of the Cabinet has been set up to consider all proposals relating to an accelerated sales programme. The Committee will consist of the Ministers from the three Prairie Provinces, namely, the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Churchill), the Minister of Agriculture, (Mr. Harkness), and the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources (Mr. Alvin Hamilton).

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**ACCLAMATION:** George H. Doucett has been elected to the House of Commons by acclamation for the constituency of Lanark in Southeastern Ontario. The election of Mr. Doucett, a Progressive-Conservative, gives his party 112 seats in the new House. Other party standings are: Liberal, 105; Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, 25; Social Credit, 19; Independent, 2; Independent-Liberal, 1; Liberal-Labour, 1. There are now no vacancies.

Mr. Doucett, a former minister of highways for the province of Ontario, was Lanark's member in the Ontario Legislature and resigned the seat to contest it for the Federal House. The previous incumbent, Dr. William Blair, also a Progressive-Conservative, died less than a week after the June 10 general election.

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**NEW ASSISTANT:** Fisheries Minister J. Angus MacLean has announced the appointment of Lowell A.S. Allen as his executive assistant.

Mr. Allen was born in Summerside, Prince Edward Island, in 1926, and graduated from Acadia University in 1948 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and from Dalhousie University in 1952 with the degree of L.L.B. He is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Prince Edward Island Law Association.

Since graduating from Dalhousie, he spent three years as a member of the Legal Division of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and one year with a large Ottawa law firm, a post which he is leaving for his present appointment.

Mr. Allen now resides in Ottawa. He is married and has two children. He is a trustee of the Eastview Public School Board and a member of the Board of Stewards of Eastbrook United Church.

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**MORE CARS TO CANADA:** Number of foreign vehicles entering Canada on travellers' vehicle permits was greater in July and January-July this year than last, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, July entries increased 0.4 per cent to 543,995 vehicles from 541,715 a year earlier, all provinces except New Brunswick, Quebec and British Columbia reporting more entries. January-July crossings climbed 4.2 per cent to 1,371,978 vehicles from 1,317,199 in 1956's like period, Newfound-

land and Nova Scotia and British Columbia recording the only declines.

Month's entries were as follows: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia - by ship, 3,768 vehicles (3,688 a year earlier); New Brunswick, 33,530 (33,949); Quebec, 81,226 (85,443); Ontario, 342,334 (335,475); Manitoba, 9,723 (9,546); Saskatchewan, 4,210 (4,082); Alberta, 15,585 (15,048); British Columbia, 51,779 (52,935); and Yukon Territory, 1,840 (1,549).

Seven-month entries: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, 6,004 (6,053 last year); New Brunswick 90,108 (83,802); Quebec, 223,416 (212,490); Ontario, 826,495 (794,331); Manitoba, 28,168 (25,400); Saskatchewan, 12,526 (10,935); Alberta, 28,040 (27,003); British Columbia, 152,698 (153,415); and Yukon Territory, 4,523 (3,770).

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**CANADIAN SOLDIERS EAST:** The first major changeover of Army personnel now serving in the Middle East with the United Nations Emergency Force will start on September 15, Army Headquarters has announced.

The RCAF will airlift approximately 50 officers and more than 600 other ranks from Dorval, Quebec, to Egypt, and about the same number to Canada from the Middle East, a total of approximately 1400 all ranks.

The first flights will leave Naples on September 19 and Egypt on September 20. The RCAF airlift, departing Dorval and El Arish every two to five days, will be completed by the end of November.

Not included in this fall's changeover are members of No. 56 Reconnaissance Squadron of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps. This 105-man unit, with headquarters at El Kuntilla, will remain to carry out their desert patrol role. The unit first took up its operational role in the Gaza Strip last April, and is not yet due to be relieved.

One hundred and twenty-six officers and men, Canada's first UNEF representatives, left by air last November 22. More than 450 administrative and support troops followed aboard HMCS Magnificent which left Halifax December 29. Tour of duty for Canadian soldiers in the Middle East is one year.

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**FEWER FIRES:** Forest fire statisticians of the Forestry Branch, Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, report that not in 25 years has Canada had as few forest fires during July as this year. The month's total of 575 is very close to the all-time low record of 568 established in July 1932. Only 65,000 acres were damaged or destroyed by fire during July 1937 as against 550,000 acres burned in July 1956 by 1,100 fires.

To the end of July this year there have been 3,600 fires, almost the same number as for the corresponding period a year ago. However, by this time last year, 1,742,924 acres had been burned as compared with only 265,000 acres this year.

## IROQUOIS LOCK COMPLETE

The last mass concrete pour has been placed at the Iroquois Lock, marking completion of the first major structure on the St. Lawrence Seaway, Charles Gavsie, President of The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, announced August 28.

The Iroquois Lock will provide access between the power pool in the International Rapids Section and the stretch of river leading through the Thousand Islands to Lake Ontario. It is the most westerly of the seven new locks being built for the Seaway. The Authority's engineers are looking forward to the possibility of passing ships through this lock before the end of November.

First concrete was placed at the lock just a year and two months ago. Now some 660,000 tons have gone into the 1200 foot-long main lock structure and its upper and lower approach walls. On the North side the Upper approach wall is 3200 feet long, 47 feet high and 34 feet broad at the base. The downstream approach wall on this side is 1700 feet in length, making a continuous concrete structure 6100 feet in length.

### TAXING TASK

Five hundred men have been working around the clock, Winter and Summer, to rush this important Seaway structure to completion. The final concrete placement was tripped from eight-ton buckets into monoliths Lower 28 S. and Lower 42 N. meaning these monoliths (or great concrete cubes) are in the south portion and the north portion respectively, of the lower approach wall. Both these monoliths are curved, requiring great care in their building.

Inside dimensions of the lock are 768 feet useable length, 80 feet width and 30 feet over locks sills.

Dredging of the approaches upstream and downstream of the lock is proceeding under Authority contract. The upper approach area to the lock proper which had been cofferdammed

since Summer 1955, is now being flooded. Cofferdams are being removed and gates and fenders are receiving a long series of tests.

The two sets of sector gates at the upper end of the lock are already installed and have been operated "in the dry"--for stop logs are still in place protecting the lock chamber from the water upstream.

Seaway Authority engineers, Mr. Gavsie said, expect to have the lower two sets of sector gates installed by October 15 and that the testing programme will be completed by early November.

Contractors for the Iroquois Lock are Iroquois Constructors Limited. The contract was awarded early in 1955 and is due for completion November 30 this year.

F.M. Corneil is Division Engineer for the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority in the construction of the lock. Douglas Cameron is the resident engineer and John Bruce is division administration officer.

### 1959 OPENING

The St. Lawrence Seaway will be open with a depth of 27 feet from Montreal Harbour to Lake Erie with the beginning of the navigation season in 1959, Mr. Gavsie explained. However, the International Rapids Section will be flooded by mid-Summer, next year, and the St. Lawrence canals here--Cornwall Canal, Morrisburg, Farran Point and Galop canals--will be unuseable. Consequently ships, although still proceeding at the present canal draft of 14 feet, will have to use the Iroquois Lock for entry into the power pool from upstream and the two United States locks to leave it and continue on to Montreal via the Soulanges and Lachine Canals for 1958 only.

In 1959 ships will be using the four other new Canadian Seaway locks at Beauharnois, Cote Ste. Catherine and St. Lambert.

**HOSPITAL GRANT:** The Manitoba School for Mentally Defective Persons, Portage la Prairie, has been awarded a federal hospital construction grant of more than \$57,300, Hon. J. Waldo Monteith, Minister of National Health and Welfare, has announced.

The grant will be used to help meet the costs of additions to and alterations in the present accommodation to increase the institution's bed capacity by 95. Cost of construction not covered by the federal grant will be met by the Province of Manitoba which operates the school as part of its psychiatric services.

The Manitoba School, founded in 1890, is one of the oldest of its kind in Western Canada. When the current building programme is completed later this year, it will have a bed capacity of more than 900.

**WHEAT SALES UP:** Overseas export clearances of wheat in the week ending August 14 increased to 6,456,000 bushels from last year's corresponding total of 4,790,000 bushels, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Barley clearances fell sharply to 47,000 bushels from 1,617,000 but flaxseed less steeply to 201,000 bushels from 225,000.

Prairie farmers marketed substantially larger quantities of the three grains in the week; wheat rising to 1,632,000 bushels from 827,000 last year, barley to 257,000 bushels from 218,000 and flaxseed to 32,000 bushels from 2,000. Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America totalled 404,115,000 bushels at August 14, slightly below the week-earlier total of 407,519,000 bushels but substantially above the year-earlier total of 360,309,000 bushels.

**ORCHESTRA INVITED:** The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is considering invitations from three European capitals for concert engagements next summer by the CBC Symphony Orchestra.

In making the announcement, Charles Jennings, CBC controller of broadcasting, said acceptance of the invitations would result in engagements at the Edinburgh International Festival, the London Promenade Concert series, and the Brussels Universal and International Exposition. It would mark the first overseas appearance by a Canadian symphony orchestra. The CBC Symphony has just completed engagements at the Stratford Shakespearean Festival in Canada.

If these engagements can be undertaken by the orchestra it is planned to include concerts in several other European countries to round out a two-week concert tour. Such a tour would start on the Continent in the latter part of August 1958, and finish in London early in September. The London engagement would mark the first appearance by an orchestra from outside the United Kingdom at the London Promenade Concert series.

A decision will be made within the next few weeks concerning the Orchestra's 1958 plans and an announcement will be made at that time.

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**ROYAL VISIT PLANS:** The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has announced plans for nationwide radio and television coverage of the Queen's visit to Ottawa October 12 to 16.

There will be complete "live" coverage on the CBC's English and French radio networks with an additional programme of recorded highlights each evening. All CBC radio coverage will be made available to non-network radio stations as well. On television CBC will provide "live" service to all Canadian television stations on the connected microwave network, with television recordings of the main events to be sent to all non-connected TV stations on a maximum 24-hour delay basis.

Plans are proceeding with communications companies in Canada and the United States to carry all the main events of the royal visit "live" to as many Canadian TV stations as can be reached by temporary microwave connection.

More than 30 commentators and 175 technicians will be centred in Ottawa to handle the radio and TV assignments in English and in French. They will use a total of 23 cameras at 19 different pick-up points. The facilities of mobile television units will be used together with additional equipment set up in special control centres.

**OVERSEAS COVERAGE**

In addition to the radio and television service in both languages in Canada there will be special overseas coverage by the CBC's International Service. The I.S. reports will

be beamed around the world in the regular and special services, with the new Trans-Atlantic cable being used for simultaneous coverage to the BBC, the Canadian forces in Europe, and many points of the Commonwealth. The Sackville shortwave transmitters of I.S. will carry the main events live in the French language. Canadian forces will also receive television recordings of the visit.

All CBC radio and television coverage has been offered to American networks, but final arrangements for broadcasts to the United States of the Canadian visit have not been made. The CBC will send a team of two English-language and two French-language commentators to the United States to cover the American portion of Her Majesty's visit and final arrangements for broadcasts from the U.S. will be announced shortly.

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**INTERNATIONAL MEETING:** Displays of the latest in geophysical equipment will greet a world gathering of some 1,000 scientists in Toronto during the Eleventh General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, September 3-14.

The Assembly will review the progress of the world's greatest scientific adventure, the International Geophysical Year launched on July 1. Several other displays illustrate the IGY projects.

At the Royal Ontario Museum, where the opening reception will be held, a full-size model of the IGY Vanguard rocket and a working replica of the United States earth satellite will be on view to the public. The satellite is provided by the U.S. National Research Council.

At Hart House of the University of Toronto, location of the Assembly meetings, a trade exhibit will be staged by about 30 leading geophysical companies of Canada, the United States, Europe and Japan.

During the Assembly, the Canadian International Air Show, September 6-7, will display fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, as equipped for air surveys and geophysical work.

Delegates from some 40 countries have registered for the Assembly and the meetings will be covered by more than 100 science writers from many countries.

The largest group of scientists from overseas will come from the United Kingdom. These will number about 90, representing British universities and government research centres. France will send 78 delegates; the U.S.S.R., 57; Germany, 37; Holland, 27; Italy, 24; Sweden, 22; Japan, 18; Switzerland, 16; Belgium, 15; Spain, 14; Poland 10. More than 300 Americans and 150 Canadians will participate, and small groups are coming from about thirty other countries. The Assemblies of the IUGG take place every three years. The last meeting was held in Rome in 1954.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** The Honourable Donald M. Fleming, Minister of Finance, released August 24 the regular monthly statement of the Government's financial operations for July 1957, and the first four months of the current fiscal year.

For July, budgetary revenues were \$501.5 million, expenditures were \$411.4 million and the surplus was \$90.1 million. For July 1956, revenues were \$459.9 million, expenditures were \$349.9 million and the surplus was \$110 million.

For the first four months of the current fiscal year, budgetary revenues were \$1,686.7 million, expenditures were \$1,475.9 million and the surplus was \$210.8 million. For the same period a year ago, revenues were \$1,613.3 million, expenditures were \$1,282.9 million and the surplus was \$330.4 million.

Mr. Fleming pointed out that while the budgetary surplus for the first four months of the current fiscal year was \$210.8 million compared with a surplus of \$330.4 million for the same period last year, expenditures this year included the payment in April of \$100 million to the Canada Council, and additional payments of \$21.2 million to the provinces. In 1957-58, payments under the Federal-Provincial Tax-Sharing Arrangements Act are made monthly whereas in 1956-57, payments to the provinces were made quarterly. Consequently the total for 1957-58 includes payments for four months while that for 1956-57 included payments for only three months.

Operations of the old age security fund, which are not included in budgetary transactions, resulted in a deficit of \$2.6 million for July 1957, and an accumulated deficit of \$5.3 million for the four months to July 31. Last year, for the four months to July 31, 1956, there was an accumulated deficit of \$6.2 million which was covered by a temporary loan by the Minister under the terms of the Old Age Security Act.

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**TEACHERS TO EUROPE:** Sixty-seven school teachers from almost every province of Canada have arrived in Europe to join the teaching staffs of RCAF dependents' schools in England, France and Germany. It has been announced by Royal Canadian Air Force Headquarters.

Members of the group, who departed from Quebec on S.S. Homeric earlier this month, have been appointed to their new posts for a two-year period, and are replacing teachers whose terms have expired.

The RCAF has approximately 150 Canadian teachers in the UK and on the Continent responsible for the education of dependents of personnel serving with the RCAF's No. 1 Air Division. They teach at RCAF schools located in Langar, England; Metz, Marville and Gros-tenquin, France; Baden-Soellingen, Zweibrucken, West Germany. In addition, some of the Canadians will be teaching at NATO dependents' schools at Trier, Germany, and Paris.

**"LABRADOR" SAILS NORTH:** The Royal Canadian Navy's Arctic patrol ship, HMCS Labrador, has reached Resolute Bay, 480 miles north of the Arctic Circle, the Navy has announced. She is on a voyage to Bellot Strait in the latest quest for a feasible Northwest Passage.

Upon arrival at the eastern approach of the strait, the Labrador's commanding officer, Captain T.C. Pullen, of Oakville, Ontario, and Halifax, will assume responsibilities as Commander Bellot Survey Group, a component of the Arctic Task Force of the U.S. Navy's Military Sea Transport Service Atlantic.

The Labrador sailed northward through Davis Strait from Frobisher Bay. After entering Lancaster Sound, via Pond Inlet, Eclipse Sound and Navy Board Inlet, she proceeded to Resolute on Cornwallis Island for final pick-up and delivery of mail and will continue south through Prince Regent Inlet to the Bellot area.

Before commencing her voyage northward, the Labrador discovered a much-needed deep draft channel at Frobisher Bay, replacing more devious routes to the Baffin Island port. Her search now is for another deep draft channel, a Northwest Passage through Bellot Strait, separating Boothia Peninsula and Somerset Island.

The 80-ton RCMP Schooner St. Roch is the only ship ever to make a voyage through the Northwest Passage via Bellot Strait. The voyage took place from 1940 to 1942 from west to east. The Labrador sailed through the Northwest Passage in 1954 by the northern route through Viscount Melville Sound.

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**PRODUCTION INDEX DROPS:** The seasonally adjusted index of industrial production declined about 1 per cent in June to 284.1 from 286.9 (revised) in May, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. The adjusted mining index fell 4.3 per cent to 291.9 from 305.0 (revised) in May, while index of manufacturing production was almost unchanged at 282.3 compared with 282.6 (revised) in May. The durables component rose slightly to 336.6 from 335.4 (revised), but this was offset by the non-durables which fell to 247.5 from 248.9. The adjusted index for output of electricity and gas declined to 285.2 from 289.1.

For the first six months of 1957, the index of industrial production averaged 284.9, 2.9 per cent above the corresponding 1956 average of 276.8. The manufacturing index rose 1.1 per cent to 284.7 from 281.6. The non-durables component advanced 2.2 per cent to 246.3 while the durables index dropped fractionally to 344.7 as compared with 345.2 for the first six months last year. The mining index increased 10.4 per cent to 276.9, from 250.9, and the sub-index for electricity and gas rose 6.5 per cent to 304.7 from 286.2.

**NORTHERN STUDY:** The Alberta provincial government has appointed a special three-man commission to study the development potential of Alberta's northland.

The commission includes, as chairman, J.C. MacGregor, chairman of the Alberta Power Commission; Roy C. Marler, Bremner, past president of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture, and J.O. Patterson, retired Grande Prairie businessman.

All sections of the province north of the 55th parallel will be included in the field of investigation. The parallel is about 100 miles north of Edmonton, running from the B.C. border south of Grande Prairie, just north of Athabasca and through Lac la Biche to the Saskatchewan boundary.

The commission has been asked to determine the extent and location of natural resources in the area, population trends and likely areas of population concentration, agricultural and industrial opportunity in the area, transportation and communication requirements, electrical power resources and requirements, market trends in respect to resources, as well as methods to assist general development.

Provision has been made for the Northern Development Commission to employ such consultant services as they may deem necessary. It has also been granted power to summon witnesses to give information on oath, orally or in writing, and produce documents required by the Commission.

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**WHEAT EXPORTS DOWN:** Overseas export clearances of Canadian wheat in the first week of this crop year amounted to 2,870,000 bushels, sharply lower than the year-earlier total of 7,493,000 bushels, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Barley clearances were also substantially lower at 33,000 bushels versus 552,000, but oats climbed to 85,000 bushels from 5,000 and flaxseed to 327,000 bushels from 63,000.

Prairie farmers marketed 456,000 bushels of wheat in the week compared to 86,000 a year ago, 120,000 bushels of barley versus 28,000, and 34,000 bushels of flaxseed against 2,000. Visible supplies of wheat in store or in transit in Canada totalled 407,471,000 bushels at August 7 compared to 401,176,000 a week earlier and 364,322,000 a year earlier.

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**EMPLOYMENT STEADY:** An estimated 5,949,000 workers in Canada had jobs at July 20, 1957, the Department of Labour and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics announced August 21. This represents increase of 115,000 from the previous month and 160,000 from a year earlier. The labour force increased by about the same amount, and totalled 6,112,000 at July 20. As a result, the number of persons without jobs and seeking work at 163,000 was virtually unchanged from a month earlier, although it was

still about 61,000 higher than a year earlier. The number of registrations for employment at National Employment Service offices was 257,000 at July 18, some 14,000 fewer than a month earlier, but 78,000 more than a year before.

The increase in the labour force from June to July was slightly less this year than last, but the increase in employment was substantially smaller. The usual decline in the number of persons without jobs and seeking work, therefore, did not occur during the month. Non-agricultural jobs increased by 9,000 from the month before, compared with an increase of 49,000 in the same month last year; agricultural jobs increased by 106,000 during the month compared with 93,000 last year.

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**PROVINCES SPEND MORE:** The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released two publications dealing with revenue and expenditure of provincial governments.

The *Summary of Estimates*, the first analysis for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1958, shows that record expenditures of \$2,005 million are expected to be made in the current fiscal year. Revenues of the ten provinces are estimated at \$1,942 million - also an all-time high. These totals were determined by analysis of the published estimates and budget speeches of the provinces.

The chief sources of provincial revenue for 1957-58 are estimated to be: taxes, \$913 million; the new federal-provincial tax-sharing arrangements, \$345 million; privileges, licences and permits, \$468 million; and liquor profits, \$150 million. Main expenditures are: transportation and communications (chiefly roads), \$585 million; health, \$302 million; social welfare, \$159 million; education, \$436 million; and natural resources and primary industries, \$152 million. Each of these items is up appreciably from previous years.

The second analysis of revenue and expenditure, (*Preliminary*), is for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1957. It incorporates information available at or near the close of the fiscal year. The preliminary total of net general revenue is \$1,745 million - approximately \$200 million higher than presented in the *Summary of Estimates* for the same fiscal period as published a year ago. Total expenditures, exclusive of debt retirement, are expected to be \$1,889 million - approximately \$100 million more than originally budgeted for by the provinces.

The chief sources of provincial revenue for 1956-57 (preliminary) are: taxes, \$717 million; federal tax rental agreements, \$366 million; privileges, licences and permits, \$451 million; and liquor profits, \$144 million. Main expenditures are: transportation and communications, \$560 million; health, \$270 million; social welfare, \$144 million; education, \$364 million; natural resources and primary industries, \$133 million.