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## WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

**ECONOMIC OUTLOOK:** Private and public investment outlay for new construction and for new machinery and equipment in Canada is expected to be increased by 8 per cent this year, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe, announced on March 1 in a report tabled in the House of Commons.

In a second report tabled at the same time, the Minister predicts continued improvement in the supply of building materials even though a few items will continue to be in short supply.

In tabling in Parliament his report entitled, "Private and Public Investment in Canada - Outlook 1949", Mr. Howe indicates that public and private investment intentions call for 1949 capital expenditures of \$3.3 billion, as against the \$3 billion spent in 1948. The program will comprise \$2.0 billion for new construction and \$1.3 billion for new machinery and equipment.

After allowing for price rises during 1948 averaging 7 per cent, the 1949 program in terms of volume will involve a slight increase over 1948. In these terms, volume of construction will be higher by about 6 per cent, and equipment lower by about 6 per cent.

Private outlay on capital goods covering expenditures related to privately-owned bus-

ness, institutions and housing is estimated at \$2.4 billion, 3 per cent higher than in 1948. Corresponding public outlay is expected to reach \$921 million, or 21 per cent above the previous year. Most of this increase is due to expansion of publicly-owned utilities and to greater outlay for housing and for institutions. Expected investment expenditures to be made directly by federal, provincial and municipal governments are 16 per cent above last year's level.

Dollar capital construction outlays contemplated by the business sector of the economy amount to \$1.9 billion or 2 per cent above realized capital construction investment in 1948. With allowance made for higher prices this indicates that business investment, in physical terms, will be lower in 1949.

With respect to some of the principal groups within the economy, the forecast indicates new investment outlays of \$200 million for institutions, representing a 56 per cent increase over the 1948 level; \$607 million for utilities, up 16 per cent; \$741 million for housing, up 9 per cent; \$515 million for the primary and construction industries, up 2 per cent; \$260 million for trade and services, down 2 per cent; and \$522 million for manufacturing, down 8 per cent.

**81,000 DWELLING UNITS:** The total number of dwelling units completed in Canada during 1948 is estimated by the Bureau of Statistics at 81,243, including 5,146 conversions. This compares with 79,359 units completed in 1947, and makes an aggregate of 276,516 units completed in the last four years.

Activity in the residential construction field in 1948 was considerably greater than in 1947. Although completions in 1948 were only 1,884 units more than in 1947, the number of dwelling units under construction increased from 42,215 units at the end of 1947 to 56,456 at the end of 1948.

Of the dwelling units completed in 1948 -- excluding conversions -- 61,787 were one-family detached, 4,560 were two-family detached, 1,607 were in rows or terraces, 7,836 were in apartments and flats, and 307 other types.

Completions in 1948 were as follows by provinces: Prince Edward Island 230, Nova Scotia 2,588, New Brunswick 1,991, Quebec 20,171, Ontario 26,391, Manitoba 4,561, Saskatchewan 3,211, Alberta 6,223, British Columbia 10,731.

Dwelling units added by conversion during 1948 totalled 5,146, of which 22 were in Prince Edward Island, 316 in Nova Scotia, 274 in New Brunswick, 1,088 in Quebec, 2,273 in Ontario, 344 in Manitoba, 220 in Saskatchewan, 250 in Alberta, and 359 in British Columbia.

Dwelling units uncompleted at the end of 1948 totalled 56,456 compared with 42,215 at the end of 1947. Figures follow by provinces, those for 1947 being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 203 (209); Nova Scotia, 2,748 (2,161); New Brunswick, 1,069 (736); Quebec, 13,848 (9,076); Ontario, 21,112 (17,243); Manitoba, 2,632 (2,315); Saskatchewan, 1,853 (1,469); Alberta, 5,262 (2,310); British Columbia, 7,729 (6,696).

The average length of time required to build the dwelling units completed in Canada in 1948 was 6.5 months. Quebec, with an average of 5.5 months -- the lowest among the provinces -- reflects the higher proportion of multiple units being built upon which there is a saving of time per unit.

**RECORD VALUE FIELD CROPS:** The gross dollar value of principal field crops produced on Canadian farms in 1948 is now placed by the Bureau of Statistics at \$1,601 million, the highest gross dollar value of production ever recorded. This was \$156 million higher than in the preceding year. Crops making the largest individual contribution to the total value were wheat, oats, hay and clover, and barley.

Values of field crops were higher than in 1947 in six provinces, the same in two, and lower in one. Greatest increase was in Ontario, where the value of field crops was \$87 million above the preceding year, resulting in that province displacing Alberta in second place. Manitoba, with a gain of \$51 million similarly displaced Quebec in fourth place.

Following are the values of field crops in 1948, with the revised figures for 1947 in brackets (millions of dollars): wheat, \$551 (\$462); oats, \$254 (\$215); hay and clover, \$248 (\$251); barley, \$146 (\$147); potatoes, \$82 (\$99); flaxseed, \$66 (\$64); mixed grains, \$60 (\$33); alfalfa, \$50 (\$39); and rye, \$35 (\$44).

By provinces the total values in 1948 are, in order of magnitude, as follows, with revised values for 1947 in brackets (millions of dollars): Saskatchewan, \$397 (\$397); Ontario, \$369 (\$282); Alberta, \$313 (\$310); Manitoba, \$215 (\$164); Quebec, \$190 (\$170); New Brunswick, \$37 (\$44); British Columbia, \$33 (\$32); Nova Scotia, \$23 (\$22); Prince Edward Island, \$23 (\$23).

**SEA FISH CATCH DOWN:** Landings of Canada's sea fish in January were sharply lower than in the corresponding month last year, due in the main to greatly reduced landings of sea herring on the Pacific coast. This reduction was brought about, for the most part, by the cold weather which prevailed throughout the month. On the Atlantic coast, landings of cod and haddock were higher and smelts and sardines lower.

According to the Bureau of Statistics total landings on both coasts fell to 37,073,000 pounds from 110,257,000 a year earlier, and the value to \$1,481,000 from \$2,445,000. On the Pacific coast, landings totalled 19,529,000 pounds valued at \$292,000 compared with 94,500,000 pounds valued at \$1,101,000. Landings on the Atlantic coast were 17,544,000 pounds valued at \$1,189,000 compared with 15,757,000 pounds valued at \$1,344,000.

Landings of Pacific herring fell to 17,878,000 pounds from 93,257,000 a year ago. On the Atlantic coast, cod landings rose to 6,107,000 pounds from 4,740,000, haddock to 3,462,000 pounds from 2,111,000, while landings of sardines fell to 1,903,000 pounds from 3,128,000, and smelts to 2,553,000 pounds from 3,046,000.

Due to the increasing demands in the United States market, exports of fresh and frozen fish rose from \$38 million in 1947 to \$45.3 million in 1948. Export sales of cured fish increased from \$12.3 million to \$14.9 million, based mainly on the strength of Latin American markets. Exports of canned fish, at \$21 million, were down considerably from the 1947 total of \$31.5 million, despite increases in sales to the United States, South Africa, some European countries and Latin America. The decrease was mainly the result of a large decline in sales to the sterling area, and a virtual cessation of relief shipments.

The lifting of export controls on some of the other fishery products, such as oil, meal, etc., resulted in a rapid expansion of sales of these types from \$2.2 million to \$8.7 million in 1948.

**WHEAT FLOUR PRODUCTION:** Canadian production of wheat flour in January showed a sharp decline of 29 per cent from the same month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. The month's output amounted to 1,468,000 barrels compared with 1,901,000 in January, 1948. Output for the first half of the current crop year amounted to 10,886,000 barrels as compared with 13,116,000 in the same period of 1947-48.

Exports of wheat flour were higher in January, totalling 1,004,000 barrels as against 903,000 a year ago, an increase of 11 per cent. This brought the total for the six months of the crop year to 6,345,000 barrels compared with 7,467,000 in the same period of 1947-48.

**LEADING MINERALS:** Activity in the Canadian mining industry was at a high level in 1948, when production of each of Canada's 16 leading minerals was increased over the preceding year. Zinc production showed the only decline in December as compared with the corresponding month a year earlier.

According to the Bureau of Statistics, output for the year by items, was as follows, figures for 1947 being in brackets: asbestos, 714,333 (661,821) tons; cement, 14,132,214 (11,936,245) barrels; clay products, \$17,228,017 (\$14,486,189); coal, 18,435,799 (15,868,866) tons; copper, 483,884,087 (451,723,093) pounds; feldspar, 49,161 (36,104) tons; gold, 3,527,574 (3,070,221) fine ounces; gypsum, 3,148,010 (2,496,984) tons; lead, 328,568,776 (323,336,687) pounds; lime, 1,050,427 (977,413) tons; natural gas, 58,990,299 (52,656,567) cubic feet; nickel 262,149,404 (237,251,496) pounds; petroleum, 12,368,042 (7,729,285) barrels; salt, 750,278 (728,545) tons; silver, 14,569,280 (12,504,018) fine ounces; zinc, 464,466,104 (415,725,826) pounds.

**COMBAT EPIDEMIC:** Medical experts and specialized equipment were to be flown to Chesterfield Inlet, 1,000 miles north of Winnipeg, to combat an epidemic in that area that has taken four lives, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, announced on February 25. About 25 cases have been reported by Dr. J.P. Moody, medical superintendent of Indian and Eskimo Health Services, Department of National Health and Welfare, at Chesterfield Inlet and the outbreak is said to be similar to that which struck Eskimo Point, several hundred miles south, last fall, Mr. Martin stated.

"The exact nature of the epidemic has not been determined but it is suspected of being of virus origin. Specimens for laboratory examination are being secured and sent to Connaught Laboratories in Toronto. The area north of Eskimo Point east of Baker Lake including Chesterfield Inlet, has been quarantined," the Minister said on February 25. "Dr. Moody has requested certain equipment for furthering the investigation as well as for

treatment, and arrangements are being made to gather this equipment for shipment. The co-operation of the Department of National Defence has been secured and a special air flight is being arranged."

Experts sent by the Department of National Health and Welfare to make on-the-spot investigation include Dr. J.D. Adamson, Professor of Medicine at the University of Manitoba and Dr. A.F.W. Peart, Chief of the Department's Division of Epidemiology which deals with the control of epidemic diseases. Dr. W.J. Wood, regional superintendent of the Department's Indian Health Services, Winnipeg, is co-ordinating the arrangements.

The cause of the epidemic remains obscure but the reported symptoms, which include a rapid and severe paralysis, have shown a similarity to the disease which took several lives last fall in the Eskimo Point area, Mr. Martin added. Both Eskimos and Whites are believed to be involved in the epidemic at Chesterfield Inlet which has a mission, R.C.M.P. post and Hudson's Bay Company trading post.

**ARMY CAMP TRAINING:** Regulations governing the payment of federal Government employees who, as members of the Reserve Force of the Army attend annual summer camps with their regiments, were outlined this week by Ottawa authorities.

Civil servants who use all or part of their annual leave for the purpose of summer training will draw both civil and army pay for time spent at camp.

Those who do not wish to use any part of their annual leave may apply for special leave for the period their regiment will be training. For them it will be optional whether they take such leave with or without pay. Should they take it "with pay" they will not be paid at military rates. If they take it "without pay" they will receive army pay only. The choice of either civil or military pay -- whichever is higher -- will be their own.

Federal Government employees employed at "prevailing rates", who elect to receive civil rather than military pay while at camp will be paid for the number of working hours in each week of absence at the authorized hourly rate.

**GEN. CRERAR HONOURED:** General H.D.G. Crerar, C1, CB, DSO, has accepted the appointment of Honorary Colonel Commandant of The Canadian Intelligence Corps, the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, announced on February 28.

The wartime commander of the First Canadian Army in Northwest Europe, now retired and living in Ottawa, was nominated for the honorary appointment at the recent annual meeting of the Canadian Military Intelligence Association. His acceptance was made known this week.

Through the Second World War, as Chief of the General Staff, as a divisional and a corps commander, and finally as Commander-in-Chief

of the army, Gen. Crerar was closely associated with the Intelligence Corps and placed great reliance on its work and efficiency for ultimate victory. It was the first time in war that these exacting duties had been performed for a Canadian commander by a purely Canadian intelligence arm, and it was not found wanting.

**SWEDISH AIR CHIEF:** At the personal invitation of Air Marshal W.A. Curtis, Chief of the Air Staff, RCAF, Lieutenant General Bengt Nordenskiöld, Commander-in-Chief of the Swedish Air Force arrived in Montreal, Saturday afternoon, February 26, for a brief visit to Canada. Air Marshal Curtis visited the Royal Swedish Air Force in April 1948. Accompanying the Swedish Air Chief is Lt. Colonel D.H. von Schinkel, and Group Captain H.G. Richards, Canadian Air Attaché to Sweden.

The Swedish Air Force in Europe is considered second only to the Royal Air Force in strength and efficiency. Lt. General Nordenskiöld is particularly interested in winter operations of jet propelled Vampires, as the Swedish Air Force is equipped with this type of aircraft and their winter conditions are similar to those in Canada. He is also interested in Canadian methods of personnel selection and of personality and aptitude analysis.

**HIS MAJESTY'S THANKS:** The Royal Canadian Army Chaplain Service (Protestant) has received a letter from Sandringham, England, expressing the King's pleasure in accepting a copy of a history of the Service, forwarded to him earlier this month.

The book, "In This Sign", written by H/Major Walter T. Steven of Toronto, is an account of the part played by Protestant Chaplains with the Canadian Armed Forces during the Second World War.

"The King is very glad to receive this record of the service given by the Canadian Army Chaplain Service (Protestant) in the late war," the letter states in part.

**CRUDE PETROLEUM RECORD:** Canadian production of crude petroleum reached an all-time record total in 1948, due in the main to the striking developments in the Leduc field of Alberta -- now Canada's premier producing area. Output from the Lloydminster field also rose sharply, more than doubling during the year, while production from the Turner Valley -- hitherto Canada's main domestic source -- was moderately lower.

According to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics, the year's output of crude petroleum aggregated 12,368,042 barrels, an increase of 60 per cent over the preceding year. December's output was 1,247,565 barrels, only slightly under the record

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monthly total of 1,264,988 barrels for November, but sharply higher than the December, 1947 figure of 766,309 barrels.

Alberta accounted for 10,973,583 barrels in 1948 compared with 6,809,284 in the preceding year. Leduc's output rose sharply to 4,657,371 barrels from 363,363, Lloydminster to 648,055 barrels from 304,707, and Princess to 187,084 barrels from 106,950. Crude output from Turner Valley fell to 4,428,688 barrels from 5,022,350, Conrac to 182,255 barrels from 202,458, and Vermilion to 112,331 barrels from 138,401.

The year's output in Saskatchewan amounted to 847,095 barrels against 534,894 in 1947, Northwest Territories 349,768 barrels compared with 231,844, Ontario 176,225 barrels compared with 130,135, and New Brunswick 21,371 barrels compared with 23,128.

**DR. BARTON'S APPOINTMENT:** The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, on February 28, announced the appointments of Dr. G.S.H. Barton, C.M.G., Deputy Minister of Agriculture since 1932, as Special Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture; and Mr. James Gordon Taggart, C.B.E., hitherto Director-in-Chief of Agricultural Services in the Department of Agriculture, and Chairman of the Agricultural Prices Support Board, as Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

In his new position, Dr. Barton will deal with international phases of agricultural development and will represent Canada abroad at conferences and on international organizations, the Prime Minister said.

"Dr. Barton's new appointment reflects Canada's great interest in international food and trade problems," Mr. St. Laurent added. "It is also a recognition of Dr. Barton's wealth of experience gained through work on such organizations as the Combined Food Board, the International Emergency Food Council, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations."

#### HIGH REPUTATION

"Dr. Barton enjoys a high reputation for his wide knowledge of all phases of agriculture and for his practical approach to the world food problems. In the early years of the war, he was the Minister of Agriculture's representative on the Combined Food Board, which was charged with allocation of food, fibre and fertilizer to the Allied Nations. Later, he represented Canada on the International Emergency Food Council which performed the same functions as the Combined Food Board on a larger scale.

"It is, however, with the Food and Agriculture Organization that Dr. Barton is particularly identified. Not only had he much to do with the shaping of its policies at the preliminary conference at Hot Springs, Va., in 1943, and at later conferences, but he has also

served with distinction on the F.A.O. Council and headed its Finance Committee.

"Dr. Barton's service to Canadian agriculture is well known. His seventeen-year term as Deputy Minister saw agriculture pass through the depression and the drought of the "thirties". It saw Canadian farmers called upon to help meet the food and fibre needs of a world at war. In both emergencies, Dr. Barton not only carried a heavy burden himself, but gave sound and courageous leadership. His new appointment promises much for Canada and even more for the success of the various organizations that are engaged in planning for a freer exchange of foods and a better-nourished world.

"Like Dr. Barton, Mr. Taggart has a wide knowledge of Canadian agriculture and its problems, both east and west. Born on a farm near Parrsboro, N.S.; and a graduate of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, he always had first hand knowledge of the problems of Maritime farmers. Ontario was his next field of activity where, following graduation from the Ontario Agricultural College, he worked for some time with the agricultural representative service in various parts of the province. A considerable time spent in Western Canada, first with the Alberta Department of Agriculture, then as Superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station at Swift Current, and from 1934-44 as Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan, was yet another phase in a career that has given him a unique opportunity of working with farmers and farm organizations throughout Canada and learning their problems.

"Mr. Taggart is no stranger to Ottawa. At the outbreak of war he was appointed Chairman of the Meat Board. From 1941 to 1943 he was Foods Administrator of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Since its establishment in the closing years of the war he has been Chairman of the Agricultural Prices Support Board.

"Mr. Taggart's reputation for sound judgment, fair dealing and administrative ability stands as high with farmers and their organizations as it does with the Dominion and Provincial officials with whom he will be dealing in his new work."

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX:** Wholesale prices in Canada showed a further slight decline in January, according to the general wholesale index compiled by the Bureau of Statistics. The decline in the index during the month was 0.2 per cent, identical to that shown in December. At this year's January level the index was 12.4 points above January last year.

The index for January, on the base 1926=100, stood at 159.3 as compared with 159.5 in December, 159.7 in November, and 146.9 in January last year. As compared with the preceding month, a drop of three points in the index for animal products, and 0.9 points for both vegetables and wood products, more than counterbalanced increases for the remaining five groups.

**INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT:** Industrial employment showed a pronounced seasonal decline between December 1 and January 1, the losses in construction and manufacturing being particularly noteworthy. Reduced industrial activity was indicated in all provinces, reports the Bureau of Statistics.

The advance index number of employment in the major industrial divisions stood at 197.3 as compared with 204.3 at December 1, a decline of 3.4 per cent. The decrease exceeded that indicated at January 1, 1948, but the index number was then 1.9 per cent below the latest figure, which was the highest in the record for the time of year.

The losses from December 1 ranged from 1.8 per cent in Ontario and 2.7 per cent in Alberta, to 5.2 per cent in Saskatchewan and 6.2 per cent in British Columbia, where unfavourable weather was an important factor. The index numbers of employment in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta were higher than at January 1 last year, but those in the remaining provinces were lower. Except in New Brunswick, the declines were slight. In that province there was a reduction of 5.8 per cent.

#### LOWER BY 6.1 PER CENT

The reported salaries and wages were lower by 6.1 per cent in the holiday week of January 1 as compared with the week of December 1. As compared with January 1, 1948, however, there was a gain of 15.2 per cent in the index number of weekly payrolls. The advance figure of average weekly earnings in the eight major industrial groups at the beginning of January was \$41.03 as compared with the all-time high of \$42.23 indicated a month earlier, and \$36.28 a year ago.

The advance index of employment in manufacturing was 202.8, a decline of 2.4 per cent from the December 1 index of 207.9. The figure at the beginning of January last year was 199.9. The disbursements in weekly salaries and wages in the larger manufacturing establishments showed a reduction usual in the holiday week, falling by 5.6 per cent as compared with December 1. The index number of payrolls, however, was 18.1 per cent higher than at January 1, 1948. Earnings of persons employed by the larger manufacturing establishments at January 1 averaged \$42.32 as compared with \$43.71 at December 1, and \$36.31 at January 1, 1948.

**CARLOADINGS:** Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended February 19 amounted to 70,358 cars as compared with 71,945 cars for the preceding week and 68,817 cars for the corresponding week last year. Grain, coal, other mine products and pulpwood showed the largest decreases from the week of February 12, while grain, coal, pulpwood and gasoline and oils were the main factors in the increase over 1948.

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## CANADA AT THE UNITED NATIONS

**WOOL PRODUCTION:** Canadian production of wool in 1948 amounted to 11,915,000 pounds, a decrease of 18 per cent from the preceding year's figure of 14,090,000 pounds, according to the Bureau of Statistics. The decline was mostly due to the reduction in the number of sheep on farms, but lighter average weights per fleece also contributed to the decline. Output of shorn wool fell to 8,423,000 pounds in 1948 from 10,176,000 a year ago, and pulled wool to 3,492,000 pounds from 3,914,000. The average fleece weight for all Canada was 7.2 pounds compared with 7.4 pounds in 1947.

Production was lower in 1948 in all provinces, Ontario's output falling to 2,181,000 pounds from 2,617,000 in 1947, Alberta to 1,981,000 pounds from 2,544,000, Quebec to 1,496,000 pounds from 1,785,000, and Saskatchewan to 1,044,000 pounds from 1,238,000.

**GOLD PRODUCTION:** Canada's gold production in 1948 amounted to 3,527,573 fine ounces, showing an increase of almost 15 per cent over the preceding year's total, and the highest annual output since 1943, according to the Bureau of Statistics. In December, 326,938 fine ounces were produced compared with 311,343 in the preceding month and 274,753 a year ago.

Ontario -- Canada's largest gold-producing province -- accounted for 2,090,414 fine ounces in 1948 compared with 1,944,819 in 1947, followed by Quebec with 767,026 fine ounces compared with 598,127, British Columbia 311,711 fine ounces (249,011), Manitoba and Saskatchewan 196,211 (166,653), Northwest Territories 101,346 (62,517), Yukon 60,605 (47,745), and Nova Scotia 189 (1,271).

**WHEAT STOCKS:** Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on February 17 amounted to 149,546,000 bushels, a decrease of 4,323,000 bushels from the February 10 total, but a rise of 35,528,000 bushels over the same date last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 17 were 765,000 bushels as compared with 832,000 a year ago. Overseas export clearances during the week totalled 3,178,000 bushels compared with 1,786,000.

**CIVIL AVIATION:** Scheduled and non-scheduled air carriers both had losses on their November operations, according to figures for the month released by the Bureau of Statistics.

Scheduled air carriers earned \$2,107,949 during the month as against \$1,601,940 in November, 1947. This was not sufficient to meet the operating expenses of \$2,482,738, resulting in a loss on operations of \$374,789. In the 11 months of 1948 the loss was \$429,-

195, down considerably from the preceding year's corresponding total of \$2,605,347.

**NAVAL APPOINTMENTS:** Changes in the appointments of four senior officers of the Royal Canadian Navy were announced on March 1 by Naval Headquarters. The new appointments will take effect in the latter part of March.

Captain E.P. Tisdall, R.C.N., 42, of Victoria and Ottawa, will relinquish his post as Director General of Naval Ordnance to become Director of Weapons and Tactics at Headquarters. New Director General of Naval Ordnance will be Ordnance Commander W.G. Ross, R.C.N., 41, of Westmount, P.Q.

The present Director of Weapons and Tactics, Acting Captain D.L. Raymond, R.C.N., 44, of Ottawa, has been appointed to the cruiser, H.M.C.S. "Ontario," as Executive Officer. He will relieve Commander P.D. Budge, D.S.C., R.C.N., 44, of Halifax and Victoria, who will take up an appointment on the staff of the Flag Officer Atlantic Coast.

**CHAIRMAN, FARM LOAN BOARD:** The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, announced on February 28 the appointment of Mr. John C. Murray as Chairman of the Canadian Farm Loan Board.

Mr. Murray has been with the Board since its establishment in 1929, at which time he was appointed Branch Manager for Alberta. He was appointed Chief Inspector in 1936 and a Member of the Board on January 1, 1948.

Mr. Murray, a native of Strathroy, Ontario, had wide business experience in Western Canada prior to his joining the Board. He served with the Traders' Bank of Canada, the International Harvester Company and the Credit Foncier Franco-Canadien.

**STORE SALES UP:** Department store sales in Canada increased 13 per cent during the week ending February 19 over the same week last year, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. An outstanding feature of the week was the sharp gain in sales in the Prairie Provinces.

**RCAF APPOINTMENT:** The appointment of Wing Commander G.A. Hiltz, AFC, of Milltown, N.B., as commanding officer of RCAF station Greenwood, N.S., replacing W/C R.O. Shaw, Victoria, B.C., who has been transferred to the staff of Air Transport Command Headquarters, Rockcliffe, Ont., was announced by Air Force Headquarters.

**OUTPUT OF STEEL INGOTS:** Production of steel ingots in January rose to 276,987 tons from the 1948 closing total of 271,128 tons in December, and 247,768 tons in the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics.

**ATOMIC ENERGY DISCUSSION:** Yakov A. Malik of the USSR introduced on February 25 in the Atomic Energy Commission a draft resolution calling upon the Commission "to begin immediately the preparation of a draft convention for the prohibition of atomic weapons and a draft convention for the control of atomic energy", both conventions to be concluded and come into force simultaneously. The resolution further asks the Commission to submit these draft conventions to the Security Council not later than June 1, 1949.

After some discussion, further consideration of the Soviet proposal was adjourned until the next meeting at the request of Finn Moe of Norway who felt the need of receiving instructions from his Government before expressing an opinion on this proposal. This meeting will be called by Sir Terence Shone of the United Kingdom who will assume the Chairmanship of the Atomic Energy Commission on March 1, reports the UN Press Bureau.

In introducing his resolution, Mr. Malik declared that the work of the Commission so far had been fruitless mainly because the US and the UK had not striven to propose measures acceptable to all delegations and which would not infringe on national sovereignty. Furthermore, he said, the US had "stubbornly refused" to accept the prohibitions of atomic weapons. Thus, Mr. Malik added, the Baruch plan had been deliberately drafted so as to make Soviet acceptance impossible, and to impose "US monopoly of atomic weapons" upon the whole world.

World conscience, Mr. Malik declared, could not accept the "barbaric attitude" of those who resisted the prohibition of atomic weapons, and wished to limit the Commission to secondary tasks. The Commission, he said, should devote itself to the prohibition of atomic weapons and to the control of atomic energy.

General A.G.L. McNaughton of Canada said that a similar Soviet proposal had been decisively defeated at the Paris Assembly. The point at issue was, General McNaughton emphasized, not whether simultaneously conventions should be concluded but whether the USSR was willing to accept an effective control system to assure the use of atomic energy. He proposed to refer the Soviet proposal to a

**BRITISH ARMY CHIEFS HERE:** Five senior officers of the British Army have come to Ottawa on short liaison visits, Army Headquarters announced on February 25.

They are: Maj.-Gen. S.B. Rawlins, CB, CBE, DSO, MC, Director of Artillery, War Office; Maj.-Gen. A.P. Lambooy, OBE, Director General of Artillery, Minister of Supply; Maj.-Gen. E.H. Clayton, CBE, Director General of Fighting Vehicles, Ministry of Supply; Maj.-Gen. C.D. Packard, CBE, DSO, Director of Military Intel-

ligence, War Office, and Maj.-Gen. G.P.B. Roberts, CB, DSO, MC, Director of Royal Armoured Corps, War Office.

**ICAO AIRWORTHINESS DIVISION:** To improve the economy of air transport, the International Civil Aviation Organization's Airworthiness Division meeting in Montreal is preparing performance and design standards for four separate categories of transport aeroplanes. Technical experts believe that, under certain conditions, it is possible to modify the very high standards now recommended for transport aircraft without in any way reducing either flying safety or efficiency. For example, an aircraft built for short-distance operation would not have to be able to maintain height with one engine inoperative so well as an aircraft used on long international flights across seas or mountains, for the short-run plane is always relatively close to a landing field. Relaxing of this and of certain other provisions of present airworthiness codes would decrease both cost of construction and cost of operation for the short-run airliner.

The four categories of transport aircraft will include three for passenger-carrying purposes, and one for cargo only. Airway distances, landing fields available en route, and aircraft weight will all play important roles in the determination of the new standards.

Problems created by the varying air temperatures in different parts of the world will also be considered by the Airworthiness Division, this time in conjunction with the ICAO Operations Division which is also in session in Montreal. When ground temperatures soar, air density correspondingly decreases; as the airliner is now supported by less dense air, the decrease has a serious effect on its climbing and load-carrying ability and upon the length of runway needed for take-off purposes. These "temperature accountability" principles must be considered in the setting of airworthiness and operations standards.

Chairman of the ICAO Airworthiness meeting is Mr. H.S. Rees of Canada; vice-chairman is General P. Decros of France; 2nd vice-chairman is Mr. C.A.F. Falkenhagen of the Netherlands. Representatives of 15 nations and 3 international organizations are in attendance.

ligence, War Office, and Maj.-Gen. G.P.B. Roberts, CB, DSO, MC, Director of Royal Armoured Corps, War Office.

**G.N. VOGEL APPOINTMENT:** Appointment of Garson N. Vogel, of Winnipeg, as assistant director of the Wheat and Grain Division, Department of Trade and Commerce, has been announced by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe.

(C.W.B. March 4, 1949)

(Continued from P.1)

A second report entitled, "Supply of Building Materials in Canada - Outlook 1949", also tabled in Parliament indicates that the total supply of primary iron and steel available from domestic production and from imports may be a little larger in 1949 than in the previous year. At the same time expected purchases of machinery and equipment may show a moderate decline in real terms. This suggests some easing in the shortage of this material even though supplies will likely continue to fall short of overall demands. Further improvements in the availability of special types and grades of lumber is expected this year.

Of the 30 building materials covered in the survey, increased production is expected for 21, little change for 6 and lower production for 3. In spite of greater output in most instances, shortages are likely to continue with respect to various iron and steel products including bath tubs, sinks and wash basins, furnaces and radiators, steel pipe and fittings and nails; and also with respect to certain other materials such as cement and clay and gypsum products. However, the output levels foreseen conform reasonably well with the changing pattern of construction requirements and should be generally adequate for the moderately larger volume of construction planned.

Having regard to the improved position with respect to material supplies, and also with respect to labour, the investment report concludes that full realization of the capital expenditure program can be anticipated.

If the program is realized, outlay on capital goods in 1949 would comprise about a fifth of the value of gross national products which is about the same proportion as in the previous year. Thus, to the extent that the expanding investment requirements have contributed to inflation in recent years, this influence evidently is levelling off in 1949. Nevertheless the maintenance of real investment at the unusually high level achieved in 1948 will be an important sustaining influence in the economy throughout the year.

The reports were prepared by the Economic Research and Development Branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce with assistance from the Bureau of Statistics and other agencies.

**VISITORS FROM PERU:** According to C. J. Van Tighem, Commercial Secretary to the Canadian Embassy in Peru a large number of business visitors from that country is expected to visit the Canadian International Trade Fair in Toronto, Canada, May 30 to June 10. He has written asking for 100 application forms for hotel accommodation during the period of the Trade Fair.

Last Year Peru was represented at the Trade Fair in the leather goods section.

**GOVERNMENT FINANCING:** On behalf of the Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, it was announced on March 1 that an issue of Government of Canada Deposit Certificates in the amount of \$100,000,000 dated March 4, 1949 due September 2, 1949, and bearing interest at the rate of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1% per annum, has been sold to the chartered banks at par. The proceeds of this issue will be used to retire an equal amount of  $\frac{5}{8}$  Deposit Certificates which mature on that date.

It was also announced that arrangements have been made for the purchase at par by the Bank of Canada of an issue of \$550,000,000 Government of Canada Treasury Notes dated March 1, 1949 due September 1, 1949, and bearing interest at the rate of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1% per annum. The proceeds of this issue are being used to redeem Treasury Notes of like amount bearing interest at  $\frac{5}{8}$  of 1% per annum which matured March 1.

**OFFICER EXCHANGE:** Major E.W.H. Berwick, 40, of Calgary, has been selected for attachment to the Australian Military Forces on an exchange basis, Army Headquarters announced on March 3. He has been promoted acting lieutenant-colonel.

Coming to Canada in exchange is Lt.-Col. H.G. Bates of the Australian Army, who is expected to arrive at Halifax on March 11. He will be attached to the General Staff branch at Army Headquarters and employed in the Directorate of Military Training.

Lt.-Col. Berwick and his wife, Lady Elizabeth Berwick, sailed February 16 from Saint John, N.B., for the United Kingdom, on their way to Australia.

**RADIO SALES LOWER:** Producers' sales of radio receiving sets in November decreased almost 31 per cent from the preceding year and were 32 per cent lower in the 11 months ending November, according to the Bureau of Statistics. In the month, sales were lower in all provinces except Saskatchewan and Alberta, while in the cumulative period, the decline was common to all provinces.

Sales during November amounted to 79,427 units as compared with 114,933 a year earlier. During the first 11 months of 1948, producers' sales totalled 506,567 units as against 747,136 in the similar period of 1947.

**COMMEMORATION STAMP:** The Postmaster General, Mr. Bertrand announced that the Department is planning to issue a 4-cent postage stamp to commemorate the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation with Canada when the Governments of Canada, Newfoundland and the United Kingdom ratify the union.

Details relating to the design of the stamp will be announced as soon as appropriate.

**FEED GRAIN EASIER:** With 1948 production of coarse grains in most of the country and particularly in the central provinces at higher levels than in 1947, the current crop year to date has been generally featured by a fairly easy domestic feed-grain supply situation, states the Canadian Coarse Grains quarterly review by the Bureau of Statistics.

So far, a larger proportion of all the 1948 coarse grain crops has been retained on farms than was the case in 1947. In addition to western oats and barley marketed to February 10, it is estimated that some 29 million bushels of oats and 16.5 million of barley remain on western farms to be marketed before the close of the crop year. Fodder supplies are reported to be generally adequate throughout the country, with surpluses indicated in some areas.

Reflecting both decreased marketings and increased exports as compared with the previous crop year, visible supplies of oats and barley at February 10 were down sharply from the commercial supply position in the same date a year ago. Visible oat supplies at 16.7 million bushels were nearly 15 million below last year's level, while visible barley stocks at 20.2 million bushels were down more than 13 million bushels from a year ago. The drop in commercial supplies between the two dates is common to nearly all positions with the exception of United States ports, where stocks held amounted to 2.8 million bushels of oats and 1.5 million of rye as against none a year earlier.

#### RYE, FLAX SUPPLIES

Commercial supplies of rye and flax are much higher than last year. On February 10, Canadian visible rye stocks totalled 9.2 million bushels as against 0.9 million at the same time last year. Flax supplies of 11.4 million bushels were also up considerably from last year's 6.6 million bushels. Commercial rye stocks were divided about evenly among country elevators, Lakehead terminals and other positions.

Farmers' marketings of both oats and barley in the Prairie Provinces from August 1 to February 10 of the current crop year were below those of the comparable period of 1947-48. During the period, marketings of oats amounted to 56.2 million bushels, 1.3 million below last year's level, while deliveries of barley at 50.9 million were 5.6 million bushels below last year's figure. Marketings of rye and flaxseed for the period totalled 13.3 million and 13.0 million bushels, exceeding those of last year by 3.8 million and 3.7 million bushels, respectively. During the current crop year, Saskatchewan has led in the marketing of oats, Alberta in barley and rye, and Manitoba in flaxseed.

With the removal of export restrictions on coarse grains, there has been a fairly substantial movement of both oats and barley into export channels. During the first six months

of the current crop year, exports of oats as grain amounted to 12.3 million bushels, all but 1.3 million bushels of which went to the United States. Custom exports of rolled oats and oatmeal in terms of oats for the same period amounted to 1.2 million bushels. Barley exports totalled 13.5 million bushels, with the United States taking 5.8 million of the total. Other imports of Canadian barley during the period were the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium and Norway, each of which received in excess of one million bushels. Exports of rye and flaxseed for the six months totalled 4.5 million and 2.9 million bushels, respectively.

**COMBAT ARTHRITIS:** Substantial financial assistance from the federal health grants this year will go to the work of the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, announced on March 4.

This organization is now planning a nationwide program of professional and public education on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of the various forms of arthritis and rheumatism and the promotion of more adequate facilities for the cure of these ailments.

Mr. Martin pointed out that the provinces are allotting one per cent of the grant available to them for general public health services under the federal Health Plan to assist the Arthritis and Rheumatism Society. All the provinces have made the grant except Manitoba, which is expected to announce its decision within a few days. British Columbia contributed \$19,100, or about five per cent of its public health grant, directly to the provincial division of the society for the establishment of clinical facilities to supply investigation and medical care, and an additional \$20,000 to the national society to aid its research and educational programs.

**FARM WAGES HIGHER:** Average wages for male farm help in most provinces and for Canada as a whole were moderately higher at the middle of January this year than 12 months earlier, according to reports received by the Bureau of Statistics from farm correspondents in all parts of Canada. Generally, however, the increase was less than between mid-January 1946 and 1947.

With board provided by the employers, the average farm wage-rate per day for all Canada was \$4.04 at January 15 as compared with \$3.62 at the same date in 1948 and \$3.23 in 1947. By provinces, rates ranged from \$2.94 in Prince Edward Island to \$5.57 in British Columbia, and were higher than in January, 1948 in all provinces except Nova Scotia. Without board, the average daily rate for all Canada was \$4.97 against \$4.66 a year earlier and \$4.15 in 1947, rates being somewhat below 1948 levels in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick only.

**FARM LAND VALUES UP:** The average value of occupied farm land in Canada in 1948 is reported at \$39.00 per acre, an increase of 11 per cent over the average indicated in 1947, and an increase of 62 per cent over the 1935-39 average, according to the Bureau of Statistics. Increases over 1947 levels were reported in all provinces with the exception of New Brunswick.

The upward trend in farm land values from pre-war levels reflects, at least in part, the relative changes which have occurred in the price levels of farm products and of the things which farmers buy. The Bureau's index of farm prices of agricultural products for 1948 was 144 per cent above the 1935-39 level, while for the same year the index of prices of commodities and services used by farmers, including living costs, had advanced 83 per cent from the 1935-39 base-period level.

**TELEPHONE INSTALLATIONS:** Reflecting heavy demands both for business and residential telephone service, the number of telephones installed in Canada in 1947 reached an all-time high figure of 204,479, according to the Bureau of Statistics. This raised the total in use to 2,230,597, an increase of 10 per cent over the preceding year, and an increase of slightly more than 64 per cent in the past decade. Total telephones per hundred population increased from 12.1 in 1938 and 16.5 in 1946 to 17.7 in 1947.

The number of business telephones rose from 585,982 in 1946 to 645,154, or by 10 per cent; residence telephones from 1,079,769 to 1,194,-

840, or by 10.7 per cent; and rural and public pay telephones showed corresponding increases. Automatic or dial telephones increased by 132,857, or by almost twice the increase for those on manual switchboards.

**NEW NATIONAL ATLAS:** The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon, announced on March 2 that plans are under way to provide a new National Atlas of Canada. This Atlas is required to meet a world-wide demand for authentic information on the geography, resources and economy of Canada.

Since the production of the revised Atlas of Canada, in 1915, remarkable progress has been made in the exploration and development of northern and western Canada. Extended surveys of natural resources have been undertaken and industry and commerce have been greatly expanded.

In December, 1948, Cabinet approved the production of the new Atlas under the aegis of the Geographical Bureau of the Department of Mines and Resources. The Bureau has already made a preliminary survey of the project.

**LUMBER PRODUCTION:** Production and stocks of sawn lumber in British Columbia showed increases in November over the corresponding month of 1947, while the shipments were at a lower level, according to the Bureau of Statistics. The month's output amounted to 222,174 M feet as compared with 196,005 M; shipments, 199,663 M compared with 215,728 M; and stocks, 296,982 M compared with 236,365 M.