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COVER SUBJECT—Arch of Peace Tower, feature of the Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, in which political, financial and military leaders of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization assembled this week. Here were discussed problems of the western world involving their collective security, including economic measures that may have a far-reaching effect on trade. This arch, which symbolizes strength and unity, might well have influenced the delegates of twelve nations in their deliberations. Not inappropriately, the Peace Tower is supported by this arch, on which have been carved in lasting stone "twelve" coats of arms, those of Great Britain, Canada and the ten Canadian Provinces; from left to right around the arch: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland.

National Film Board Photo

Price 10 cents

OTTAWA—EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.
Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1951.

Minister of Trade and Commerce Discusses Import Controls at Meeting of GATT in Geneva

The responsibilities and commitments undertaken through the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade should be observed in the letter and in the spirit of the General Agreement, the Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce and leader of Canada's delegation to the sixth session of the contracting parties in Geneva, told the representatives of some thirty-seven participating countries last Monday. "Any deviation from the practice plays into the hands of the enemies of the agreement", he said.

He also discussed the vexed question of import controls, prefacing his remarks in this respect with the statement: "We know that, if we wish to sell, we must buy. This view is obviously not shared, however, by all of the countries which participate in world trade, nor even by all of the countries represented here. Some countries have hesitated to take the risks which seem to be involved in the abandonment of import controls, even when these risks were at a minimum. It is to be feared that some of them have come to regard import controls as desirable in themselves, for the protection they bestow upon domestic producers".

Some countries short of certain scarce materials were still maintaining import restrictions against Canadian goods, Mr. Howe continued, restrictions that were imposed some years ago for balance of payments reasons. At the same time, other countries were imposing import controls on the very commodities of which they claim to be in the most urgent need. It was evident that such controls contravened the spirit of the General Agreement, when they came to be regarded as permanent fixtures by the countries which imposed them.

General Agreement Signed Four Years Ago

"It is barely four years since October, 1947, when the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade was drawn up," the Minister pointed out, "and was signed by representatives of 23 countries. Since then, the scope of the GATT has steadily increased. Prestige and experience have accrued to the work of the contracting parties. It is not too soon to say that this organization has demonstrated its usefulness. It has already more than paid for itself through the results which have been achieved. The GATT has earned its place in the front rank amongst international organizations. Today, there are 37 participating countries, and most of them are represented here. Multilateral tariff negotiations have been organized on three occasions and have been carried through to a successful conclusion.

"There have been various occasions on which outside observers have said that a crisis had been reached or that approaching difficulties would prove insurmountable. The General Agreement was itself the product of arduous negotiations and compromises. Many people wondered, prior to Torquay, whether it would be possible to arrange for the prolongation of the life of the tariff concessions which were negotiated at Geneva and Annecy. When the time came, it was found possible to continue the large bulk of earlier tariff concessions for a further period of three years, along with the new concessions negotiated at Torquay. Only a very small number of tariff items had to be renegotiated. Rather than a crisis or a

defeat, this proved to be one of the major accomplishments of the GATT. Similarly, there was disappointment at the failure of some of the participants at Torquay to conclude new tariff agreements, these including some of the countries most important in world trade. As the months have gone by, in spite of this, we have noticed that commercial relations amongst these same countries have continued on an amicable basis without noticeable impairment. The countries in question have all continued to adhere to the General Agreement and the results of their earlier tariff negotiations have continued in force.

GATT Organized to Eliminate Trade Barriers

"The GATT was organized as a collective international effort to get rid of obstacles to trade, to reduce tariffs and to minimize the scope of quantitative restrictions. Surely these are objectives to which all countries could give their encouragement and support. However, after having been a member of the Canadian Government for sixteen years, one thing at least I have learned. Whether we have prosperity or depression and whether we have war or peace, there is always someone to clamour for tariff protection and quantitative restrictions to solve some immediate problem that besets the world. No matter what the contingencies, there are always some people who want to run for cover and protection, whether or not there is any real threat of trouble.

"Nothing can be more short-sighted than to give way to the pessimists and to curtail trade. Some few individuals may be helped by import controls, but in the long run curtailment of trade is not the road to prosperity and higher standards of living. On the contrary, restrictions more often lead to mutual impoverishment. We have to bear in mind that import controls spread like an epidemic once they start and are very difficult to check.

Restrictions for Brief Periods Unavoidable

"Sometimes, of course, restrictions are unavoidable for brief periods of time, and the General Agreement contemplates circumstances in which countries are quite entitled to resort to them. Along with many other countries, Canada found herself in serious balance of payments difficulties during the period of readjustment which followed the last war. Our currency reserves were seriously depleted at that time, and immediate action was essential to prevent a critical situation. In the circumstances, it was deemed necessary to impose import controls and this we did. The Canadian Government always regarded these controls as temporary, and our industries were warned on repeated occasions that the protection offered by these controls would be withdrawn at the earliest possible date. This was in full accordance with our obligations under the GATT and it was also in the best interests of our national economy.

"We knew that import controls would not provide of themselves a lasting remedy for the difficulties which beset us at that time. They merely provided a breathing space during which other methods could be made effective. The real solution to the problem was to increase the flow of trade. We stepped up our exports and we achieved a better balance of trade with each of the great currency areas of the world. I am happy to report that all of our emergency restrictions on imports were removed some time ago. Canada is now exporting and importing more than ever before.

If We Wish to Sell, We Must Buy

"We know that, if we wish to sell, we must buy. This view is obviously not shared, however, by all of the countries which participate in world trade, nor even by all of the countries represented here. Some countries have hesitated to take the risks which seem to be involved in the abandonment of import controls, even when these risks were at a minimum. It is to be feared that some of them have come to regard import controls as desirable in themselves, for the protection they bestow upon domestic producers. As a Minister of the Crown responsible for the imposition and administration of import controls in Canada, this is a point of view I have never been able to understand or to share.

"All countries today are short of certain raw materials and often the shortages are serious. We in Canada produce many of these raw materials in abundance, and every day we are approached by other countries which are interested in scarce supplies. Sometimes these very countries are still maintaining import restrictions against our goods, restrictions that were imposed some years ago for balance of payments reasons. At the same time, we find other countries imposing import controls on the very commodities of which they claim to be in the most urgent need. It is evident that such controls contravene the spirit of the General Agreement, when they come to be regarded as permanent fixtures by the countries which impose them.

"The Government of Canada believes that it is of paramount importance that the responsibilities and commitments undertaken through the General Agreement should be observed in the letter and in the spirit of the General Agreement. Any deviation from the practice plays into the hands of the enemies of the Agreement. In this connection I might perhaps refer to the situation created by the recent application of import restrictions on certain dairy products moving into the United States. This measure has taken the form of an amendment of the Defence Production Act, although it is obvious that defence production and national security would seem to have very little connection with import control on cheese. The United States administration is moving promptly to correct this obvious violation of the terms of the General Agreement, and it is to be hoped that the United States will find it possible to rectify the situation in the near future. I have mentioned this only as an example of an action which those of us who place great value upon the Agreement must guard against.

Basic Issues on Agenda of Present Meeting

"This is to be an important session of the Contracting Parties. The agenda deals with issues which are basic to the continuance of the General Agreement and to the efficiency of the administration of the GATT. In these times of pressing emergency, which pertain to problems of defence and rearmament, there is a natural tendency in some quarters to overlook the problems of commercial policy. We must oppose this tendency, because the expansion of trade and commerce is as vital to all of us today as it ever was.

"Within the GATT, we have many countries with different systems of government. For myself, I have always found that production and trade are most efficiently organized by private people. On occasion, of course, the Canadian Government has shown its ability to organize production very efficiently. Some of the countries represented here have committed themselves, on the other hand, to a considerable degree of state control

and state direction of their economic affairs. One of the great virtues of the General Agreement is that, from the beginning, it has represented a workable compromise between these points of view. If world trade is to flourish in the future, as it must, it will be necessary to continue this basis of common arrangements and common understanding between state trading and private trading countries.

"It may happen on occasion that arrangements which have been made become impossible to continue. Where governments undertake the direct control of trade, there is always the danger that such devices will be used as political and economic weapons. In such circumstances, it is possible completely to frustrate trading relations as envisaged by the General Agreement. Extreme problems of this kind will not often arise, however, and when they do they can be dealt with as isolated cases.

Vitality of Organization is Essential

"It is essential that the vitality of this organization be preserved. To this end it is necessary to arrange for its financing on a stable and continuing basis. My delegation is interested in the provision of machinery by which the Contracting Parties would carry on the details of technical work between sessions, so that these sessions can be made shorter and more efficient. Only in this way will it be possible to obtain the attendance of responsible and senior representatives from the participating countries.

"I am sure that other delegations have come here with important problems. It is to be hoped that satisfactory solutions can be found for all of these, to enable the GATT to move forward to its future tasks. The achievements to date are unprecedented, in bringing together into a common agreement all of the countries which are important to world trade and in reducing the incidence of tariffs and trade restrictions. My delegation has come here prepared to support all measures which will strengthen this organization and help to maintain the substance of its accomplishments. On the other hand, we do not think it wise at this time to entertain proposals for expanding the activities of the Contracting Parties into new fields. The task of the Contracting Parties is already well defined and important in the field of tariffs and related trade controls. It would be unwise to endanger the whole structure by too wide a diversification of our efforts," Mr. Howe concluded.

Indian Agricultural Specialists Arrive in Canada

Four agricultural specialists from India have arrived in Ottawa under provisions of the Technical Co-operation Program of the Colombo Plan for the Economic Development of South and South-East Asia. After discussions with Department of Agriculture officials in Ottawa, they began last Monday a ten-week tour of Canada, visiting farms and experimental stations.

The four agricultural specialists from India are: Dr. S. R. Barooah, additional Director of Agriculture, State of Assam; Dr. K. G. Joshi, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh; S. A. Hamid, Principal of the Central Co-operative Training Institute, Pusa, State of Bihar; and G. M. Butt, an agriculture director on special duty with the Department of Agriculture, New Delhi.

Joining them on their tour will be Dr. J. K. Dubey, Director of Agriculture, State of Bhopal, and M. Kanti Raj, Deputy Director of Agriculture, State of Madras, both of whom arrived in Canada in July under the Technical Co-operation Program of the Colombo Plan.

Republic of Ireland Imports From Canada Have Increased in Value

Exports from Ireland to Canada have multiplied eight times, although total figures still small—Ireland may face balance-of-payments deficit of £60 million this year—Trade agreements with United Kingdom limit exports to other countries.

By H. L. E. Priestman, Commercial Secretary for Canada.

DUBLIN.—Purchases of goods from Canada have been well-maintained despite the Republic of Ireland's shortage of dollars. Indeed, a considerable increase is seen in the value of imports from Canada at £2·8 million in the first five months of 1951, as compared with £1·8 million in the same period of 1950. This reflects not only Ireland's historic and substantial purchases of Canadian wheat, newsprint and timber, but a wide range of other necessary goods in the nature of raw materials for Irish industry. In these days of scarcities and diversion of materials to defence purposes, Canadian firms are credited with having shown great consideration for the basic needs of their old customers in Ireland. They have thus preserved the continuity of trade and retained the goodwill of useful connections.

Although the total figures are still small, exports from Ireland to Canada have multiplied eight times in recent months. From January-May, 1951, Ireland exported goods to Canada valued at £178,972, compared with £22,046 in the similar period of 1950. New items that make up the bulk of the increase are frozen beef and fresh eggs. The meat trade follows on similar development of shipments to the United States. There are limitations on the expansion of this trade with North America because of Ireland's trade agreements with Great Britain and the lack of refrigerated ships.

Adverse Trade Balance Increasing

The adverse trade balance for the first five months of 1951 was £59·3 million, compared with £39·6 million in 1950. Imports were £86·6 million for the period January-May, 1951, an increase of £22·9 million compared with £63·7 million for the same five months in 1950. Domestic exports for the same period in 1951 were £26·4 million, an increase of £2·9 million over the figure of £23·5 million in 1950. This deterioration, making the visible trade deficit £20 million greater in the first five months of this year than in 1950, has led the Minister for Finance to comment forcibly on the adverse balance-of-payments position. He announced that Ireland may be facing a balance-of-payments deficit of £60 million this year.

Major Trade Agreements Are With United Kingdom

Ireland's major trade agreements and understandings are with the United Kingdom, and relate most importantly to exports of Ireland's main agricultural products, live cattle, meats, eggs, pigs and bacon. Machinery is provided for price and quantitative review as may be necessary. In these agreements, Ireland undertakes to reserve for the United Kingdom a large percentage of all such exports. Consequently, in the numerous bilateral agreements that Ireland has made or renewed with various

countries, including France, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Spain, limitations exist on the annual quantities of such agricultural products that can be offered by Ireland. And likewise, the newly developed meat and egg trade with the United States and Canada, though important as a dollar earner, is subject to similar effective limitations because of agreed priorities to United Kingdom, the purchaser of 90 per cent of all Ireland's exports. Nevertheless, the trade agreements made by Ireland with a widening range of countries are evidence of the desire to free and to diversify both the kind and direction of trade.

Ireland has accepted the O.E.E.C. liberalization plan for a free market for a wide range of commodities. She feels, however, that having attained the 75 per cent stage of liberalization, it would involve severe risk to certain domestic industries and the economic fabric of the state to go beyond that point.

External assets, estimated at £225 million in 1949 after allowing for holdings in Ireland by non-nationals, were reduced by £90 million in the past three or four years. If the present rate of disinvestment continues, Ireland will have lost her creditor status by 1954, and will lack external assets for use in an emergency. There is a question as to the extent to which the deficit in the balance of payments has been used to stockpile, and to improve the domestic capital position for productive purposes. There is an impression that heavy purchases of goods for immediate consumption have led to considerable dissipation of external reserves. The terms of trade are moving against Ireland, with import prices outpacing export prices. In the domestic field a budgetary gap of £5 million was evident, due to lack of provision for Civil Service pay increases, railway subsidies and the like. Heavy state investment occurred in non-productive capital projects.

Last year's savings were, at £12 million, gravely deficient in amount to warrant the capital expenditure program of £22.4 million. Debt service for the present year absorbs £7.3 million, an increase of £3.1 million over the 1947-1948 figure.

The Minister for Finance recommended measures to obtain enough purchasing power from the public in the form of taxation and savings to finance government expenditure. Reduced expenditure on consumer goods, and vigorous increase in production for export, particularly in agriculture, were further urgent needs.

The Minister also recommended that speculative and excessive borrowing from banks and other lending services beyond normal requirements be discouraged. His observations were reinforced by the Minister for Industry and Commerce, who said that total capital outlay by public authorities and private firms last year was estimated at £54 million. Total savings, including voluntary savings by private persons and the undistributed profits of all businesses, amounted only to £24 million including appropriations for depreciation. Imports for 1950 were 43 per cent greater in volume than before the war, but exports were only one per cent greater. The "Irish Independent" sums up the situation by commenting editorially, "The government is spending too much. The public is spending too much. The community is producing too little".

Cost of Living Rising

Early in the year efforts were made by the last government to freeze retail prices. In the face of increasing domestic and import costs and wages, the scheme was ineffective. Realistic prices frequently exceeded the nominal controlled prices. Though time lag and dual pricing of

rationed goods concealed from the cost-of-living index some of the legitimate increases in "off the ration" prices, most people found their actual expenditure had risen very considerably, while their standard of living was falling.

The interim cost-of-living index, essential items only (to the base mid-August 1947=100) rose seven points to 109 in May, 1951, from 102 in May, 1950. Most people regard this as a mere subsistence cost indicator with little relation to their own living cost experience, despite the efforts made to explain its purposes. The more sensitive import price index rose similarly to 303.4 from 244.9; the export price index also rose to 292.5 from 261; and the wholesale price index rose to 286.1 from 239. These latter increases of the order of 20 to 25 per cent are thought to be more representative of what is occurring in the Irish cost of living. Legal prices of butter, meat, gasoline, coal, gas, electricity, postal and telephone rates, have all increased in recent months, as have prices for clothing, footwear and liquor, so that the consumer, particularly in the white-collar class, is feeling the effects severely.

Substantial Salary and Allowance Increases Granted

Since December, 1950, further wage increases of 10 per cent and upwards have been granted to employees in practically all organized industries and to farm labour. Bank employees, numbering 4,000, received much higher percentage increases, following a strike that lasted nearly two months. All Irish civil servants were granted substantial salary increases, and also increased allowances in June, following on recommendations of the Civil Service Arbitration Board. In several important industries there is the prospect of another round of wage increases to offset the continued rise in commodity prices.

State-aided new housing and re-housing absorb large capital subsidies in the way of subsidy grants, both on approved privately-owned and on municipally-owned houses. In 1950, some 12,048 new state-aided houses were built, of which 2,724 were for private persons, compared with only 6,456 in 1949, including 2,436 private houses. Municipal projects provide houses for rent, often at uneconomic rents involving further subsidy from ratepayers. A great many privately-owned houses have been built in recent years for owners of comparatively small means, having only a thin equity, so that their mortgage interest, taxes and other outgoings make severe inroads on income. As time goes on, it is possible that a number will have to reduce their living standards in other directions to finance their housing costs.

Population Almost Static

While there is a heavy urban drift, causing keen demand for housing in the larger centres, the rural population of Ireland is falling. The total population in April, 1951, was 2,958,878, compared with 2,955,107 in 1946, a slender increase of 3,771 or 0.1 per cent. The population of Dublin city and county increased by 55,235 or 8.7 per cent. The Province of Leinster, in which Dublin is situated, increased 4 per cent, but declines of 2 to 4.2 per cent occurred in the other provinces during the five-year intercensal period.

Emigration from Ireland averaged 24,326 persons per annum in 1946-1951, as against an average of 16,675 in 1926-1936, and of 18,711 in 1936-1946. Migration nowadays is chiefly to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Overseas migration in 1950 attracted 5,089 persons. Of these, 3,533 went to the United States, 293 to Canada, 672 to Australia, and 591 to other countries. Ireland is stated to be one of the few countries in the

world where the population has declined in the last 50 years. Most countries have shown relatively high population increases in that period.

At the highest levels, there is a realization that the next year will be a trying time for the Irish economy. In the past there has been a dearth of timely informed comment, and a reluctance to make constructive criticism of those material things that need to be improved. A great deal more is being heard today on these subjects, and it may be confidently expected that broader realization of Ireland's position will eventually lead to remedial action.

Growing Lebanese Food Industries Offer Canada Export and Import Opportunities

Demand for linseed, semolina, powdered milk and packaging materials should increase—Import of Canadian macaroni and confectionery may tend to decrease—Markets sought for biscuits, alimentary pastes, and Arak.

By J. M. Boyer, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner in Egypt.

CAIRO.—The production of processed foodstuffs in the Lebanon has increased tremendously in the last few years. This development has certain significance for Canada. It would tend to decrease her opportunities for the export of macaroni and confectionery to the Lebanon, but should increase the demand for linseed, semolina, powdered milk and perhaps certain packaging materials. It also presents the possibility of providing new products for Canadian import trade such as Arak, Lebanese wines, certain vegetable oils and certain jams. Among all these products are to be found articles of good quality which are exclusively Lebanese, and therefore would not meet the sternest competition of world trade.

The principal manufactures are those of starch and glucose, biscuits, jams, oils, alimentary pastes, chocolate and confectionery, Arak (similar to Absinthe), beer, aerated beverages, wines and vinegar. During the war, Lebanon supplied Allied armies in the Middle East with certain products, particularly jams and confectionery.

The starch and glucose industry had its beginnings during the war, and has slowly been improved to its present satisfactory standard. Its one drawback is the lack of maize and sorghum at present world market prices. Investment in this industry totals £Leb.1,500,000. Annual production reached 600 tons of starch and 1,000 tons of glucose, of which a large proportion was absorbed by Syria. The manufacture of biscuits, both plain and the assorted sandwich type, has made great progress. The main center of production is Beirut, with five factories employing over 80 persons and a capacity of 1,500 tons a year. Local consumption is only 400 tons and manufacturers are seeking export outlets.

Manufacture of jam is an old established industry in Lebanon, one of the country's assets being its fruit. There are two factories which could produce 4,000 tons annually, therefore export is essential to keep the industry going. At the present time, however, the difficulties of obtaining supplies of sugar have forced manufacturers to cut down production. If sugar restrictions did not exist, jams would be one of Lebanon's more important exports.

The oil industry holds an important position because it is sufficiently equipped to undertake the pressing of all seed produced in both Syria and Lebanon. Two factors stimulate its activity, the processing of

imported seed into refined oil for re-export to consumer countries, and the manufacture of cattle fodder from the residue. The largest centres of production are in northern Lebanon and, for industrial oils, the suburbs of Beirut. These two centres process peanuts, coconuts, cotton seed and linseed, castor, sesame and vegetable fats. Employing approximately 500 workers, this industry represents a capital of £Leb.5,000,000. Its 18 factories have an annual production capacity of 25,000 tons of various oils. Official statistics put production at 3,200 tons. The oils produced compare favourably with foreign products.

The alimentary pastes industry has only recently become established and is growing rapidly. Its centre is in and around Beirut, and new methods of production make Lebanese alimentary pastes comparable to foreign products. The six factories engaged in this industry have an annual production capacity of 7,000 tons although they are only producing 2,000 tons a year, of which 1,500 tons are consumed locally. Foreign markets are sought, as at the present time manufacturers are finding it difficult to keep their few hundred workers employed.

Chocolate and confectionery take a fairly important place in the foodstuffs industry. There are a number of well-known brands. The largest centre of production is Beirut, and methods and materials used are new, except in the case of confectionery where, generally speaking, modernization is slow. There are four large chocolate factories in Lebanon and 110 confectioners of medium to small importance. Investment in these industries totals £Leb.4,000,000. They employ nearly 1,400 workers who, in 1949, produced 340 tons of chocolate and 5,500 tons of confectionery. This industry provides a market for milk powder, some of which is supplied by Canada.

There are 100 Arak distilleries at present operating in Lebanon, employing 300 workers and producing about 1,500,000 litres of Arak a year for local consumption. Production capacity is estimated at 3,000,000 litres. Lebanese Arak is a pure grape spirit flavoured with aniseed and thus resembles Absinthe. The producers believe it would sell well in foreign markets except for tariffs and import regulations.

The beer industry has modern installations and competent technical personnel. Lebanese beer competes successfully with certain foreign brands. A great number of consumers prefer the local to the imported product, and during the last war Lebanese breweries supplied the troops in the Levant. The centre of production is around Beirut, with one brewery in Bhamdoun. The importance of this industry is indicated by the following figures: number of breweries, 3; number of workers, 210; capital invested, £Leb.4,225,000; annual production, 2,300,000 litres. The local market absorbs more than half the production, and the rest is exported.

Aerated water is another of Lebanon's oldest established industries. Methods of production are being rapidly modernized. At the present time, with the manufacture of Coca Cola and other effervescent soft drinks, production, under the most hygienic conditions, is estimated at nearly 2,500,000 litres annually, all of which is consumed locally. A serious effort has been made during the last few years in the production of wine and vinegar. By making real sacrifices, certain individuals have been able to put this industry back on its feet as one of the oldest Lebanese industries. The 50 wine and vinegar producers, established mainly in the Bekaa district, have produced 500,000 litres of wine, and 275,000 litres of vinegar for local consumption. The general increase in prices, caused by keeping production below capacity, has resulted in a concentration which will eventually benefit this industry.

Business Conditions in Western United States Good at Mid-Year

Employment expanded to record level during first half of 1951—Production in many lines at all-time high—Declining home construction lowers demand for lumber—Defence program reflected in rising production.

By Harry A. Scott, Consul-General of Canada

SAN FRANCISCO.—Conditions in the Twelfth District* presented a strong economic picture at mid-year, according to a report just issued by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. Even though there was some weakness in construction, and retail sales were not up to expectations after February, the first half of the year was marked by considerable growth. Employment expanded to a record level and production in many lines was at an all-time high. Unemployment, which had been relatively higher than the national average even during previous periods of high activity, dropped to a ratio comparable to the national figure.

Even though the over-all situation is good, a few industries reflect the moderation of inflationary pressures during the past several months.

Declining Home Construction Lowers Lumber Prices

Declining home construction has had a marked effect on the demand for lumber. Although the industry is still operating at a high level, prices for typical grades of lumber used in home construction have declined from the unusually high levels of several months ago. Home construction has been restricted more by a shortage of mortgage money resulting from general credit policy than by the immediate effects of Regulation X (A regulation which restricts the extension of credit on real estate, both residential and commercial), though the latter may have an increasing effect as time goes on.

Sales of many types of consumer durable goods have been slower than manufacturers or retailers consider desirable. Yet such sales appear fairly good in terms of the volume prior to the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, and total consumer buying has appeared to be reasonable even in terms of the high level of consumer incomes. An over-estimate of the demand based on the scare buying of mid-1950 and early 1951 led to record production and deliberate inventory accumulation through the first quarter of this year, in anticipation of even greater demand and possible shortages. At the same time, consumers have been confronted by numerous price increases and even if they wished to do so probably would find it difficult to maintain the spending rate on durable goods evident in July, 1950, and January this year without large injections of credit.

District Employment Rises Sharply

Paced by a large gain in manufacturing employment, total non-agricultural employment in the Western States increased 9 per cent between June, 1950, and June, 1951. Most of the increase during the

* The Twelfth District of the Federal Reserve Banking System comprises the Western States of Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Utah and Washington.

twelve months occurred in four areas. Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, and Seattle accounted for approximately 80 per cent of the new jobs. Because of the large gain in the number of people at work, unemployment fell more than 50 per cent, and the number out of work accounted for less than three per cent of the total labour force. This is the lowest peacetime ratio of unemployment on record.

Reflecting the sharply increased demand for goods of all kinds since the start of the Korean conflict, district manufacturing employment increased 15 per cent between June, 1950, and June, 1951. Government employment, principally at military establishments, gained by 14 per cent. Most of the gain was at government arsenals and shipyards where there is considerable manufacturing. Construction employment recorded an average gain of nine per cent. The smallest increases, three per cent, were reported in trade and service industry employment.

Private as well as government demand for manufactures has been heavily concentrated in durable goods. Even before the expanded defence program had much effect, employment in durable goods industries rose sharply. As defence contracts increased in number further impetus was given to the expansion of activity in these industries. Employment in plants producing durables gained over 20 per cent in the twelve months ending June, 1951. Aircraft employment showed the largest relative increase, gaining more than 50 per cent from its June, 1950 level. Machinery employment gained over a third, and metal products employment over a fifth. In contrast to the sharp increases in these lines, employment in non-durables gained only four per cent.

The structure of the gain in employment reveals several other developments when examined on a state basis. Utah reported a large relative gain in non-agricultural employment because of a very rapid increase in government jobs along with substantial gains in manufacturing and construction employment. Employment at arsenals and air bases in Utah constitutes the major source of gain in government jobs. In Idaho, construction employment gained sharply because of increased activity in the construction of atomic energy facilities. California experienced a large gain (in relative as well as absolute terms) in manufacturing employment because of the increase in aircraft activity and the gains in machinery and metals employment. In Oregon, large relative gains were reported in the machinery and metals industries. A rather minor gain in lumber, the largest industry in Oregon, limited the growth in total manufacturing employment to less than the general average. Washington non-agricultural employment also gained less, despite a substantial rise in aircraft and government employment.

Defence Program Reflected in Rising Production

In the nine months from July, 1950, through March, 1951, the Twelfth District received approximately 20 per cent of the major defence contracts awarded. Aircraft played a leading role in the defence work coming to this district. In Washington, aircraft contracts accounted for about 70 per cent of the volume received. In California, aircraft accounted for almost half the contracts awarded. As a result, aircraft production during the first half of 1950 was well over half again as large as in the same period last year, and further expansion will be necessary to attain the volume required by present contracts.

Though not quite so spectacular as the increase in aircraft output, or so readily apparent to the general public, the production of machinery has increased substantially. Machine tools, electronic equipment, tractors and accessories, and many smaller machine units have been in strong

demand for both civilian and military use. Production of these items was about 40 per cent greater at the first of this year than in 1950.

Fabricated metals production, reflecting the wide-spread demand for durable goods, also increased substantially. Currently, output in that industry is more than one-fifth higher than a year ago. Along with the gain in machinery output, the increase in metal fabrication points up the importance of capital equipment in the district economy. In California, where most of this activity is concentrated, over 100,000 persons are engaged in machinery and fabricated metals production. These two industries accounted for 19 per cent of California's manufacturing employment in June.

Lumber Production Increased

Despite restrictions on residential and many types of non-residential construction, lumber production during the first half of 1951 averaged almost 10 per cent more than in the same period last year. Most of the increase reflected a greater output of Douglas fir, and was occasioned by the record volume of residential construction still under way early this year. A high rate of non-residential building and increased industrial output also contributed to the large demand. The declining volume of residential starts, however, has reduced the demand for many types of lumber. Board and dimension prices and shingle prices are reported as weak, reflecting the spreading decline in residential building. In contrast, prices of industrial and heavy construction grades of lumber have not softened significantly.

After a running start in January and February, urban building permits in this district dropped from the previous year's level, owing principally to a decline in the number of residential permits granted. For a time it appeared likely that non-residential building would offset the decline in home construction, but limitations and credit restrictions have retarded the expansion in this area. Nevertheless, non-residential permits in urban areas in the first six months of 1951 were more than 19 per cent ahead of that same period last year, while residential permits lagged by 10 per cent and total permits were off 9 per cent.

Despite the sharp drop in urban residential construction in the district, the ratio of residential building authorized in the district to total residential permits in the United States was higher during the first half of 1951 than last year. This reflects the sharper drop in home building in other parts of the nation. Currently, the district accounts for about 18 per cent of total residential construction authorized nationally, but a year ago only 15 per cent of the urban home building was in the Twelfth District.

Department Store Sales Moderate After January Surge

Department store sales in the West responded sharply to the scare-buying boom generated by reverses in Korea last December. By March, however, consumers had been reassured that the supply of goods would continue strong and buying dropped sharply. Most stores were seriously disappointed by the March volume since stocks had been increased substantially in anticipation of a near-record volume of sales.

It is probable that in some lines physical volume in May and June was lower than at the same time last year, in view of price increases that have occurred and the small increase in dollar sales. Yet even slightly lower physical volume than last year represents a relatively high

rate of sales. Compared with expected volume and unusually high inventories, however, sales since the end of February have caused some concern. As a result, department stores and other retailers have offered substantial price reductions in various lines from time to time. The department store price war in the East was probably motivated as much by the level of inventories as by the Supreme Court decision on fair trade.

Because of the publicity given sales and price wars, the extensiveness of the reductions made has probably been over-emphasized. Most retailers, and particularly department stores, appear to have the inventory situation fairly well under control, and inventories, the total volume of which is well ahead of last year, have been moving in conformity to the usual seasonal pattern. Department store orders for fall delivery have not gained as much on a percentage basis as last year, but the dollar volume of orders placed in June for fall delivery was probably equal to or slightly higher than a year ago. Stocks are heavier than stores normally prefer to have on hand, but there are few signs of distress.

Official Weighmasters Established at Vancouver

The Vancouver Merchants' Exchange has appointed G. H. Cottrell Limited and Vancouver Weighmark Company Limited as official weighmasters, in response to requests for the services of an official weighmaster and the issuance of official weight certificates covering various import and export commodities.

J. L. Mutter Appointed Commercial Secretary in Oslo



J. L. Mutter

James Lindsay Mutter, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner in Glasgow since July, 1948, has been appointed Commercial Secretary for Canada in Norway, and arrived in Oslo on September 7, 1951, to take up his new appointment. His territory includes Denmark and Greenland.

Mr. Mutter was born in Edinburgh in November, 1905, coming to Canada eight years later. He was educated at Brantford and Hamilton Collegiate Institutes, and secured from Queen's University, Kingston, a B.A. degree and B. Comm. degree. Mr. Mutter joined the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service in 1929, and was posted to Cape Town as Assistant Canadian Trade Commissioner, remaining there until 1935, when he was moved to Johannesburg. He was transferred to Singapore in 1939, and managed to escape from that city a few days before its capitulation to the Japanese in February, 1942. Following his return to Canada in July, Mr. Mutter was posted to Havana, Cuba, as Commercial Secretary for Canada, and four years later was appointed to Santiago, Chile, in the same capacity. He returned home on leave in May, 1948, and two months later proceeded to Glasgow after completing a tour of Canada.

Agricultural Products Board Buys Ten Million Pounds of Butter

Purchases made from New Zealand, Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands—Trade provided with import permits for approximately 4,500,000 additional pounds, for which contracts made prior to August 1, 1951.

DISCUSSIONS concerning the purchase of New Zealand butter were held last week in Ottawa, Mr. W. Marshall, Chairman of the New Zealand Dairy Produce Marketing Commission, having come to Canada for this purpose. The negotiations leading to recent purchases of butter from certain European countries and New Zealand by the Agricultural Products Board were reviewed, and misunderstandings which had arisen were discussed frankly.

The Agricultural Products Board has purchased 10 million pounds of butter for importation during the coming months, of which 3 million pounds will be supplied by New Zealand and 7 million pounds by Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands. These purchases have been negotiated at various prices and terms of delivery. From Sweden, the Board purchased 3 million pounds of butter, packed either in casks or boxes, at a duty paid price of 60½ cents when packed in casks and 61 cents when packed in boxes, basis Montreal; delivery spread from September to November. From Denmark, 3 million pounds, packed in casks, have been purchased at a duty paid price of 60½ cents, basis Montreal; delivery spread from September to November. From the Netherlands, 1 million pounds, packed in casks, have been purchased at a duty paid price of 60 cents, basis Montreal; delivery spread from September to November. From New Zealand the Board purchased 3 million pounds of butter, packed in boxes, at a duty paid price of 63 cents, basis Montreal and Vancouver, delivery to be spread from November to February.

In addition to the purchases of butter by the Agricultural Products Board, the trade has been given import permits for approximately 4½ million pounds of butter from certain European countries, because contracts had been made by the trade prior to August 1, the date on which the government took control of the imports of butter. New Zealand, in accordance with the wishes of Canadian authorities, did not offer butter to the trade at that time and, as a result, as events subsequently developed, lost the opportunity of participating in this business. It is agreed that the turn of events was unfortunate for New Zealand.

New Zealand representatives thought that the price at which they had offered to sell butter to the Agricultural Products Board was competitive in view of its acceptability to the trade, storing qualities, and the optional delivery dates. The Canadian representatives considered that, under Article XVII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade the Government, on becoming the sole importer of butter, they were obliged to obtain bids from those countries participating in the General Agreement which had butter for export. In view of these international obligations and of the bids received, the Canadian representatives were of the opinion that the purchases made by the Agricultural Products Board were appropriate.

The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, has expressed appreciation of Mr. Marshall's visit, and said that the spirit of the discussions and the conclusions reached reflected the goodwill that exists between New Zealand and Canada.

French Merchant Fleet Improved in Quantity But Inferior in Quality

Tonnage has reached prewar level—More than one million tons urgently need to be replaced—Passenger traffic showing good increase—River transport rates are so high that subsidies are required.

By L. A. Campeau, Assistant Commercial Secretary for Canada

(Editor's Note.—Third in a series on Transportation in France)

PARIS.—The position of the French merchant fleet is comparatively good today. Since the spring of 1950 its tonnage has found the 1939 level and now stands at 2,965,609 tons, with 700 units in service, constituting the fourth largest merchant fleet in the world.

Although the French merchant fleet is superior in numbers to what it was before the war, it is inferior in quality. More than one million tons urgently need to be replaced. Although its reconstruction is well advanced it is far from finished. In fact, of the 1,438,000 tons of new ships to be built, 600,000 tons have yet to be delivered. The present tonnage includes 950,000 tons of Liberty ships and T-12 tankers which can only be in service for a very short time. The number of tankers is well above that of 1939 but the number of passenger ships has yet to be made up. There are more cargo vessels afloat now than before the war but too many are old; 26 per cent of the ships are less than five years old, but 10 per cent of the tonnage includes units more than 25 years old.

Shipyards Greatly Damaged by War

From 2,733,633 tons built in 1939, the tonnage dropped to 800,000 tons in 1945. Shipyards were greatly damaged by war, and it was necessary to rebuild the shipyards before increasing the tonnage of the merchant fleet. In 1945, a program was drawn up to raise the tonnage to three million tons by January, 1951. Another five-year program is presently under consideration. The table given below shows the progress made during the year 1950 in rebuilding the French merchant fleet.

	Tonnage	Ships	Passenger		
			Ships	Tankers	Vessels
Sept 1, 1939	2,733,633	670	146	72	452
Jan. 1, 1950	2,709,788	657	75	85	497
Sept 1, 1950	2,896,348	685	..	..	..
Oct. 1, 1950	2,905,703	692	..	..	..
Nov. 1, 1950	2,905,703	692	81	88	525
Dec. 1, 1950	2,925,519	695	..	..	..
Jan. 1, 1951	2,965,609	700	..	..	..

The construction program for 1950-52 is estimated at six milliard francs. The shipowners have facilities to obtain twenty-year loans at low interest, representing an important percentage of the cost of the ship, i.e. 70 per cent for passenger ships, 80 per cent for cargoes and tankers. It is estimated that 60,000 tons of the present tonnage is being built under this plan, at a cost of 4,800 million francs.

Half of Shipways are Empty

While the bill for aid to the shipbuilding industry is under consideration, the situation in the shipyards is not very bright. Half of the 76 shipways in France are empty. Four ships were under reconstruction on January 1, 1951. At the same date, 106 units with a total tonnage of

671,910 tons were under construction in French shipyards and abroad. Tonnage ordered and under construction in France amounts to 487,310 tons, while 184,600 tons of shipping has been ordered by France from abroad.

Passenger traffic in the last three months of 1950 has been favourable and it is expected that it will show an increase. The largest part of this increase comes from Le Havre which saw 43,167 outgoing passengers for the first three months in 1950, as compared with 38,878 in 1949. This apparently comes from the increase in the number of passengers from America. Marseilles also has contributed largely with the movement of reinforcement troops for Indo-China. Statistics also show that passenger traffic from England and Algeria has been heavier.

Passenger Traffic in French Seaports

	Incoming passengers
1949	3,317,340
First 9 months of 1950	2,817,798
	Outgoing passengers
1949	3,425,520
First 9 months of 1950	2,820,686

A study of the five largest ports in France for the first nine months in 1950 shows a diminution of imports compensated by an increase of exports.

	1949	Jan.-Sept., 1950
Marseilles		
Imports	7,254,694	5,264,421
Exports	4,074,235	3,678,974
Le Havre		
Imports	7,850,178	5,297,380
Exports	2,345,006	1,895,015
Rouen		
Imports	6,964,263	3,587,523
Exports	2,240,950	2,087,869
Dunkerque		
Imports	2,111,424	1,460,247
Exports	1,872,773	2,079,970
Bordeaux		
Imports	1,841,557	1,393,562
Exports	1,086,808	1,121,573

The most striking factor of the above figures is the tendency of imports to decrease, and the very remarkable increase of exports, specially from the ports of Rouen, Dunkerque and Bordeaux. Independent of the modifications that affect trade exchanges, these figures indicate a basic change in foreign trade that began in 1950 and which resulted from the slackening of coal imports. Rouen and Dunkerque, both well-known coal ports, have suffered tremendously from this change. However, increasing imports of petroleum have to some extent compensated for the decreased coal imports.

River Transport Higher but Unsatisfactory

Compared with 1949, river transport for the year 1950 has increased slightly. However, in comparison with 1934, it has decreased considerably. Tons loaded in 1934 totalled 50,808,000; in 1949, 40,089,493; and in 1950, 42,454,081.

It would be wrong to believe that this increase in river transport in 1950 marks an improvement in the small craft situation. Two essential problems, substructure and rates, have not been solved yet; on the contrary they have been aggravated.

The river system has not developed in line with the railway and road systems. It has remained much the same as it was at the turn of the 20th century. For this reason the cost of river transport in France is

much higher than it would be if the equipment were modern and in good repair. In so far as the rates are concerned, they have come to a point where it is impossible for river transport to operate without subsidies. A freight rate increase has also been requested, but it is difficult to foresee the sort of remedies that the French authorities will prescribe to bring this system back in line with other means of transport.

J. P. C. Gauthier Joins Department of Defence Production

J. P. C. Gauthier, formerly Assistant Commercial Secretary for Canada in Paris, has been appointed Quebec Regional Representative of the Priorities Division, Department of Defence Production, with headquarters in Montreal.

Mr. Gauthier was born in Montreal, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Montreal. After the outbreak of hostilities, he joined the Canadian Army, and served as A.D.C. to General H. D. G. Crerar overseas. He also served with the Fusiliers Mont Royal, and for a short period was second-in-command of this regiment. Mr. Gauthier joined the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service in February, 1946, and was later posted to London, from which he was posted to Paris.

Activities of the Priorities Division have been expanded to provide for more equitable Canadian participation in the United States priorities procedure, including the United States Controlled Materials Plan, three regional offices now being in operation, as follows: J. P. C. Gauthier, 685 Cathcart Street, Montreal (Telephone, Belair 0151); E. A. Leslie, 331 Marine Building, Vancouver (Telephone, Pacific 7161); and A. R. Whitten, 55 York Street, Toronto (Telephone, Empire 3-6641). Canadian firms are requested to direct their inquiries to these offices, where convenient, rather than to Ottawa, as these regional representatives are in a position to render "on-the-spot" service.

New Zealand Invites Tenders for Electrical Equipment

Wellington, September 8, 1951.—(FTS)—The New Zealand State Hydro-Electric Department invites tenders for the supply of the following electrical equipment:

Contract No. 188—One 10,000 kva 11kv synchronous condenser for Invercargill Substation.

Tenders close with the Secretary, Tenders Committee, State Hydro-Electric Department, Wellington, New Zealand, at 4 p.m. on February 5, 1952.

(Editor's Note.—Copies of specifications for the above equipment are available from the office of the New Zealand Government Trade Commissioner, 609 Sun Life Building, Montreal, Quebec.)

TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation and Communications Division is in a position to furnish information on water, rail, air and road transport services to and from Canada. Shippers having any transportation problems are invited to use the facilities of this Division.

A list of the principal Canadian trade routes and the various steamship companies maintaining services thereon has been compiled and may be obtained on request.

Inquiries for this list or other information concerning international transportation services should be addressed to the Director, Transportation and Communications Division, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.

Trade Notes

CHILE

Maritime Credit Department to be Formed by Chile

Santiago, August 25, 1951.—(FTS)—A Parliamentary Bill is being prepared in Chile to create a maritime credit department in connection with the purchase of vessels for the merchant marine. The proposed organization will function as a subsidiary of the Development Corporation.

Chile to Purchase Machinery for Steel Factory

Santiago, August 20, 1951.—(FTS)—The Chilean Foreign Trade Council has authorized the purchase of machinery for the steel company at Huachipato to a value of US\$2,750,000 as a charge against the loan granted by Eximbank.

Increase in Chilean Budget Forecast

Santiago, August 24, 1951.—(FTS)—Press reports anticipate that the Chilean Budget for 1952 will increase from this year's figure of Ch\$23,259 million to around Ch\$32,000 million. It is estimated that at least Ch\$7,000 million must be obtained by increased taxation.

WEST GERMANY

Hannover Textile Trade Fair was Quiet

Frankfurt am Main, September 3, 1951.—(FTS)—The fifth Textile Trade Fair in Hannover was closed after three days of very quiet business. The eight hundred exhibitors, of which 188 were foreign, declared unani- mously that, in spite of the quiet business, there were signs of a revival in the textile business. It was pointed out that the winter demand had been covered only to a small part. A considerable increase in purchases is to be expected for the next few weeks. Regarding the development of prices, it was stated that the downward trend of raw material prices would have no further effect as the increase of prices during the period from July, 1950 to end of March, 1951 was not fully borne by the consumer. The development regarding wool textile prices is considered uncertain as the new wool season in Australia has only just started.

West Germany Provides Fund for Construction Loans to Industry

Frankfurt am Main, September 3, 1951.—(FTS)—The Federal Bureau of Immediate Aid has announced the allocation of 90 million Deutschemarks for use in the establishment of permanent industries by refugees, bombed out persons and people who have been persecuted for political reasons. The fund will be made available to these persons through the facilities of investment and credit institutions which are at present dealing with such loans. The fund is designed to relieve the lack of credit facilities available to those in need of emergency aid and to decrease unemployment by construction and expansion of new firms and industries.

West German Electricity Producers Expect to Meet Winter Power Crisis

Frankfurt am Main, September 3, 1951.—(FTS)—The Association of West German Producers of Electricity has indicated that the industry expects to meet the normal increase in demand this coming winter, provided, however, that some 300 million Deutschemarks, which have been promised, is made available to the member firms as soon as possible by interested financial and manufacturing groups. Another problem which must also be met is that of continuous deliveries of coal to the steam plants. According to the Association some plants have stocks on hand sufficient only for a few days, and failures in electricity distribution have been avoided in the past few months only on account of the heavy rainfall and the subsequently greater output by hydro stations.

Western Germany Non-Ferrous Metal Production Reaches Prewar Level

Frankfurt am Main, September 3, 1951.—(FTS)—In the first half of 1951, non-ferrous metal production in the Federal Republic almost reached the prewar level. According to experts, the supply of metals per head of the population is still far below the average in other large industrial countries. It is pointed out that the insufficient coal supply and difficulties in obtaining raw materials are causing difficulties in the German non-ferrous metal industries.

HONG KONG

Hong Kong Trade Figures Announced

Hong Kong, August 11, 1951.—(FTS)—Figures have just been released indicating the total values of imports and exports by countries, for the first six months of 1951. The following table provides an interesting comparison with results for the same period of 1950.

	1950			1951		
	Imports	Exports	Total	Imports	Exports	Total
	(millions of HK \$)			(millions of HK \$)		
China, including						
Macao	328.7	629.3	1,012.0	554.0	1,336.4	1,890.4
Malaya	46.6	163.2	209.8	335.7	499.9	835.6
United Kingdom	216.4	97.9	314.3	285.4	124.4	409.8
Japan	31.1	55.3	86.4	215.8	135.3	351.1
United States	339.1	115.9	455.0	188.1	77.5	265.6
Canada	24.0	5.1	29.1	36.5	10.9	47.4

Unemployment Serious Problem in Hong Kong

Hong Kong, August 11, 1951.—(FTS)—Unemployment in local industries is becoming a serious problem for Hong Kong. In January, 1951, ninety-one thousand persons were recorded as employees in registered factories (any enterprise with ten or more workers), but as of June 30, the Commissioner of Labour reports nearly 25,000 of these either out of jobs, or working only part time.

The textile industry is suffering most—5,000 in the weaving industry and 5,500 in the knitting industry were out of work. In the metalwares industry 7,000 are unemployed, in the rubber industry 2,000, and another 5,000 are idle in the wide variety of less important enterprises such as plastics, foods, medicines, glassware, etc.

Part of the explanation in the textile industry is undoubtedly the forcing-out of many obsolescent non-competitive examples of cottage-type

industry, but other underlying factors in all cases include the shortage of essential raw materials due to export controls in traditional supplying countries, the uneconomic use of overpriced substitute materials with resultant effect on prices of finished products, and the re-emergence of Japanese competition in overseas markets.

IRELAND

New Radio Factory to be Built in Ireland

Dublin, September 3, 1951.—(FTS)—A new factory for the production of domestic radio receivers is shortly to be built at Santry, near Dublin. It is expected that production will begin late next summer. When completed, this factory will employ some 250 people, in a modern single-storey building incorporating built-in floor heating and dust extraction plant. The factory is being built on a two-acre site forming part of a development area where several new industries have sprung up in recent years. Labour recruitment, mostly female, will come from new housing estates in the district.

This factory is being built by Walkers Limited, Dublin, who have been manufacturing the Bush Radio for some years, and who now find their existing premises inadequate. The new manufacturing company will be named Bush (Ireland) Limited. There are at least five other similar plants in operation in the Republic of Ireland, some with international links, producing radios and radio parts.

Industrial Development Planned in Western Ireland

Dublin, August 28, 1951.—(FTS)—Substantial capital investment in new state-sponsored industrial projects in the west of Ireland is forecast by Mr. S. Lemass, Minister for Industry and Commerce. The aims are to solve the acute depopulation problem in these areas by new industrial developments that will raise standards of employment, improve social conditions and mitigate the competitive disadvantages of distance from market suffered by the Gaeltacht (Irish speaking) areas.

Private enterprise will be given inducements to speed up suitable projects. The peat industry is considered particularly suitable for development, and other industries will be reported on later. Subject to legislation yet to be introduced, co-ordination will be made effective through a Parliamentary Secretary specially charged with development of the Western Counties.

MEXICO

Mexican Trade Deficit Mounting

Mexico City, August 28, 1951.—(FTS)—Mexico accumulated an adverse balance of trade amounting to more than 169 million dollars in the first half of this year, according to the Bank of Mexico, which differs radically in its calculations of trade returns from the Department of Statistics of the Secretariat of National Economy.

In the period from January to April, imports exceeded exports by \$80 million. Exports amounted to \$33,741,000 in May and \$34,922,000 in June, as compared with imports valued at \$79,354,000 and \$78,675,000 respectively. Unfavourable balances of \$45,613,000 in May and \$43,753,000 in June brought the six months' total up to \$169,366,000.

Fiat Plant to be Opened in Mexico

Mexico City, August 28, 1951.—(FTS)—Negotiations for the assembly and manufacture of Fiat Diesel motors and vehicles in Mexico have been completed. By the end of the year a group of Italian technicians and engineers is expected to arrive to operate the plant which is presently being built on the outskirts of the capital. The concern will operate under the name of Diesel Nacional, S.A., with an initial capital of 75 million pesos, and 280-model trucks and 1,400-model automobiles will be turned out under the name Dina-Fiat.

Through its investment corporation, Nacional Financiera, the Mexican Government will hold 51 per cent of the stock of Diesel Nacional, S.A. Among the members of the administrative council of the company will be Secretary of the Mexican Treasury, Ramón Beteta, and chief officials of the Bank of Mexico, Nacional Financiera and the nationalized oil administration, Petroleos Mexicanos.

European Banks to Open in Mexico

Mexico City, August 28, 1951.—(FTS)—Two European banks, the Banco de Napoles and the Banco de Santander are opening offices in Mexico City, it has been reported by the official organ of the Mexican Stock Exchange. Agreement as to the terms on which the two banks will operate apparently was reached by the Mexican Economic Commission, which visited Europe last summer, under the leadership of Lic. Carlos Novoa, Director General of the Bank of Mexico.

Mexican Sulphur Production Increased

Mexico City, August 28, 1951.—(FTS)—Production of sulphur at a gas washing plant on the Poza Rica oil fields of Petroleos Mexicanos soon will be increased to 140 metric tons daily from its present average of 100 tons, according to an official statement by Petroleos Mexicanos, as reported by the daily newspaper "Excelsior". The nationalized oil administration stated that 6,000 metric tons of sulphur were on hand in mid-August, and that, before the end of the year, at least 8,000 tons will be available for export.

Mexico Will Build Coking Plant

Mexico City, August 28, 1951.—(FTS)—By a capital investment of 80 million pesos, the Mexican Government's investment corporation, Nacional Financiera, will establish in the Northern State of Coahuila a coking plant, which is to be built by German contractors. Contracts for its construction have been completed with Henrichs Koopers, of Essen-Rhur, who will build the plant either at Monclova, which is an iron and steel producing centre, or at Palau, a neighbouring coal mining region, and will loan an unspecified number of engineers and foremen to bring the plant into production and supervise its operation.

Nacional Financiera has stated that the production of coke will be between 45,000 and 47,000 metric tons a month, and could run as high as 2,200 metric tons daily. Ammonia, benzol and sulphuric acid will be obtained as by-products, and it is believed that the price of coke will be reduced on the domestic market from the present 300 pesos per 1,000 kilograms to 100 pesos or less.

With the help of a credit of 2·7 million dollars from the United States Export-Import Bank, production at the Palau coal mines has been improved this year.

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Removes Fertilizer Subsidy

Wellington, September 7, 1951.—(FTS)—The subsidies which have been paid on imported basic slag and North African ground phosphate during the past year are to be removed during the 1951-52 fertilizer season. This will result in an increase in price from £16 per ton to between £19 and £21 a ton. Last year these fertilizers were subsidized at the rate of £2 per ton, and 85 per cent of the cost was met from industry pool accounts and 15 per cent from the Consolidated Fund.

New Zealand Had Favourable Trade Balance Last Year

Wellington, September 7, 1951.—(FTS)—New Zealand's overseas trade during 1950 reached the record level of £341·7 million, or £177·177 per head of population. The increased value of trade is largely attributable to price increases, but the volume of exports has risen by 23 per cent since 1936. Exports were valued at £183·8 million, and imports at £157·9 million, leaving a favourable balance of £25·9 million. The principal destinations of New Zealand exports were the United Kingdom, £121·7 million; the United States, £18·4 million; France, £8·1 million; Germany, £5·9 million; Australia, £4·8 million; Canada, £3·6 million; the Netherlands, £3·4 million and Belgium, £3 million.

New Zealand Announces Scheme for Distribution of North American Cars

Wellington, September 7, 1951.—(FTS)—The government has announced its scheme for the distribution of the 3,000 North American cars for which import licences were granted during 1951. While the broad principles to be followed are laid down by the government, the importers are responsible for ensuring that the conditions are carried out. Seven-eighths of the cars are to be distributed to persons making material use, for essential purposes, of roads other than main or state highways, with preference to those using country roads. The remaining eighth is to be reserved for taxi and private hire services and for rural mail delivery services. Buyers will have to sign an agreement not to resell the car within two years, except to the dealer from whom it was purchased at a price equivalent to cost price less depreciation.

No Substantial Changes in New Zealand Government Policy

Wellington, September 7, 1951.—(FTS)—The result of the election held on September 1 has confirmed the government in office with a slightly increased majority and there should be, therefore, no substantial changes in policy. The main points in the government's election policy apart from asking the people's endorsement of its handling of the recent waterfront dispute were as follows: an increase in the universal superannuation benefit from £37·10·0 to £75 a year, this amount to be subject to taxation

and a doubling of the annual increment to £5; reduction in the price of bread, butter, tea, gas and petrol through increased subsidies (this has already been implemented, effective September 3); an increase from £10 to £15 in flat rebate off income tax demands and a reduction from 15 to 10 per cent in the surcharge on all income tax; workers and employers are to be given the right to apply to the Arbitration Court for wage adjustments twice yearly rather than once yearly as at present; the age for compulsory military training to be advanced from 18 to 20 years and 3,000 prefabricated houses are to be imported to help meet the housing shortage.

New Zealand Cost of Living Rises

Wellington, September 7, 1951.—(F.T.S.)—The all-groups consumers' price index for the second quarter of 1951 rose by 48 points or 4½ per cent, compared with the first quarter. Largest percentage increase was in the clothing and footwear group, a rise of 7·1 per cent, while food rose 5 per cent, the miscellaneous group 3·8 per cent and fuel and lighting 2·1 per cent. Of the 48 points rise in the all-groups index, 21 points were contributed by food, 16 points by clothing and footwear, 10 points by miscellaneous and 1 point by fuel and lighting.

New Zealand Will Not Freeze Income from Wool Sales

Wellington, September 7, 1951.—(F.T.S.)—Farmers' incomes from the wool sales which commenced on August 15 are not to be frozen. Last year one third of the wool receipts were frozen in the farmers' private accounts and were not subject to taxation. This step was taken as an anti-inflationary measure in view of the abnormally high wool prices, but since wool prices have receded to more reasonable levels, the extraordinary measures are considered unnecessary.

New Zealand Overseas Funds Reach Record Level

Wellington, September 7, 1951.—(F.T.S.)—New Zealand's overseas assets reached the record level of £127 million at the end of July and consisted of £87 million in sterling exchange, held by the Reserve Bank, and £40 million in net overseas assets. This favourable situation is almost entirely due to the exceptional returns from last year's wool clip.

NETHERLANDS

Netherlands Will Export Shellfish to Western Germany

The Hague, August 15, 1951.—(F.T.S.)—An agreement has been reached whereby Holland will be allowed to export \$45,000 worth of oysters to Western Germany until January 1, 1952. In addition, Holland's quota for mussels and lobsters has been set at \$10,000 worth each for the same period. It is also learned that France will again allow imports of Dutch mussels from Zeeland, although no quantities have been mentioned.

Netherlands Exports More Herrings

The Hague, August 30, 1951.—(F.T.S.)—Exports of Dutch herrings during the second quarter of 1951 totalled 8,585,035 kilos valued at 4,199,644 guilders. In the corresponding period of 1950 exports were 7,294,667 kilos and in 1949, 6,613,450 kilos.

The bulk of these exports, 3,001,117 kilos, went to East Germany. Other importers were: Belgium, 1,845,498 kilos; West Germany, 1,243,367 kilos; and Finland, Israel, Czechoslovakia, Norway, France, Rumania and the United Kingdom. The United States took 1,067 kilos of herrings valued at 1,921 guilders.

Holland's main herring centres are Scheveningen, where 49 per cent of the total exports originated; Katwijk, 24 per cent; Vlaardingen, 23½ per cent, and IJmuiden, about 3 per cent.

Interest on Loans in Netherlands Raised

The Hague, August 26, 1951.—(F.T.S.)—Owing to a continuing lack of interest in government bonds the interest on long-term loans has now risen. The Dutch interest rate for long-term money, which since 1945 until a few months ago had been maintained at 3-3½ per cent, has now increased to 4½ per cent.

Municipalities which are still restricted to a maximum interest rate of 4 per cent are expecting considerable difficulties since they are unable to acquire the necessary funds. This has already led in some cases to serious stoppages in house construction.

New Packing Case Developed in the Netherlands

The Hague, August 15, 1951.—(F.T.S.)—A new packing case from steel and plywood has been developed by a Netherlander. The carton, when empty, can be folded to one seventh of its normal size and thus reduces return freight costs. The case is made without nails and has no loose or projecting parts. The Dutch Packing Institute have approved the crate after extensive tests and it is now in production.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Northern Ireland Announced Results of Mining and Quarrying Industries

Belfast, August 18, 1951.—(F.T.S.)—The 1949 report of the Northern Ireland Ministry of Commerce on the mining and quarrying industries of the province, which has just been issued, states that the total output of minerals in that year was 2,977,383 tons valued at £1,479,278, compared with 2,203,947 tons valued at £1,030,270 in 1948. In addition, 12,768 tons of salt were obtained from brine, compared with 13,036 in 1948. The output of coal in 1949, mined in two small coalfields in the Ballycastle area, was 650 tons, and of fireclay mined in three fireclay mines in Coalisland, 12,355 tons, the respective figures for 1948 being 1,420 tons of coal and 10,747 tons of fireclay.

Other output totals, with 1948 figures in parentheses, were as follows:—basalt and igneous rock other than granite, 989,952 tons (707,586); chalk, 313,328 tons (249,633); clay, 289,468 tons (225,850); coal, 650 tons (1,420); diatomite, 7,789 tons (6,858); flint, 1,891 tons (850); granite, monumental and setts, 7,302 tons (15,870); granite, road stone, 47,967 tons (44,824); grit and conglomerate, 427,489 tons (321,234); limestone, 273,949 tons (219,071); sand and gravel, 605,270 tons (399,934).

A total of 2,713 persons were employed in the industries in 1949, compared with 2,641 in 1948.

Large British Cloth Order Received by Northern Ireland Linen Industry

Belfast, August 20, 1951.—(FTS)—An order for 2,000,000 yards of cloth for tenting has been placed with the Northern Ireland linen industry by the British Ministry of Supply. The order, it is estimated, will require about 1,500 tons of flax to complete, and is the first major textile contract to be placed in the province under the new defence program. Details of the allocation of the order to various firms will be worked out by the Flax Spinners' Association and the Power Loom Manufacturers, on a system similar to that in operation during the war when the speeding up of production for government use was organized through a central clearing house. It is not believed that any major re-organization of present production will be required to cope with the order.

VENEZUELA

Venezuelan Population Considerably Increased

Caracas, August 13, 1951.—(FTS)—In November of 1950, the eighth national census of Venezuela was held and official results have now been released by the Minister of Development. Since the previous national census in 1941, the population has increased from 3,850,771 to 4,985,716, an increase of 29 per cent. The following table shows the population of the most important cities for 1950 and 1941 with increase by percentage.

Cities	1950	1941	Per Cent Increase
Caracas	695,095	359,225	93
Maracaibo	232,488	119,117	95
Barquisimeto	105,080	54,176	93
Valencia	88,674	54,796	61
Maracay	65,761	32,992	99
San Cristóbal	56,073	31,447	78
Cumaná	46,416	25,893	79
Ciudad Bolívar	31,009	19,789	56

All of the 20 states and the Federal Territories of Delta Amacuro and Amazon have recorded increases in population. Since the 8th national census was more efficiently organized than previous ones, it is believed that enumeration in 1950 included a number of inhabitants previously not counted; therefore the increases recorded do not indicate entirely actual growth in the population.

Venezuela can be divided into four main trading areas with adequate port facilities for three, and the project for dredging the Orinoco River will give better shipping facilities to the eastern states. Caracas and the Federal District (pop. 700,000) is the largest area and is served by the port of La Guaira. The oil state of Zulia in the west (pop. 523,000) is served by the port of Maracaibo. Barquisimeto, State of Lara, is the largest city (pop. 105,000) in the agricultural area of the mid-west which is growing in importance with the government's assistance to agriculture. Seven hundred thousand inhabitants in these mid-west states receive their imports from Puerto Cabello, 150 kilometres north-west of Barquisimeto. The eastern states are now the most under-populated but present iron ore production, the possibility of aluminium plants and reported discoveries of minerals should combine to increase the population of this area. The eastern states will probably have the most marked growth in the next decade and Ciudad Bolívar, (pop. 31,000) is the most likely trading centre for this area as well as shipping, when dredging of the Orinoco River is completed.

Canadian Exports, by Commodities

Country	July			January—July		
	1938	1950	1951	1938	1950	1951
MAIN GROUPS						
(Millions of Dollars)						
Agricultural, Vegetable Products.....	14.2	50.1	95.1	89.1	349.0	451.0
Animals and Animal Products.....	9.8	31.2	30.1	64.0	198.9	204.9
Fibres, Textiles and Products.....	1.3	3.4	3.4	7.7	14.1	21.1
Wood, Wood Products and Paper.....	18.9	94.7	131.5	113.6	580.1	774.6
Iron and Products.....	5.5	21.9	27.5	39.9	148.1	170.9
Non-Ferrous Metals and Products.....	11.5	35.0	57.9	101.1	243.9	310.9
Non-Metallic Minerals, Products.....	2.2	7.5	11.5	13.4	55.3	73.7
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	1.3	6.9	11.6	12.0	57.0	72.0
Miscellaneous Commodities.....	1.5	3.0	5.9	12.5	37.9	35.6
TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS.....	66.2	253.7	374.5	453.2	1,684.3	2,114.7
(Thousands of Dollars)						
Agricultural, Vegetable Products:						
Fruits.....	337	1,528	804	3,877	7,362	5,691
Vegetables.....	307	377	610	1,962	5,156	6,651
Wheat.....	7,455	28,614	51,710	37,948	185,195	200,341
Grains, other.....	1,104	4,450	15,829	6,217	22,938	55,283
Flour of wheat.....	1,375	6,639	11,652	10,640	56,890	78,394
Farinaceous products, other.....	899	1,638	2,866	6,005	8,116	16,004
Sugar and products.....	294	659	337	1,188	3,312	2,798
Alcoholic beverages.....	938	3,290	4,026	5,868	21,086	28,821
Oil cake and oil cake meal.....	33	147	533	78	1,247	2,640
Vegetable fats and oils.....	17	224	379	73	2,260	1,419
Rubber and products.....	1,103	881	3,048	7,819	6,434	15,105
Seeds.....	4	552	871	1,120	13,214	15,830
Tobacco.....	70	356	1,042	4,854	7,527	12,425
Hay.....	45	48	59	266	2,176	1,324
Fodders, other.....	83	453	521	450	2,763	3,650
Vegetable products, other.....	96	289	760	691	3,276	4,612
TOTAL.....	14,171	50,144	95,050	89,056	348,952	450,987
Animals and Animal Products:						
Cattle.....	868	5,334	3,033	5,041	42,621	40,379
Other animals, living.....	96	310	98	875	3,678	1,475
Fish and fishery products.....	2,113	10,716	9,967	13,702	57,825	63,206
Furs and products.....	659	1,658	1,717	9,264	14,958	21,312
Hides and skins, raw.....	253	1,145	1,440	1,220	8,807	8,762
Leather and products.....	453	684	976	2,837	3,876	6,088
Bacon and hams.....	2,549	521	183	19,449	20,748	2,704
Meats, other.....	313	5,479	9,726	2,698	23,350	43,195
Cheese.....	1,693	3,679	879	3,611	6,780	2,060
Milk products, other.....	443	904	1,191	2,195	6,188	5,247
Animal oils, fats greases, wax.....	186	118	173	1,661	1,854	2,988
Eggs, shell and processed.....	13	216	86	139	4,287	2,100
Animal products, other.....	163	484	599	1,288	3,881	2,425
TOTAL.....	9,804	31,249	30,068	63,980	198,852	304,942
Fibres, Textiles and Products:						
Cotton products.....	225	668	1,412	1,549	3,545	5,925
Flax, hemp, jute and products.....	9	197	113	65	997	884
Wool and products.....	117	540	448	658	2,125	3,802
Synthetic fibre and products.....	287	588	443	1,332	2,320	2,226
Textile products, other.....	684	1,368	1,000	4,100	5,144	8,225
TOTAL.....	1,322	3,361	3,415	7,704	14,132	21,062
Wood, Wood Products and Paper:						
Planks and boards.....	3,454	30,631	28,710	19,412	138,870	179,316
Pulpwood.....	2,076	2,802	7,691	6,305	16,062	32,225
Unmanufactured wood, other.....	1,886	5,412	5,119	9,689	31,122	38,845
Wood pulp.....	1,868	14,734	34,286	15,262	106,724	197,646
Manufactured wood, other.....	262	428	735	1,814	2,579	4,299
Newsprint paper.....	8,724	39,192	51,344	55,747	274,656	299,846
Paper, other.....	608	1,380	3,329	4,835	8,726	20,755
Books and printed matter.....	66	159	259	520	1,325	1,663
TOTAL.....	18,945	94,739	131,473	113,585	580,063	774,595

Canadian Exports, by Commodities—Concluded

Commodities	July			January—July		
	1938	1950	1951	1938	1950	1951
(Thousands of Dollars)						
Iron and Products:						
Iron ore.....	1,693	2,159	.....	4,708	6,195	
Ferro-alloys.....	21	1,508	2,883	635	8,061	16,479
Pigs, ingots, blooms, billets.....	160	2,066	1,008	2,160	9,947	5,815
Rolling mill products.....	1,418	470	932	3,157	3,944	5,947
Engines and boilers.....	18	1,560	874	401	11,302	4,858
Farm machinery and implements.....	553	6,680	9,169	5,832	58,830	69,079
Hardware and cutlery.....	160	199	373	1,122	2,432	2,836
Machinery (except farm).....	777	2,186	2,494	6,132	13,520	20,744
Automobiles, freight.....	514	700	897	4,869	5,695	4,568
Automobiles, passenger.....	1,229	1,931	3,325	10,390	10,177	14,664
Automobile parts.....	132	1,352	1,404	1,849	7,423	8,032
Railway cars and parts.....	.....	26	15	12	2,876	52
Iron products, other.....	498	1,491	1,993	3,293	9,219	11,675
TOTAL.....	5,481	21,862	27,525	39,853	148,137	170,943
Non-Ferrous Metals and Products:						
Aluminium and products.....	980	7,738	14,451	12,539	62,536	71,160
Brass and products.....	81	200	342	575	1,278	1,858
Copper and products.....	4,042	6,955	7,701	29,245	49,871	46,658
Lead and products.....	544	1,492	3,399	4,740	13,916	24,131
Nickel.....	3,493	8,088	12,696	20,999	60,259	72,106
Precious metals (except gold).....	907	2,112	5,559	13,555	14,657	30,319
Zinc and products.....	826	5,873	9,629	6,249	28,694	43,824
Electrical apparatus, n.o.p.....	338	864	1,568	2,529	5,550	9,787
Non-ferrous products, other.....	268	1,660	2,574	1,713	7,170	11,045
TOTAL.....	11,479	34,982	57,920	101,145	243,931	310,886
Non-Metallic Minerals, Products:						
Asbestos and products.....	1,143	3,954	6,918	6,762	33,184	47,590
Clay and products.....	40	230	238	336	1,223	1,463
Coal and products.....	198	791	517	1,439	6,883	3,964
Glass and glassware.....	11	59	85	68	438	662
Petroleum and products.....	94	16	208	365	126	737
Abrasives, artificial, crude.....	242	1,108	1,754	2,560	7,705	12,064
Stone and products, other.....	297	805	953	966	3,013	3,978
Carbon and graphite electrodes.....	58	96	203	357	801	786
Non-metallic products, other.....	77	421	649	571	1,974	2,474
TOTAL.....	2,159	7,480	11,525	13,425	55,347	73,719
Chemicals and Allied Products:						
Acids.....	74	282	624	710	1,699	3,575
Drugs, medicines, pharmaceuticals.....	155	320	519	863	2,478	2,975
Fertilizers.....	313	2,590	2,470	5,131	24,127	21,367
Paints and varnishes.....	70	220	848	521	2,078	4,005
Calcium compounds.....	24	91	275	279	763	1,730
Soda and sodium compounds.....	296	420	839	2,332	2,824	5,647
Cobalt oxides and cobalt salt.....	95	62	150	265	357	694
Chemical products, other.....	264	2,873	5,858	1,896	22,677	31,992
TOTAL.....	1,291	6,859	11,582	11,999	57,003	71,985
Miscellaneous Commodities:						
Toys and sporting goods.....	68	39	81	213	155	296
Films.....	311	262	681	2,543	1,378	3,395
Ships and vessels.....	.....	.....	819	188	15,888	6,856
Aircraft and parts.....	61	326	570	2,555	2,833	3,628
Electrical energy.....	357	552	927	2,418	3,743	4,562
Miscellaneous consumer goods.....	165	263	661	1,114	1,927	3,595
Miscellaneous, other.....	386	365	536	2,193	4,981	3,812
Donations and gifts.....	.....	234	370	.....	1,814	3,104
Non-commercial articles.....	180	986	1,265	1,260	5,194	6,348
TOTAL.....	1,529	3,028	5,909	12,484	37,913	35,595

Canadian Exports, by Main Groups

Country	July			January—July		
	1938	1950	1951	1938	1950	1951
ALL COUNTRIES						
(Thousands of Dollars)						
Agricultural, Vegetable Products.....	14,171	50,144	95,050	89,056	348,952	450,987
Animals and Animal Products.....	9,804	31,249	30,068	63,980	198,852	204,942
Fibres, Textiles and Products.....	1,322	3,361	3,415	7,704	14,132	21,062
Wood, Wood products and Paper.....	18,945	94,739	131,473	113,585	580,063	774,595
Iron and Products.....	5,481	21,862	27,525	39,853	148,137	170,943
Non-Ferrous Metals and Products.....	11,479	34,982	57,920	101,145	243,931	310,886
Non-Metallic Minerals, Products.....	2,159	7,480	11,525	13,425	55,347	73,719
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	1,291	6,859	11,582	11,999	57,003	71,985
Miscellaneous Commodities.....	1,529	3,028	5,909	12,484	37,913	35,595
TOTAL.....	66,181	253,704	374,466	453,231	1,684,328	2,114,714
UNITED KINGDOM						
Agricultural, Vegetable Products.....	7,870	19,231	31,049	52,506	146,012	128,890
Animals and Animal Products.....	6,643	4,478	2,285	40,214	32,558	11,177
Fibres, Textiles and Products.....	201	75	66	2,193	553	700
Wood, Wood Products and Paper.....	3,898	3,741	16,045	22,062	16,733	71,151
Iron and Products.....	815	512	1,881	9,111	5,881	7,815
Non-Ferrous Metals and Products.....	5,228	5,628	20,176	53,422	58,177	94,695
Non-Metallic Minerals, Products.....	376	753	1,168	1,666	5,739	6,355
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	426	553	997	2,768	3,705	5,182
Miscellaneous Commodities.....	337	198	268	2,782	1,727	1,493
TOTAL.....	25,796	35,169	73,935	186,725	271,086	327,458
UNITED STATES						
Agricultural, Vegetable Products.....	1,883	13,763	22,304	11,045	89,008	132,306
Animals and Animal Products.....	2,174	22,524	23,813	15,906	133,332	163,994
Fibres, Textiles and Products.....	280	2,363	1,463	1,081	8,671	11,723
Wood, Wood Products and Paper.....	11,935	86,113	100,129	72,344	536,490	636,099
Iron and Products.....	213	11,113	14,796	2,661	77,657	98,525
Non-Ferrous Metals and Products.....	2,215	21,490	23,660	18,604	146,250	161,156
Non-Metallic Minerals, Products.....	1,010	4,953	7,498	6,578	38,399	52,309
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	388	3,918	5,151	5,490	32,584	39,495
Miscellaneous Commodities.....	860	1,958	3,114	5,253	10,754	16,167
TOTAL.....	20,959	168,196	201,927	138,962	1,073,144	1,311,773
OTHER COUNTRIES						
Agricultural, Vegetable Products.....	4,417	17,150	41,697	25,505	113,932	189,791
Animals and Animal Products.....	987	4,246	3,970	7,860	32,963	29,772
Fibres, Textiles and Products.....	840	924	1,886	4,430	4,908	8,640
Wood, Wood Products and Paper.....	3,111	4,885	15,299	19,179	26,840	67,345
Iron and Products.....	4,452	10,237	10,848	28,081	64,599	64,604
Non-Ferrous Metals and Products.....	4,036	7,863	14,085	29,119	39,503	55,035
Non-Metallic Minerals, Products.....	772	1,774	2,859	5,181	11,200	15,055
Chemicals and Allied Products.....	477	2,388	5,434	3,739	20,713	27,307
Miscellaneous Commodities.....	333	871	2,528	4,449	25,431	17,935
TOTAL.....	19,427	50,340	98,605	127,544	340,098	475,484

Philippine Automobile Distributors Do Large Business

Manila, August 13, 1951.—(F.T.S.)—Philippine importers and distributors of automobiles, trucks and spare parts estimate their total net worth at more than 46.6 million pesos. Employing 2,700 workers, their total annual payroll, including bonuses and commissions for 1950, amounted to over 8 million pesos. Almost 5 million pesos was paid to the Philippine government in the form of taxes and licences.

Trade and Tariff Regulations

New Zealand Permits Imports of Canadian Agricultural Implements

Wellington, September 7, 1951.—(FTS)—Import licences for 1952 have been issued by New Zealand for agricultural tractors and equipment from Canada and the United States to the value of roughly \$11 million, the same amount as was issued for 1951. This is an interim decision in order to enable orders to be placed promptly in view of restricted supplies. Consideration is at present being given to the possibility of this allocation being increased, but in the meantime imports can be made during 1951 against 1952 licences.

New Zealand Will License Imports of Wrapping Paper

Wellington, September 6, 1951.—(FTS)—The Minister of Customs announced today that consideration will be given to applications for licences to import kraft and cap wrapping papers from any sources in 1952.

Venezuela Will Enforce Regulations on Concentrated Animal Foodstuffs

Caracas, August 20, 1951.—(FTS)—Manufacturers, importers, and distributors of concentrated animal foodstuffs have been warned by the Ministry of Agriculture that the controlling regulations established in March, 1949, are henceforth to be strictly enforced. This will mean that each unit of such a commodity, when offered for public sale, must plainly show the following information: (a) name and trade mark of the product, and address of the manufacturer and representatives in Venezuela; (b) declaration of the guaranteed analysis; (c) net weight in kilos of the container; (d) directions for use; (e) the products registration number with the Venezuelan Ministry of Agriculture.

Venezuela Requires Additional Licensing for Frozen Poultry Imports

Caracas, August 27, 1951.—(FTS)—An official government notice states that from August 25 each importation of frozen dressed poultry will require a health certificate from the Livestock Department of the Venezuelan Ministry of Agriculture in addition to the present import licence which must be obtained from the National Supply Commission prior to shipment.

The new health certificate will require the importer to certify that the area from which he contemplates purchasing is free of Avion Newcastle disease. Each certificate would be valid for a limited time only.

DATA FOR EXPORTERS COMPILED

Information, of particular interest to Canadian exporters, concerning shipping documents and customs regulations of foreign countries, is being compiled by the International Trade Relations Division. Countries concerning which such information is now available in a revised form are: Austria, Belgium, Belgian Congo, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Surinam (Netherlands Guiana), Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela. Data on other countries will be made available from time to time.

Trade Commissioners on Tour

CANADIAN Trade Commissioners return periodically from their posts abroad to familiarize themselves with conditions in this country and the special requirements of businessmen. They are able to furnish information concerning markets in their respective territories and possible sources of supply. Exporters and importers are urged to communicate with these officers, when in their vicinity, and to discuss the promotion of their particular commercial interests, now and in the future. Arrangements for interviews with these trade commissioners should be made directly through the following offices in the area concerned:

Ottawa—Foreign Trade Service, Department of Trade and Commerce

Brantford—Board of Trade
Brampton—Chamber of Commerce
Brockville—Chamber of Commerce
Calgary—Board of Trade.
Charlottetown—Board of Trade.
Edmonton—Canadian Manufacturers' Association.
Fredericton—Chamber of Commerce.
Guelph—Board of Trade
Halifax—Board of Trade.
Hamilton—Chamber of Commerce.
Kitchener—Chamber of Commerce
London—Chamber of Commerce.
Moncton—Canadian Manufacturers' Association.
Montreal—Montreal Board of Trade.
Quebec City—Board of Trade.

Regina—Chamber of Commerce.
St. Catharines—Chamber of Commerce
Saint John—Board of Trade.
Saskatoon—Board of Trade.
St. John's—Department of Trade and Commerce, Stott Building.
Toronto—Canadian Manufacturers' Association.
Vancouver—Department of Trade and Commerce, 355 Burrard Street.
Victoria—Department of Trade and Industry.
Welland—Chamber of Commerce
Winnipeg—Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

J. C. Britton, Commercial Representative of the Department of Trade and Commerce with the Canadian Liaison to Japan since January, 1949, has arrived home on leave and will commence a tour of Canada in Toronto on October 1.

Toronto—October 1-10

T. G. MAJOR, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, since November, 1945, has returned home and completed a tour of Eastern Canada on June 23. He commenced a tour of Western Canada in Vancouver on September 4.

Toronto—September 17-26
St. Catharines: Welland—September 28

Montreal—October 1-9

JOHN A. STILES, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner in Caracas, Venezuela, since February, 1948, has returned home on leave. He completed a tour of Eastern Canada in St. John's, Newfoundland, on June 29, and commenced a tour of Western Canada in Brampton, Ontario, on August 27.

Vancouver—September 20-27

Foreign Exchange Quotations

The following are nominal quotations, furnished by the Foreign Exchange Division of the Bank of Canada. These quotations may be found useful in considering statistics and prices generally, but Canadian exporters are reminded that the kinds of currency which may be accepted for exports to different countries are specifically covered by the Foreign Exchange Control Act and Regulations, and that funds may sometimes be tendered in payment for exports, which cannot, in fact, be transferred to Canada. Both importers and exporters are advised to communicate with their bankers before completing financial arrangements for the sale or purchase of commodities, to ensure that the method of payment contemplated is not only possible but that it is in accordance with the Foreign Exchange Control Act and Regulations.

Country	Monetary Unit	—	Nominal Quotations Sept. 17*	Nominal Quotations Aug. 20	Nominal Quotations Sept. 17
Argentina.....	Peso.....	Basic	·2977	·2112	·2107
		Free	·2085	·0751	·0727
Austria.....	Schilling.....	Export	.....	·0494	·0493
Australia.....	Pound.....		3·2240	2·3645	2·3590
Belgium and Belgian Congo.....	Franc.....		·0228	·0210	·0210
Bolivia.....	Boliviano.....		·0238	·0176	·0175
British West Indies (Except Jamaica).....	Dollar.....		·8396	·6160	·6145
Brazil.....	Cruzeiro.....		·0544	·0571	·0569
Burma.....	Rupee.....		·3022	.....	.....
Ceylon.....	Rupee.....		·3022	·2217	·2212
Chile.....	Peso.....		·0233	·0135	·0134
Colombia.....	Peso.....		·5128	·4250	·4240
Costa Rica.....	Colon.....		·1800	·1885	·1880
Cuba.....	Peso.....		1·0000	1·0559	1·0534
Czechoslovakia.....	Koruna.....		·0200	·0211	·0210
Denmark.....	Krone.....		·2084	·1529	·1525
Dominican Republic.....	Peso.....		1·0000	1·0559	1·0534
Ecuador.....	Sucre.....		·0740	·0640	·0638
Egypt.....	Pound.....		4·1330	3·0322	3·0250
El Salvador.....	Colon.....		·4000	·4224	·4214
Fiji.....	Pound.....		3·6306	2·6636	2·6573
Finland.....	Markka.....		·0062	·0046	·0045
France, Monaco and French North Africa.....	Franc.....		·0037	·0030	·0030
French Empire—African.....	Franc.....		·0073	·0061	·0060
French Pacific Possessions.....	Franc.....		·0201	·0167	·0166
Germany.....	Deutsche Mark.....		·3000	·2514	·2508
Guatemala.....	Quetzal.....		1·0000	1·0559	1·0534
Haiti.....	Gourde.....		·2000	·2112	·2107
Honduras.....	Lempira.....		·5000	·5280	·5267
Hong Kong.....	Dollar.....		·2519	·1848	·1845
Iceland.....	Krona.....		·1541	·0648	·0646
India.....	Rupee.....		·3022	·2217	·2212
Iran.....	Rial.....		·0212	.....	.....
Iraq.....	Dinar.....		4·0300	2·9556	2·9487
Ireland.....	Pound.....		4·0300	2·9556	2·9487
Israel.....	Pound.....		3·0000	2·9556	2·9487
Italy.....	Lira.....		·0017	·0017	·0017
Jamaica.....	Pound.....		4·0300	2·9556	2·9487
Japan.....	Yen.....		·0028	.....	.....
Lebanon.....	Piastre.....		·4561	.....	.....
Mexico.....	Peso.....		·1157	·1221	·1218
Netherlands.....	Florin.....		·3769	·2779	·2772
Netherlands Antilles.....	Florin.....		·5308	·5599	·5586
New Zealand.....	Pound.....		4·0150	2·9556	2·9487
Nicaragua.....	Cordoba.....		·2000	·2112	·2107
Norway.....	Krone.....		·2015	·1478	·1475
Pakistan.....	Rupee.....		·3022	·3192	·3184
Panama.....	Balboa.....		1·0000	1·0559	1·0534
Paraguay.....	Guarani.....		·3200	.....	.....
Peru.....	Sol.....		·1538	·0713	·0711
Philippines.....	Peso.....		·4975	·5280	·5267
Portugal and Colonies.....	Escudo.....		·0400	·0366	·0365
Singapore.....	Straits Dollar.....		·4702	·3449	·3441
Spain and Colonies.....	Peseta.....		·0916	·0969	·0967
Sweden.....	Krona.....		·2783	·2041	·2037
Switzerland.....	Franc.....		·2336	·2431	·2418
Thailand.....	Baht.....		·1000	.....	.....
Turkey.....	Lira.....		·3571	·3771	·3762
Union of South Africa.....	Pound.....		4·0300	2·9556	2·9487
United Kingdom.....	Pound.....		4·0300	2·9556	2·9487
United States.....	Dollar.....		1·0000	1·0559	1·0534
Uruguay.....	Peso.....		·6583	·6951	·6934
Venezuela.....	Bolivar.....		·2985	·3152	·3145
Yugoslavia.....	Dinar.....		·0200	.....	.....

* September 17, 1949.