



# foreign trade

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**COVER . . .** This farm woman is from the Bresse region of France, well-known for the high quality of its poultry. France expects a good year for her farmers; foot and mouth disease is on the wane, good grain crops are expected. For a report on French agriculture in 1953, see page two.

—Photo by French Information

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## France

### The Agricultural Outlook

*With good grain crops expected, foot and mouth disease waning, and steps being taken to make export prices of his products more competitive, the French farmer expects a good year.*

PARIS—The outlook for French agriculture in June 1953 is considerably brighter than at the same time last year. The prospects for grain crops are better and production may approach the 1952 record. The main improvement, however, lies in the marked decline in foot and mouth disease since last fall.

#### Grain Crops

The area planted to grain crops in May was about the same as last year—8,062,000 hectares. There are, however, changes within this overall total. Excess rainfall in the autumn and early winter cut the wheat acreage to 4,125,000, or 3.5 per cent below last year. Rye sowings are also smaller by 8.4 per cent but the plantings to barley (up by 12 per cent) and oats (up by 2.3 per cent) help to compensate for these reductions.

Wheat sowings in the main production zones, in the Departements around Paris and to the north, are equal to or even higher than last year; with good growing conditions, yields should be on a par with last year. The first official estimate of the 1953 wheat crop is 7.9 million metric tons, only slightly lower than last year's record crop of 8.4 million tons.

The first official estimate of 1953 grain crops is:

	Estimate June 1, 1953	1952 Crops (in metric tons)	Average 1947-1951 (metric tons)
Wheat .....	7,947,360	8,421,070	6,759,820
Wheat and rye .....	31,060	36,740	40,470
Rye .....	453,640	481,520	553,500
Barley .....	1,938,110	1,729,130	1,414,080
Oats .....	3,419,290	3,354,850	3,284,160
Mixed grain .....	148,590	146,800	149,430
Total .....	13,938,050	14,170,110	12,201,460

#### Marketing Wheat

The French Grain Board has not yet announced the prices at which it will buy this year's crops, but it is expected that there will be no great change from last year. The current basic price to the farmer of 3,600 francs per 100 kilos is considerably above the International Wheat Agreement price at which France has contracted to export. To offset this difference, there is a small charge to the farmers, varying with the quantity of wheat delivered. France has been shipping wheat to Germany



—French Information Service

*France is helping her farmers by amplifying the credit policy for loans, investing in projects to raise living standards and teach agricultural techniques. Here, sugar beets are cultivated in Picardy.*

at the I.W.A. price; however, exporting under the I.W.A. quota involves certain losses as compared with the domestic price and for the new Wheat Agreement the French quota has been reduced from 111,283 tons to 10,000 tons.

This does not mean that France is less optimistic about building up an export market but rather that, as yet, it does not feel certain of an exportable surplus from each crop. Furthermore, it is hoping to sell at a more advantageous price if its plan for the integration of European agriculture (Pool Vert) can establish a marketing arrangement for wheat, now considered to be the first step. The French are hoping to arrive at a compromise somewhere between the I.W.A. and the free market price and on that basis arrange contracts which would give them an assured market in the light of their projected expansion program.

#### Foot and Mouth Disease

The main feature in the livestock situation has been the successful attack on the foot and mouth epidemic. Since last August the number of cases has gone down steadily and by May 1953 the number of new ones was back to the level of the beginning of 1952, when the epidemic took a serious turn. The decline is shown in the following figures:

	Farms under quarantine	INFECTED		
		Cattle	Sheep	Hogs
Oct. 1-15, 1952 .....	77,415	32,992	9,194	11,059
Jan. 1-15, 1953 .....	33,078	12,705	4,377	3,188
Mar. 1-15, 1953 .....	25,247	6,727	1,549	1,793
April 1-15, 1953 .....	17,219	3,265	1,474	920

Advance information on the position in mid-May indicates that the number of farms under quarantine is down to 10,180, of which 9,594 are concentrated in the Departement of La Manche bordering the Channel.

The number of Departements infected is now 67 compared with 90 last summer. In April, the Minister of Agriculture was empowered to decree the compulsory vaccination of livestock against foot and mouth disease. So far, no action has been taken and, in view of the decline, the Ministry is waiting to see where to apply such measures most effectively.

#### **Livestock Prices**

Prices at La Villette, the Paris livestock market, showed no great change during the first six months of the year. Generally, the price for veal and mutton on a dressed basis strengthened some 10 to 20 francs per kilo and beef prices were slightly lower. Prices for hogs, live-weight, declined until the end of April but have since recovered to the level of last January. Compared with the same period last year, prices have been slightly lower. It is interesting to note that, despite lower prices at the livestock market, the retail price for good cuts of meat is about 10 per cent higher than this time last year. This points up a fact which makes French food prices so high at home and frequently uncompetitive abroad—the margin of profit taken at each stage between producer and consumer.

In the light of improved agricultural prospects, the French Government has adopted certain measures to aid marketing, the first to stabilize the domestic market by control of imports and exports, and the second to reduce farm costs.

#### **Foreign Trade**

In April, because of a serious deficit with countries of the European Payments Union, the French Government announced a cut of the equivalent of \$5 million a month in imports of meat, butter and eggs over the next six months. However, these measures, though they seal off the domestic market against foreign competition, are not as stringent as they would appear because this is normally a time of self-sufficiency in these products. Pastures are in good condition and with the foot and mouth epidemic under control, the output of livestock products is expected to be considerably higher than last summer. To stabilize the price and provide for winter requirements, there are plans to stockpile butter and a goal of 20 thousand tons has been set.

At the same time, to regain the ground lost last year in agricultural exports the French Government has taken steps to make French prices more competitive. The chief among these are the rebate of certain taxes and charges on exports (which range from 4 to 12 per cent, depending upon the product) and a reduction in rail rates (ranging from 15 to 50 per cent on fruit and vegetables).

The available foreign trade figures for the year to date do not yet reflect these efforts. The percentage of agricultural products making up French trade with foreign countries shows, during the first quarter of this year, an accentuation of 1952's adverse trend. For exports, the percentage declined from 15.1 in the year 1951 and 11.5 in 1952 to 9.5 during the first three months of this year. For imports, the position was reversed—the proportion rose from 15.6 per cent in 1951 and 16.5 per cent in 1952 to 17.3 per cent for the first quarter of 1953.

As might be expected, it is in livestock products that French foreign trade has suffered most. Butter shows the most marked difference, with imports for the first quarter of the year totalling 14,816 tons, compared

with only 150 tons for the same period last year. However, it could not be expected that foreign trade statistics would improve in the late winter, but by midsummer the situation should be better.

Furthermore, efforts have been made to reduce farm costs by waiving internal sales taxes on grain for feed, by a 25 per cent reduction in the price of jute bags, and by certain measures designed to lower fertilizer prices. The official index of items affecting farm production costs declined moderately in March 1953 compared with last year.

#### Index of Farming Costs

	1949=100		1952		1953
	March 1951	Sept.	March	Sept.	March
Total .....	113.6	128.5	153.7	141.7	139.9
Energy .....	107.5	110.7	116.1	114.9	113.5
Construction .....	113.4	136.5	158.5	149.1	144.0
Fertilizers, Insecticides .....	110.2	122.3	163.2	138.0	141.2
Machinery and equipment .....	110.0	131.4	155.8	149.0	149.0
Other .....	144.5	162.0	183.7	174.3	156.6

#### Credit Policy Amplified

To make French agriculture more efficient, the Government realizes that credit must be readily available at reasonable rates. One step in this direction was the increase from 35,000 to 40,000 million francs for the ceiling of rediscounts by the Bank of France for the Caisse Nationale des Credits Agricoles, an entity of the Ministry of Agriculture handling farm loans (350 francs to the U.S. dollar).

#### Government Investments

Certain details about projected government investments in agricultural projects during the current year have been made public. The objectives are the raising of living standards in rural areas by electrification and improved housing, and the teaching of agricultural techniques by means of extension services, pilot farms, etc. It is expected that credits totalling 15,000 million francs will be available for these tasks in 1953, compared with 13,000 million in 1952.

—VIVIAN F. WIGHTMAN

Office of the Commercial Counsellor for Canada

*Canada's mineral production is continuing to increase, with output for the first four months of 1953 greater than for January-May 1952. Cement, clay products, gypsum, iron ore, lead, natural gas, petroleum, silver and zinc all showed increases. Iron ore production, for example, rose from 524 thousand to 932 thousand tons; lead from 56 thousand to 69 thousand tons; cement from 5.1 million to nearly six million barrels; and petroleum from 14.9 million to 20.4 million barrels.*

*Not every mineral shared in the advance. Production of asbestos, coal, lime and salt declined. Asbestos fell from 298 thousand to 293 thousand tons; coal from 6.2 million to 5.4 million tons; lime from 394 thousand to 387 thousand tons, and salt from 310 thousand to 295 thousand tons.*

## Canada's Trade with West Germany

*Sales of Canadian goods in this market have risen spectacularly in the past three years—but the outlook is somewhat clouded.*

BONN—In 1952, Germany imported \$125 million worth of goods from Canada, according to German official statistics. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics puts Canadian exports to Germany at \$95 million for the year. However, the German figures probably reflect the actual position more closely, because they include the very large movements—either physically or in a documentary sense—through third countries, principally the United Kingdom, Belgium and the Netherlands. On this basis, Germany was Canada's third largest export market in 1952, exceeded only by the United States and the United Kingdom.

This great increase has taken place within the past three years; the table which follows gives the details:

	1950	1951	1952
	(millions of dollars)		
Exports to Germany .....	9	37	95
Imports from Germany .....	11	30	25
Balance in Canada's favour .....	- 2	+ 7	+70
		D.B.S. statistics.	

Germany became (according to these Canadian figures) Canada's fifth largest export market in 1952, exceeded only by the United States, the United Kingdom, Belgium and Japan—in that order.

### Present Exports to Germany

Canadian exports to Germany consist almost entirely of bulk food-stuffs (chiefly barley, wheat and rye) and of raw or semi-processed industrial materials such as forest products (chiefly pitprops, pulpwood, wood pulp and newsprint); iron ore; non-ferrous ores and metals (chiefly lead, aluminum, copper, zinc, brass and ferro-silicon); asbestos, and synthetic rubber.

Broadly speaking, there is little or no possibility at present or in the immediate future of selling Canadian processed foodstuffs or manufactured products in West Germany. There are some exceptions: large quantities of whisky are now being sold for the use of the American and Canadian forces in Germany.

Smaller quantities of whisky, small amounts of certain processed foodstuffs and of a few manufactured products (such as ice skates) are also being sold through transit or compensation deals, or by using the small dollar allocations which the German Ministries of Economy and of Food and Agriculture make available from time to time in connection with certain specified German international trade fairs. (These transactions serve as a kind of Token Import Scheme.) Such sales, however,

are usually possible only with a good deal of trouble. As a rule too they are only worth attempting by firms who feel that their products may find a long-term outlet in the German market.

#### Outlook for Canadian Exports

The large Canadian exports in 1952 were the result of a combination of favourable circumstances:

- Exceptionally heavy demands for feeding-stuffs in Germany itself.
- Unusual shortages in alternative sources of supply such as Argentina.
- A decision by the United Kingdom authorities to permit transit operations—that is, to make dollars available from July 1952 on to buy certain goods to be resold to EPU countries. (The main reason for this decision was apparently the heavy British deficit on EPU account.)
- The favourable climate for compensation operations.

The following figures from the German Ministry of Food and Agriculture give an idea of the part played by transit and compensation operations. They give the breakdown, by means of financing, of its imports of Canadian grain during the nine months from July 1, 1952 to March 31, 1953.

#### Barley

Total imports .....	472,500 tons
of which:	
By transit .....	442,000 "
By compensation .....	24,500 "
By free dollars .....	6,000 "

#### Wheat

Total imports .....	472,500 tons
of which:	
By transit .....	3,000 "
By compensation .....	9,500 "
By free dollars .....	460,000 "

#### Rye

Total imports .....	140,500 tons
of which:	
By transit .....	.....
By compensation .....	140,500 "
By free dollars .....	.....

#### Dollar Problem

The above figures illustrate the fact that the dollar problem is, like peace, "indivisible". Three-cornered operations, whether they are between individuals or countries and whether they are called transit, compensation or barter deals, do not add to the overall dollar availabilities. In the cases just reviewed, the operations were possible for Germany because she was (and is) a heavy creditor both on EPU account and as against what the Bank Deutscher Laender (the German Central Bank) calls "other offset account countries". All these facts, and Germany's relations with the EPU countries (see *Foreign Trade* of June 27, 1953) have a bearing on the future of Canada's trade with the Republic.

—BRUCE MACDONALD  
Commercial Counsellor for Canada

# Japan Buys Canadian Barley

*Is the market for barley in Japan purely temporary or is it likely to continue? This analysis gives ground for optimism.*

TOKYO—Back in 1950 Japan, with her supplies of rice dropping far below the demand, turned to pressed barley\* as a nourishing and inexpensive substitute. This development has opened up a new market for Canadian barley; in 1952, barley exports to Japan totalled nearly \$40 million and led all other Canadian exports to that market in value.

Canadian producers have been wondering whether these sales will continue. The figures for the first six months of 1953 promise well; they show that consumption of pressed barley was even higher than in 1952. The number of plants producing "Seibaku" (the Japanese designation for processed barley) did not increase and, in fact, the industry is operating at about only 70 per cent of capacity.

Most of the production is used in Japan itself; exports of pressed barley in 1953 totalled only 15,000 metric tons, shipped to Korea during March and April. A further 10,000 tons will probably go to the same market in August. Because the domestic demand for pressed barley is increasing, it may perhaps be gradually accepted in other rice-consuming countries as a rice substitute. (The process for making this type of barley was worked out by the Japanese.)

## Consumption Increases

The 1952 consumption of pressed barley in Japan was about a million metric tons. Consumption in the first six months of 1953 is shown below:

Month	1953 (metric tons)
January .....	56,300
February .....	72,824
March .....	80,824
April .....	80,500
May .....	81,500
*June .....	171,000
Total .....	542,948

Source—Cereal Processing Industry Club, Inc.

\* Figures for the last half of the month are estimated.

These figures substantiate the industry's claims that demand is growing. The substantial increase in consumption in June came primarily from the shortage of grey or black market rice, which is scarce at the beginning of the rice-planting season in most areas of Japan. The Japanese barley crop, furthermore, is being harvested in many parts of the country and substantial domestic supplies of barley are available for processing.

\* See *Foreign Trade* of January 10, 1953.

The steady growth of the Japanese barley processing industry has created a market for substantial quantities of imported barley. Local production does not begin to meet the demand for barley for processing, malting, confectionery and the manufacture of soybean paste. Canadian Compana barley is eminently suited to the manufacture of this commodity and that is why Canada is sharing in the trade more and more. Japanese imports of barley from all sources come close to one million tons a year. Because processed barley complements rice, provides the proteins lacking in that grain and is relatively low-priced and palatable when mixed with rice, demand seems certain to grow. The prospects of continuing barley sales to Japan are bright.

—J. C. BRITTON  
Commercial Counsellor for Canada

## Australia and New Zealand

### Dairy Products for Britain

THE UNITED KINGDOM has just completed negotiations with Australia and New Zealand on prices for butter and cheese during the 1953-54 season.

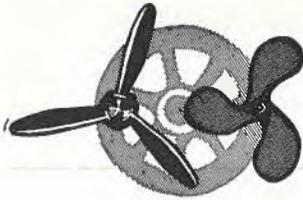
The new prices, which are listed below with comparisons, represent increases of about 3 per cent for both products. The permissible maximum increases under the terms of the present long-term contracts are  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. These prices are f.o.b. Australia and New Zealand.

	1952-53 (per long cwt.)	1953-54 (per long cwt.)	(cents per lb.)
Butter .....	314/—	326/—	40·7
Cheese .....	176/—	182/6	22·7

The quantities of butter and cheese that New Zealand is permitted to export to countries other than the U.K. have been decreased from  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent and 10 per cent of the exportable surpluses to 10 per cent and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. It is understood that Australia may ship to markets other than the U.K. the same quantity of butter and cheese as last year—13,500 long tons butter equivalent.

The prices for dried milk under the contract with New Zealand have been decreased by about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent and are as follows:

	1952-53 (per long cwt.)	1953-54 (per long cwt.)	(cents per lb.)
Spray skim powder	91/—	84/6	10·5
Rolled skim powder	75/6	70/—	8·7
Buttermilk powder..	65/—	60/—	7·5



## Transportation Notes

### India Nationalizes Its Airlines

NEW DELHI—On May 9, 1953, the Indian Parliament passed a Bill providing for the nationalization of Indian commercial airlines by June 30, 1953. These airlines include Air India, Air India International, Bharat Airways, Air Services of India, Airways India, Indian National Airways, Himalayan Aviation, Kalinga Airways and Deccan Airways.

#### The Reasons

In explaining its decision to take over the airlines, the Indian Government referred to the Air Transport Inquiry Committee which was appointed in 1950 to report on the state of the industry. This committee recommended that the industry remain under private enterprise for five years and if, within this period, the airlines did not achieve greater financial stability, nationalization should be considered. Since March 1949 the Government of India has been paying a subsidy to the airlines based on petrol usage, and it also holds a substantial share of the stock of two of them. Despite this subsidy and other assistance, the Indian Government considers that no appreciable financial improvement has resulted and that there is no chance of the airlines becoming self-sufficient and independent in the near future.

The main causes of the difficulties which the Indian airlines face are said to be duplication of services and poor utilization of aircraft because of the large number of airlines in operation, the obsolescence of certain aircraft, the inability of the companies to finance replacement, and the high operating costs.

#### The Method

The Bill passed by the Indian Parliament provides for the establishment of two government corporations, one to take over all internal air services and the other all international operations. All personnel currently employed by the Indian airlines will be absorbed by these two corporations. Existing airlines will receive compensation amounting to approximately Rs.48 million (approximately \$9.6 million Canadian) based on a calculation of their assets. It is understood that the Corporation administering the internal air services will be called Indian Airlines, and the Corporation administering the international airlines will be Air-India International.

India's Five-Year Plan makes provision for the purchase of new aircraft and for the payment of compensation. The amount allotted for the two purposes is Rs.95 million (approximately \$19 million Canadian). Large-scale improvements in India's air services are apparently planned, including the purchase of two Comets Mark III and two Super-Constellations.

#### **Progress Made**

From modest beginnings, commencing with the carriage of mail by air as early as 1930, civil aviation in India has made remarkable progress and operates efficiently scheduled and non-scheduled air transport services in India and abroad. Some of the more important centres served by Indian airlines' international services include Paris, London, Rome, Cairo, Aden, Nairobi, Kabul (Afghanistan), Rangoon, Bangkok, Singapore, Djakarta, Chittagong and Dacca.

In 1952, Indian commercial aircraft on scheduled services flew an estimated 20 million miles and carried over 430 thousand passengers, 75 million lb. of freight and over 8 million lb. of mail. The progress achieved during the past few years is illustrated by the fact that these figures represent an increase of 100 per cent in miles flown and passengers carried and an increase of 1,500 per cent in freight carried, compared with the year 1947. In 1952, non-scheduled air transport services flew an additional estimated 5.8 million miles and carried 83,790 passengers and 137.6 million lb. of freight.

Aircraft flown by Indian commercial airlines include Constellation and Skymaster aircraft on international runs and Dakota and Viking aircraft on domestic runs and on those to adjacent countries.

—R. K. THOMSON

*Acting Commercial Secretary for Canada*

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*The Transportation and Communications Division of the Department of Trade and Commerce will be glad to supply shippers and others interested with information on water, rail, air and road transport services to and from Canada.*

*The Division has compiled a list of the principal Canadian trade routes and of the steamship companies maintaining services on them. To obtain this list and any further help with international transportation problems, write to the Director, Transportation and Communications Division, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.*

## Norway Increases Metal Exports

OSLO—For the past several years, Norwegian exports of ores, iron, steel and metals have increased steadily. Even in 1952, when the value of most other Norwegian exports declined considerably, export sales of ores and metals came to Kr.902 million—or about Kr.200 million more than in 1951—and represented 24 per cent of the country's total exports. In 1947 exports of these products were valued at Kr.240 million, or 14 per cent of total exports.

Extensive war damage to the mines and producing plants was mainly responsible for the delayed resumption of ore and metal exports after 1945, but today reconstruction is virtually complete. In many cases the original productive capacity has been expanded considerably.

### Iron Ore Sales Up

The notable increase in ore and metal exports in 1952 stemmed largely from greater sales of iron ore and these sales in turn reflect the resumed operations of Norway's largest mining company, A/S Sydvaranger. Installations at this plant, situated in the remote northeast corner of Norway near the Norwegian-Soviet boundary, were completely destroyed by the German occupation forces in 1944. Restoration took seven years and the mines only began to produce again in the summer of 1952. For the rest of the year, however, the company enjoyed an unusually favourable market and its sales became an important new source of foreign exchange.

### Other Metal Exports

Exports of pyrites also increased substantially, mainly because of the recent entry into production of a second company, Skoraavas Gruber. Foreign sales moved up to Kr.40 million in 1952 from Kr.24·2 million in the previous year.

Production of ferro-silicon now stands at approximately 100 thousand tons a year, as compared with 40 thousand tons prewar, and the output of other ferro-alloys has also increased considerably. The greater part of this production is exported and in 1952 export sales of this group reached nearly Kr.300 million, compared with Kr.222 million in 1951 and Kr.182 million in 1950.

Pig iron, certain special types of steel, ships' propellers, other marine fittings and steel wire comprise the bulk of Norway's sales of general iron and steel products. These advanced from Kr.27·8 million in 1951 to Kr.47 million last year.

Apart from ores, ferro-alloys and iron and steel, the principal metals figuring in Norway's export trade are aluminum, nickel, zinc and copper. Total exports of this group in 1952 were valued at Kr.381 million (352 million in 1951 and 277 million in 1950). Exports of metallic magnesium, recently begun, have not yet shown up in the statistics but foreign sales are expected to become important in the future.

—J. L. MUTTER

*Commercial Secretary for Canada*

## **Egypt and Its Economic Problems**

*The last twelve months have witnessed a determined attempt to ease the land problem, increase agricultural production, build up industry, and revive a lagging foreign trade.*

CAIRO—The second half of 1952 saw the new regime in Egypt introduce legislation intended to re-organize the economic structure of the country, eliminate corruption, reduce costs, and raise the general standard of living. The full effect of these measures will not be felt for some time because some have still to be implemented.

The first objective was the lowering of the high cost of living. A price-fixing organization was set up and as a result, many essential commodities, particularly fruit and vegetables, completely disappeared from the local market. Now certain items have been exempted from price control and are gradually re-appearing at their former price. Although on paper the cost of living is decreasing, the housewife has not found living costs much lower.

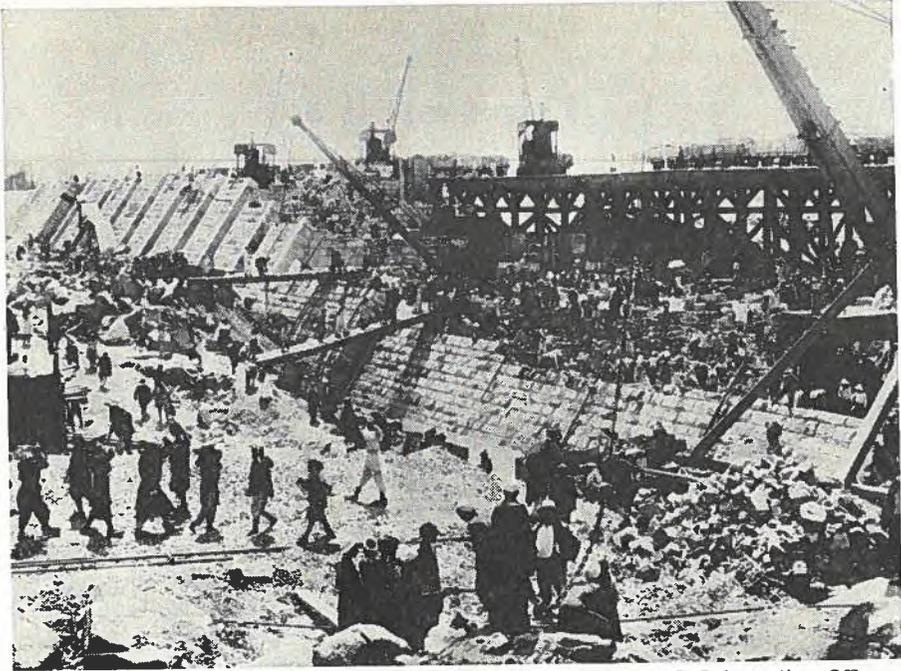
### **Land Reform Begun**

The Land Reform Bill introduced late in 1952 was considered vital, especially for Egyptian agriculture. In July 1952 the regime announced its policy of dividing up large estates and redistributing agricultural land. In September the Land Reform Bill was passed. It fixed a maximum limit of 200 acres per person, or up to 300 acres for a landowner with two or more children. Any lands in excess were to be transferred to the Government, in return for bonds bearing 3 per cent interest and redeemable within 30 years. The expropriated lands will be distributed in small lots up to five acres to the landless peasants living in the areas affected. The new owners will be required to pay, over thirty years, the value of the land as fixed by the Government.

### **Large Owners Hard Hit**

The bigger landowners have been particularly hard hit by the new law, under which they must pay a supplementary land tax five times the normal rate for all land over the 200-300 acres they are entitled to keep. As a result, they are trying to dispose of their surplus holdings as quickly as possible. This in turn has brought a fall in values and a feeling of uncertainty about land values in general. The law does not apply to land companies whose primary function is the reclamation of areas hitherto uncultivated.

To appreciate the sense and intention of this law it is important to bear certain facts in mind. Egypt has always been an agricultural country. The area currently under cultivation is about six million acres, an increase of only 7 per cent in the past forty years, despite land reclamation carried out by public and private interests and a population



—U.K. Information Office

*This photograph of construction on the Aswan Dam was taken early in 1902; later that year the dam was completed. Now, in 1953, a hydro-electric project at the dam is progressing and will supply power for the new industries planned—iron and steel, tires, batteries, vehicle spare parts.*

increase of over 100 per cent. This means that about double the population must live off almost the same cultivated area—and the food problem is urgent.

### **Pushing National Development**

The Government realizes that the Land Reform Bill is not enough to improve the lot of the peasant. It also proposes to build up industries and reclaim extensive uncultivated land. This will require the harnessing of a considerable quantity of Nile water. Investment of capital in industry is being encouraged but the various projects under study will probably only materialize over a long period. Agriculture, and especially the cultivation of cotton, must continue to be Egypt's principal source of revenue until mineral, industrial and other resources are developed.

Industry is expected to play an important part in the future of the country. Last autumn a Permanent Council was set up to study projects in agriculture, irrigation, roads and communications, mining, etc. Some of its recommendations—road construction, land reclamation and the more extensive cultivation of wheat and maize—have already been approved and work on the schemes is expected to begin immediately, as they will take several years to complete. Factories for the re-conditioning of lubricating oils are being constructed. Other projects suggested are an iron and steel industry and plants to make tires, batteries and spare parts for vehicles. Factories to turn out munitions and aircraft are going up and the Asswan Dam hydro-electric project is progressing. In addition,

agreements were signed early this year for Point Four experts to survey the industrial possibilities of the country and suggest other feasible projects.

### Foreign Capital Needed

These development schemes will require considerable capital—perhaps some £E500 million, including £E200-220 million for irrigation and land reclamation. Ten years' national savings cannot provide all this capital and foreign investment will be required. To obtain it, there must be stability and a feeling of confidence and in particular a new or revised Company Law, with suitable guarantees to investors.

### Import Restrictions

The imposition last June of restrictions on the import of goods from the sterling area was a great blow to trade, particularly with the United Kingdom, but Egypt's increasing shortage of sterling made it necessary. The situation did not improve with the new cotton season and in October the Minister of Finance announced that Egypt's resources in No. 1 sterling account were exhausted. The Government then generalized the system of import permits to use its present foreign currency holdings, or those subsequently acquired, to the best advantage. The Minister added that permits would be granted as soon as applied for provided that the goods were imported from countries with which Egypt had trade and payment agreements, such as Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, Germany, Lebanon, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and Yugoslavia. The Netherlands and Italy have since been added to this list.

### Foreign Trade of Egypt

The following table gives the details of Egypt's foreign trade with principal countries for 1951 and 1952. It points up to the large reduction in imports from the United States and the United Kingdom in 1952, and the rise in imports from Canada, Germany, the Netherlands and the USSR.

(in £E000's)					
Imports from	1952	1951	Exports to	1952	1951
United States ...	35,842	65,146	France .....	18,162	19,735
Britain .....	29,492	41,927	United States ...	16,784	19,507
Canada .....	18,366	1,991	Italy .....	15,546	16,161
France .....	14,065	20,282	India .....	13,522	29,883
Italy .....	12,236	15,665	Germany .....	11,517	8,610
Germany .....	12,194	9,798	Russia .....	10,025	2,514
Russia .....	10,840	7,060	Spain .....	7,278	4,895
Holland .....	10,793	8,226	Czechoslovakia ..	7,150	9,524
Chile .....	6,238	4,828	Britain .....	6,400	38,572
Belgium .....	6,148	5,589	Japan .....	6,208	14,670
Ceylon .....	5,497	5,930	Switzerland .....	4,137	2,987
India .....	4,432	5,424	China .....	3,107	345
Sweden .....	4,421	6,265	Hungary .....	2,156	2,097
Saudi Arabia ...	3,452	2,838	Poland .....	1,896	1,121
Switzerland .....	3,282	2,811	Holland .....	1,886	2,554
Turkey .....	2,932	2,423	Pakistan .....	1,828	1,937
Other .....	38,091	73,391	Other .....	15,249	26,128
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>218,321</b>	<b>279,594</b>	<b>Total .....</b>	<b>142,851</b>	<b>201,240</b>

Exports to the United Kingdom, as the table above shows, fell drastically in 1952.

Egypt's chief main imports and exports during 1951 and 1952 were:

### Leading Imports into Egypt

Article	(in £E)	
	1952	1951
Wheat .....	32,597,215	33,992,673
Fertilizers .....	13,638,964	12,256,430
Flour of wheat .....	7,150,675	3,635,821
Motor cars .....	5,991,767	8,015,827
Oils, mazout, diesel, etc. ....	5,472,485	5,788,951
Wood for building .....	5,263,079	10,124,567
Medicines and pharmaceuticals .....	4,304,890	4,714,442
Wool, fabrics .....	3,637,675	5,569,607
Edible fruits .....	3,347,231	3,586,345
Bars, iron or steel .....	2,525,276	3,670,867
Paper for printing, etc. ....	2,501,706	2,622,535
Sheet iron or steel .....	2,497,882	1,481,497
Machines and looms for weaving .....	2,112,046	1,505,894
Sacks of jute .....	2,084,465	2,252,476
Engines, stationary .....	1,992,138	2,172,285
<b>Total (including others) .....</b>	<b>218,770,979</b>	<b>279,594,279</b>

### Exports from Egypt

Article	(in £E)	
	1952	1951
*Onions, dehydrated and powdered .....	2,590,536	1,522,000
Potatoes .....	205,605	130,826
Rice .....	768,932	14,539,211
Molasses .....	319,735	427,879
Cake, cottonseed .....	161,336	230,065
Ores, metallic .....	844,822	246,509
Phosphate of lime .....	1,138,868	898,692
Cotton raw .....	126,414,117	164,100,834
Cotton yarn .....	3,452,648	6,947,720
Flax and hemp .....	377,081	739,438
<b>Total (including others) .....</b>	<b>142,851,388</b>	<b>200,640,426</b>

\* Fresh.

Canada's trade with Egypt increased substantially in 1952, almost entirely because of larger shipments of wheat and of wheat flour.

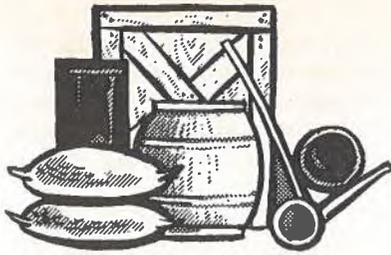
—W. H. HOPPER

Office of the Canadian Government Trade Commissioner

### Data for Exporters

The International Trade Relations Branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce has prepared bulletins covering shipping documents and customs regulations of the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Belgian Congo, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Western Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, Norway, Panama, Peru, Surinam (Netherlands Guiana), Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela.

If you wish copies, write to the Branch. Data on other countries will be compiled from time to time and will be added to this list.



## Commodity Notes

### AUSTRALIA

**Copper**—For the first time since the war Australia will have enough copper to meet the demand, because Australian production has increased and more copper is available from overseas. The Prices Commissioner has issued an order to reduce the price of copper by £ 20 a ton to £ 330 a ton—Sydney, June 19.

### BRAZIL

**Wallboard**—The first domestic company to fabricate wallboard is already planning to expand its nearly completed factory in Jundiai, state of São Paulo. The company plans to install a second press with the same capacity as the first, thus permitting the sale of the material at Cr.\$15 per square metre, rather than Cr.\$20 as previously planned. Imported wallboard, the company states, costs Cr.\$40 per square metre in São Paulo—São Paulo, June 20.

### COLOMBIA

**Razor Blades**—Colombia's first razor blade plant, "Eterna", has just opened in Medellin. It is capitalized at half a million pesos and the owners are Colombians. The equipment was bought in Sweden; present daily production is 30 thousand blades, which can readily be doubled by working two shifts. More machinery has been ordered from Sweden and by the end of this year the company hopes to be able to supply the total needs of the Colombian market—Bogota, June 18.

### INDIA

**Steel**—The Government of India has entered into an agreement with the United States Government for the import of 110 thousand tons of steel for agricultural purposes under the Technical Co-operation Program, which up to now has been handicapped because of the lack of steel. The bulk of it will be sold to village artisans to make implements in common use in India and the proceeds will be used for further economic development projects mutually agreeable to both governments. A ceiling of 100 thousand tons has been fixed for the export of iron and steel scrap from May 1 to December 31. Types of scrap which may be exported are: rusty black sheet cuttings and punchings, rusty turnings and borings, rusty de-tinted scrap, old wire rope, auto scrap and broken machinery parts. For every four tons exported, one ton of usable smelting scrap must be delivered to Indian furnace owners at the statutory price—New Delhi, June 15.

## ITALY

**Helicopters**—The first all-Italian helicopter, devised and constructed by an Italian, Ing. Bordoni, in an Italian factory received first trials at the Rome airport recently. This helicopter, known as the "Libellula" (Dragonfly), is a two-seater with a twin engine developing 105 h.p., and has a 4½-hour endurance without refuelling and a ceiling of more than 4,000 metres—Rome, June 24.

## JAPAN

**Newsprint**—Because of the long strike in Japan's newsprint industry, an allocation of \$1,300,000 has been set up to import 8,000 tons of newsprint from Canada. Japanese publishing houses are particularly anxious that this tonnage arrive in Japan not later than the end of July—Tokyo, June 15.

## NORTHERN IRELAND

**Perlite and Vermiculite**—Mining rights for the quarrying of perlite have recently been granted to a local firm. The firm's lease covers an area of some 800 acres in the vicinity of Kells, Co. Antrim, and about one thousand tons of perlite have already been removed. The pulverized and graded material will be exported to Great Britain for further processing, and used for insulation and other purposes.

The same firm is also processing vermiculite imported from the Transvaal at the rate of 1,000 lb. an hour. This material is now being freely specified as an insulating medium in schools, hospitals, farm buildings, and factories both in Northern Ireland and elsewhere, and is being marketed through normal trade channels—Belfast, June 26.

## NORWAY

**Herring**—The 1953 season for the large herring fisheries terminated on February 14th, when a total of 6,011,876 hectolitres of large herring had been brought ashore, as compared with 5,869,034 hectolitres in 1952 and 6,746,128 hectolitres in 1951 (one hectolitre equals approximately 3.3 bushels). Of the quantity caught this year, 349,258 hectolitres were exported fresh, 749,597 were salted, 4,795,384 went to the herring oil factories, 47,043 were used for bait, and 43,060 were consumed fresh on the home market—Oslo, June 20.

## SWEDEN

**Wood Products**—Export sales of wood products for delivery during the current year are practically completed. Sales have reached 650 thousand standards (exclusive of box boards), thereby exceeding the quantity which was originally estimated for 1953. It is now apparent that the preliminary estimates will be exceeded by as much as 50 thousand standards. The final sales figure will be between 700 thousand and 750 thousand standards—a considerable increase over 1952. The sawmills in the southern part of the country still have fairly large quantities to offer for export. Sales recently concluded have mostly been to the United Kingdom, although continental buyers have also been active. Buyers in Western Germany, however, have made only a few purchases—Stockholm, June 20.

## Chile Studies Its Fisheries

*... and makes plans to modernize them with the aid of FAO experts and increased investment in equipment.*

SANTIAGO—FAO experts are continuing to co-operate with the Chilean authorities in studying the possibilities of improving the fishing industry and have concluded that present production could be increased by 50 per cent by motorizing fishing vessels.

The fishing community in general still operates on a day-to-day basis and is inadequately equipped. Fishermen are unlikely to change their methods because they build their own boats and make their own nets, in return for a primitive but independent living. It may be that new interests will enter the field. A German combine is reported to be investigating the possibility of establishing a fishing fleet to operate on different sections of the coast, setting up a plant to process by-products and building a modern cannery.

Official statistics indicate that between 1942-1951 the index of fishing production increased by over 200 per cent and shellfish production by 145 per cent. Facilities have been improved at various fishing ports, especially Coquimbo and Talcahuano. The latter, from which fish are conveyed to Santiago, now has increased railway capacity.

### Markets for Fish

The canned fish industry is becoming increasingly important and from January to November 1952 products to a value of 2,118,000 Chilean gold pesos were exported to the United Kingdom and worth 562,400 gold pesos to the United States. Important quantities of fresh tuna fish were also exported to the United States.

A conference of the Pacific Coast countries (Chile, Peru and Ecuador) interested in the whaling industry was held in Santiago in August 1952. Uncontrolled exploitation by foreign fishing fleets and the consequent loss to the countries concerned was the principal business of the conference. As many as 19 fleets from different countries were reported to be taking part in what was regarded as spoilation of west coast resources.

FAO in conjunction with the Chilean Government is conducting a campaign to encourage the canning of fish. At present, this is limited largely to the coast and Santiago and consumption in the interior is negligible. As one step, FAO officials recently arranged an exhibition. Interest was so great that smaller displays are to be organized through the central provinces and later, on an important scale, in Santiago.

On the other hand, distribution is inefficient and a distributing company formed in 1951 with some financial assistance has been liquidated at considerable loss. Lack of adequate refrigerated transport and storage of modern retail outlets often results in inferior quality of fish and consequent waste. This in part explains the relatively high prices. The price index shows an increase of 35 per cent between 1950 and 1952.

—M. R. M. DALE  
*Commercial Secretary for Canada*



## General Notes

### ARGENTINA

**New Tractor Plant**—The cornerstone of a new plant for the manufacture of tractors was laid recently in Ferreyra, Province of Cordoba, by a government company, Aeronauticas y Mecanicas del Estado. Reports indicate that this factory will operate as an assembly plant, the various parts to be made by other plants in other parts of the country—Buenos Aires, June 19.

### CHILE

**Trade Treaty with Germany**—Chile's commercial treaty with Western Germany, originally signed in Hamburg on February 2, 1951, was ratified on March 20, 1953, in Santiago. Both countries granted "most-favoured-nation" terms for trade and navigation—Santiago, June 16.

### COLOMBIA

**New Refractories Plant**—Swiss and Colombian capital has been combined to construct a modern refractories plant in Medellin, the second city of Colombia. The new company will be known as Empresa de Refractorios Colombo-Suiza S.A., and the two principals are Empresa Siderurgica de Medellin, an old-established foundry, and S.A. des Produits de Refractaires de Brasil, an experienced producer of refractory products. Until the new plant is ready, the company will use the facilities of El Volador, a refractories plant in Medellin owned by Empresa Siderurgica de Medellin—Bogotá, June 17.

### PAKISTAN

**Trade Agreement with Japan**—A trade agreement between Pakistan and Japan was signed on April 11th in Tokyo. Under it, Japan has agreed to buy commodities from Pakistan worth approximately £32 million during the current financial year, including 650 thousand bales of raw cotton, 250 thousand bales of raw jute, cotton seeds, hides and skins, cotton lintels, rock salt, ophedrine, etc. Japan has also agreed to supply capital goods and machinery worth at least £6 million on a long-term credit basis, facilitating payment in instalments without charging any interest.

Pakistan has agreed to import £5.5 million worth of cotton fabrics, £1 million worth of cotton yarns, and £1.5 million worth of rayon and other textiles, as well as £1.5 million worth of metals—Karachi, June 12.

## PHILIPPINES

**Pulp and Paper**—The pulp mission of FAO in the Philippines has completed an exhaustive study of the possibility of using Benguet pine as a raw material to produce pulp and paper. This study included an extensive survey to determine the extent and potential of the forests, plus examination of transportation problems and of a broad reforestation program. The United Nations has agreed to supply further technical assistance for pulp and paper projects, including overhauling of the machinery of a government-owned paper mill—Manila, June 13.

## PORTUGAL

**New Units for Cod Fishing**—In keeping with a policy established about two years ago, the Portuguese fishing industry has continued to build line fishing vessels. A new one of 800-tons draught has recently been launched, with a capacity of nearly 1,030 tons of fish. Another vessel of the same type is under construction and expected to be ready to take part in this year's fishing—Lisbon, June 20.

## SOUTHERN RHODESIA

**Trade Balance Improves**—Southern Rhodesia's adverse trade balance totalled £27 million during 1952, some 25 per cent less than during the previous year. Imports at £88.5 million showed a slight increase; exports were substantially larger at £61.2 million because of the larger tobacco crop and greater export of asbestos—Cape Town, June 15.

## SWITZERLAND

**Security Against Export Credits**—In 1952, the Swiss Confederation insured its exporters against export credits of over Swiss francs 190 million. Protection was mainly granted to manufacturers of heavy machinery and equipment. Losses during the year came to just over 640 thousand francs and were offset by premium receipts of approximately 958 thousand francs. In addition, some 89 thousand francs were recovered from losses in previous years. The favourable balance in 1952 reduced to about 3.9 million francs the net deficit since the inception of the plan in 1934. At the end of 1952, the total security assumed under the program amounted to 435 million francs—Berne, June 22.

## TANGANYIKA

**Mining Industry Progresses**—The year 1952 was one of steady progress in all branches of the mining industry. The most noteworthy features were: the breaking of all previous records for value of mineral production and exports; the proving of large reserves of good quality coal in the southern province; the unabated interest in prospecting for base metals by influential overseas mining concerns; the grant of an oil exploration licence to an important group, and the reconciliation of differences between Williamson Diamonds Limited and the Diamond Corporation Limited which set in motion once again the full flow of diamond exports, held back by a dispute since early in 1950—Johannesburg, June 18.

## United States

### Opportunity in Florida

*With its tourist trade booming and agriculture flourishing, Florida affords interesting opportunities for two-way trade with Canada.*

NEW ORLEANS—Since the war, Florida has experienced great prosperity. Population jumped 46·1 per cent in the decade between 1940 and 1950, to a total of 2·7 million, and per capita income rose during the same period from \$471 to \$1,210.

One of the main factors in this postwar prosperity has been a great increase in the tourist trade. Five million visitors, with an estimated billion dollars of spending power, go to Florida each year. Motels, restaurants, hotels, stores have sprung up everywhere. On Miami Beach alone, 61 hotels with more than 100 rooms each have been built since the war. During recent years the tourist trade has broadened. Winter Cadillacs are now followed by spring and summer Chevrolets, Plymouths and Fords.

Many people are choosing to live in Florida when they retire and this is reflected in housing programs on the outskirts of such centres as Miami, St. Petersburg and Orlando.

#### **Agriculture Also Prospers**

But the tourist trade is not the only success story there. The raising of citrus crops, winter vegetables and livestock is also flourishing. Nearly half of Florida's 35 million acres are in farmlands, groves and ranches and agriculture now has a \$500 million income. The state produces about 110 million boxes of grapefruit a year and oranges and tangerines valued at \$250 million. The advent of frozen orange concentrate has given an impetus to orange production. During this season, out of an estimated orange crop of 73·5 million boxes, 35 million boxes are expected to go to the concentrate canners.

Winter vegetables raised in Florida find a steady market in the more northerly states and Canada and income from this source reached about \$127 million in 1951.

In recent years Florida farmers have been paying more attention to the production of beef and dairy cattle. Twenty-one years ago the state supported about 500 thousand cattle. Today the cattle production is estimated at 1·6 million head, worth about \$153 million, and Florida ranks thirteenth among the states in beef cattle production and thirty-fourth in dairy cattle. Conditions have not been entirely favourable; drought has underlined the need for irrigation. Nevertheless, Florida has become the third cattle producer among the Southern States, including Texas and Oklahoma.

Its mineral economy is not diversified but Florida is the main source of phosphate rock and its products in the United States and the world's second largest supplier. Eight and a half million tons of phosphate rock were produced in 1952 and plant expansion plans calling for a \$25-\$30 million investment are under way.

### **Light Industries Spring Up**

The state is not well suited to heavy manufacturing because the cost of power and its geographical position take it out of the main stream of industry. Moreover certain centres, conscious of the importance of their tourist trade, are not anxious for smokestacks. Nevertheless in the Jacksonville area there are gypsum, cement and paper plants and in Tampa, chemical, fertilizer and similar industries. Miami has some needle trades and light metal factories. It is difficult to assess the full significance of these manufacturing changes but the Florida Light and Power is planning to spend \$332 million on a ten-year electric power expansion program and a number of nationally known firms in paper, textiles, cement and chemical trades have development plans.

### **Strategic Aviation Centre**

If Florida's geographic position does not favour heavy industry, it is a distinct advantage in air transport and has made Miami the main international airport in the country. It is the springboard to Latin America and 57 airlines operate in and out of Miami airport alone. As an important division centre for Eastern Airlines, Pan American Airways and other lines, the field employs 17 thousand people. Auxiliary trades have grown up around it—repairs, warehousing, etc. Canada has direct air contact with Florida through TCA's non-stop flights between Toronto and Tampa.

This is the economic background of a state whose purchasing power is steadily increasing and which maintains both an export and import trade with Canada.

### **Trade with Canada**

Exports to Canada come from all parts of the state and though some of the products, such as phosphate rock and canned citrus juice, move north by water, most of the exports to Canada move by rail. This rail movement covers a surprisingly wide range of goods, including fresh and canned citrus products, vegetables, naval stores, phosphate rock and its derivatives, wood and wood products and oyster shells.

Imports from Canada are headed by newsprint, crude gypsum rock and lumber, but also include potatoes, Christmas trees, apples, saltcake, agricultural implements, canned goods, roofing, canned beef, firebrick and shingles. It is difficult to determine the quantity of such imports. With the exception of newsprint, crude gypsum and lumber, most of them come in by rail and lose their statistical identity once they cross the border. However, there is sufficient information to show that Canada has a definite stake in Florida's increasing prosperity.

This is nowhere more apparent than in the demand for Canadian softwoods from the Pacific Coast, imported by water and rail. The increasing population and upturn in incomes has led to the building of thousands of cottage homes and has provided a market for Canadian dimension woods and other construction materials.

This increasing population also means a steady demand for newsprint, Canadian apples, potatoes and canned goods, and the expanding agriculture means a market for agricultural implements. Eventually it may also mean tourists travelling from Florida to Canada in the hot summer months.

From a distribution point of view, markets are concentrated around three main centres—Jacksonville, Miami and Tampa. Canadian foodstuffs are largely marketed through Jacksonville, served by rail from Atlanta and its own port. The building trade market is concentrated more in the Miami area, served by rail and the port of Everglades, and in the Tampa-St. Petersburg area, served by rail and through the port of Tampa.

—G. A. NEWMAN

*Consul of Canada and Trade Commissioner*

*—Canadian suppliers interested in the Florida market should get in touch with Mr. Newman at 215 International Trade Mart, New Orleans.*



## Trade Commissioners on Tour

FROM TIME TO TIME Canadian Trade Commissioners return to Canada to bring themselves up-to-date on conditions in this country and to renew their contacts with businessmen here. Details of their itineraries appear regularly under this heading, as a service to exporters and importers who would like to discuss trading problems with them.

**C. M. Croft**, Commercial Counsellor for Canada in Sydney, Australia, begins the second part of his Canadian tour in Halifax, August 3-4. His itinerary is:

Halifax—August 3-4  
Saint John—August 6  
Montreal—August 10-19

Ottawa—August 20-22  
Winnipeg—August 25-26  
Vancouver—August 29-September 4

**T. J. Monty**, Commercial Secretary for Canada in Brussels, Belgium, begins his Canadian tour in Montreal, August 24 to September 4. His itinerary is:

Montreal—August 24-September 4  
Ottawa—September 7-12  
Toronto—September 14-19  
Guelph: Fergus—September 21  
Brantford: Hamilton—September 22  
St. Catharines: Welland—September 23

London—September 24  
Sarnia—September 25  
Windsor—September 26  
Vancouver—October 5-10  
Winnipeg—October 12-13  
Ottawa—October 15-17

**B. A. Macdonald**, Commercial Counsellor for Canada in Bonn, Germany, began a tour of Canada in Ottawa, July 6-10. His itinerary is:

Shawinigan—July 21  
Quebec—July 22  
Chicoutimi—July 23  
Rimouski—July 24  
Fredericton—July 27  
Saint John—July 28-29  
Halifax—July 30  
Sydney—July 31  
St. John's—August 3-4  
Toronto—August 10-14

Hamilton—August 17-18  
St. Catharines: Welland—August 19  
Sarnia—August 20  
Windsor: Walkerville—August 21  
Winnipeg—August 24-26  
Regina—August 27  
Calgary—August 28  
Edmonton—August 29-31  
Vancouver: Victoria—September 9-16  
Ottawa—September 28-October 2

**T. R. G. Fletcher**, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner in Hong Kong, began a tour of Canada in Ottawa, June 29-July 10. He will visit Montreal, August 17-26 and Toronto, August 27-September 4. His complete itinerary will be published later.

**Richard Grew**, Commercial Counsellor in New Delhi, India, began a tour of Canada in Ottawa on June 29. His itinerary is:

London—July 21  
Brantford—July 22  
Hamilton—July 23

St. Catharines—July 24  
Toronto—July 27-31  
Montreal—August 3-7

**A. W. Evans**, Commercial Secretary for Canada in Havana, Cuba, began a tour of Canada in Toronto on June 1st. His itinerary is:

Windsor: Walkerville—August 17  
Chatham—August 18  
London—August 19  
Kitchener—August 20  
Guelph—August 21  
Hamilton—August 24-25

Victoria—August 31  
Vancouver—September 1-3  
Calgary—September 4  
Edmonton—September 5  
Saskatoon—September 7  
Winnipeg—September 9

**C. J. Van Tighem**, Consul of Canada and Trade Commissioner in São Paulo, Brazil, began a tour of Canada on June 3 in Hamilton. He will visit Vancouver from July 29-31.

Businessmen may get in touch with these officers through the Board of Trade in Saskatoon, Chatham, Brantford, Guelph, Montreal, Quebec, Saint John, Sydney and Halifax; the Chamber of Commerce in Calgary, Regina, Kitchener, London, Welland, St. Catharines, Windsor, Sarnia, Hamilton, Brockville, Arvida, Chicoutimi, Rimouski, Shawinigan and Three Rivers; the Canadian Manufacturers Association in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Toronto; the Dept. of Trade and Industry in Victoria; the Dept. of Industry and Development in Fredericton (295 Queen St.); and the Department of Trade and Commerce in Ottawa, Vancouver (355 Burrard St.) and St. John's (Stott Bldg.).



# Trade and Tariff Regulations

## CHILE

**Exchange Rates**—By a Chilean decree published July 7, and effective immediately, all imports into Chile authorized under the 1953 Foreign Exchange Budget are now subject to the Free (Banking) rate of exchange. This rate has been maintained at 110 pesos to the United States dollar for several months.

## COLOMBIA

**Livestock Embargo Lifted**—Colombia has removed the embargo on Canadian livestock effective July 2, which had been enforced in order to prevent the introduction of foot-and-mouth disease.

## IRELAND

**Import Controls**—By five Orders of the Government of the Republic of Ireland, issued under the Control of Imports Acts, 1934 and 1937, further quotas and quota periods have been announced as follows:

*Brushes, brooms and mops (domestic and household):* 18,000 articles, compared with 12,000 articles for previous six months' quota.

*Brushes (for human use):* 18,000 articles, compared with 12,000 articles for previous six months.

*Brushes, brooms and mops:* 18,000 articles, compared with 12,000 articles for previous six months' quota.

In all of the above cases, the quota period extends from July 1, 1953, to March 31, 1954.

*Certain hats, caps, hoods and shapes (costing less than 21/- each):* 15,000 articles, compared with 25,000 articles for previous six months' quota.

*Certain metal screws:* 25,000 gross (amount unaltered from previous six months). Of this total, 24,000 gross must be of Canadian or United Kingdom manufacture.

The quota period fixed in the above cases extends from July 1, 1953, to December 31, 1953—Dublin, June 18.

## IRELAND

**Customs Duties Imposed**—By two orders issued under the Emergency Imposition of Duties Act, 1932, the Government of the Republic of Ireland has imposed, as and from June 19, 1953, an ad valorem import customs duty of 37½ per cent full rate; 25 per cent pref. rate—Canada and U.K.—on wire netting and certain other iron and steel wire.

By a third order, as and from July 1, 1953, an import customs duty of 50 per cent ad valorem full rate; 33¼ per cent ad valorem pref. rate—Canada and U.K.—has been imposed on single cotton yarns.

In each of the above cases a duty-free licensing provision is attached—Dublin, July 2.

## JAMAICA

**Cordage, Cable and Rope**—Importers in Jamaica were advised on June 27 that under the Import Prohibition (Rope) Proclamation, 1953, the importation of cordage, cable and rope of all materials up to and including 1¼" diameter is prohibited except under permit issued by the Trade Control Board. This prohibition does not affect twine admitted as such by the Collector General.

Permits will be issued without restriction for rope of any size required for special purposes such as shipping, wharves, dry docks and sugar estates, provided the Trade Control Board is satisfied that it will be used exclusively for such purposes and will not be offered for sale.

Permits under the above Proclamation are additional to the import licences required on exchange grounds.

## MEXICO

**Canadian Livestock Imports Remitted**—The Mexican Department of Agriculture and Livestock has lifted, effective April 28, 1953, the embargo on the importation of Canadian livestock and products which was imposed because of the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Canada last year.

## WEST GERMANY

**Import Bonus Rights Cancelled**—Effective July 1, 1953, Germany cancelled the import bonus rights which were introduced April 1, 1952. Outstanding credits will, however, be valid until the end of this year. Under the arrangements, exporters were permitted to retain 40 per cent of their dollar export earnings to be used for imports of a specified list of goods from the dollar area.

This scheme was designed to act as an incentive to increase German exports to the dollar area and, at the same time, promote direct trading relations as opposed to transit handling over third countries. The market value of these import rights, which at the outset commanded upwards of 15 per cent premium, declined steadily amounting to 0.5 per cent when the scheme was discontinued—Bonn, July 8.

# Foreign Exchange Rates

The following nominal quotations may prove useful in checking prices. Canadian traders should consult their banks before making any firm commitments.

Conversions into Canadian dollars have been made at cross rates with sterling or the United States dollar on the date shown.

Except when buying and selling rates are specified, the mid rates only are quoted. The buying rate is that at which banks purchase exchange from exporters. The selling rate is that at which banks sell exchange to importers.

When several rates are indicated, the rate applicable depends on the commodity traded. Information on the rate for any specific commodity may be obtained from the International Trade Relations Branch, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.

Rates used exclusively in non-merchandise trading are not included in the table.

For conversion to United States dollar equivalents multiply by 1.0063.

Country	Unit	Type of Exchange	Canadian dollar equiv. July 9	Notes (See below)
Argentina	Peso	Preferential buying	.1325	(1)
		Basic buying	.1987	
		Preferential selling	.1987	
		Basic selling	.1325	
		Free	.07153	
Austria	Schilling			
Australia	Pound			
Belgium-Luxembourg & Belgian Dependencies	Franc		.03822	
			2.2390	
Bolivia	Boliviano	Official	.01991	(3)
			.00523	
British West Indies	Dollar		.5831	(4)
			2.7987	
		Brit. Honduras	.6996	
Brazil	Cruzeiro	Official	.05372	tax 8% (2)
		Free	.02283	
			.2099	
Burma	Kyat		.2099	
Ceylon	Rupee		.09903	
Chile	Peso	Official	.3975	tax 3% (2)
		Basic	.4255	
Colombia	Peso	Coffee buying	.1770	(5)
		Official	.1496	
		Free	.9937	
Costa Rica	Colon		.1380	tax 2%
Cuba	Peso		.1439	
Czechoslovakia	Koruna			
Denmark	Krone			
Dominican Republic	Peso		.9937	(6)
			.06625	
Ecuador	Sucre	Official	.05728	(6)
		Free	2.8536	
Egypt	Pound		2.5214	
Fiji	Pound		.00432	
Finland	Markka		.00284	
France	Franc		.00568	
French Africa	Franc		.01561	
French Pacific	Franc		.2366	
Germany	D Mark		.000033	
Greece	Drachma		.9937	
Guatemala	Guetzal		.1987	
Haiti	Gourde		.4969	
Honduras	Lempira		.1642	*July 3
Hong Kong	Dollar	Free	.06102	
		Official	.04698	
Iceland	Krona	Special buying	.03785	(7)
		Special selling	.2099	
		Basic	.08717	
India	Rupee		.00187	
Indonesia	Rupiah	Dollar certificate		

\* Latest available quotation date.