

### Construction Boom Marks U. S. Business Activity

(By Walter Breede Jr.)  
 NEW YORK (AP)—Activity in most lines of business continued below year-ago levels last week. But there were notable exceptions. One was new construction.  
 The week's total of heavy engineering contract awards was at a 1944 high. Contracts for all types of construction awarded in February set a record for that month, and the January-February total was a good 13 per cent over a year ago.  
 A major supplier to the build-

ing industry, Libby-Owens-Ford Glass Co., said 1954 should see "greatly increased school, hospital and office construction."  
 Steel output continued to lag; the week's scheduled operating rate of 85.9 per cent was the lowest for any non-holiday, strike-free week since March 1950. There were indications that steel-makers who had looked for an upturn in March would have to wait till April.  
 Auto Production Rising  
 New-car sales have been mov-

ing up. February sales of 401,500 cars were up 13 per cent from January but not fast enough to keep pace with production. With Ford working overtime and Plymouth on two shifts U. S. factories turned out 111,179 passenger cars this week against 108,904 the previous week.  
 The week saw gains in the production of crude oil and electric power and sales of cotton textiles. Prices of lead, copper scrap, tin and zinc turned firm; the stock market was at its highest level in 24 years.  
 Freight carloadings were off more than 13 per cent from the corresponding week of 1953. Walter S. Franklin, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, said the volume of freight traffic "indicates that this year's results will not equal 1953" when the big railroad earned \$37,000,000.

#### Jobless Up 300,000

Department store sales were down 11 per cent from a year ago. Unemployment at the end of February totalled about 3,500,000, an increase of 500,000 for the month. Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell said the trend toward more unemployment "seems to be slowing down."

General Motors again came through with an annual report requiring superlatives—its 1953 sales of more than \$10,000,000,000 and its tax bill of \$1,237,000,000 were the highest totals for any private enterprise in the world. Net income of \$598,119,478 was the third highest in the history of the huge corporation.

### Teachers Trek North For Jobs

HALIFAX (CP)—Go west, they told young men a half-century ago, but Nova Scotia school teachers are treading on each other's heels trying to go north—and nobody has to tell them.  
 Harold Montrose, principal of Robert Leckie School at Goose

### Newfoundland Leads Canada In Marital Bliss

OTTAWA, (CP)—Newfoundland apparently has the largest proportion of happily married couples of any province and British Columbia the unhappiest.  
 Newfoundland last year, as in 1952, had the fewest divorces and the lowest divorce rate in Canada, the Bureau of Statistics reported today.

Though the number of decrees tripled to nine in 1953 from three in 1952, the rate of divorces per 100,000 population was only 2.3 in 1952. Newfoundland's rate was .8. In British Columbia, the rate dropped to 120.2 from 127.9 per 100,000 population but was still the highest in Canada. The number of divorces decreased by 54 or four per cent to 1,478.

Canada's divorce rate rose seven per cent to 41 per cent 100,000 population last year compared with 1952, though six of the 10 provinces had fewer divorces and lower rates.  
 Ontario accounted for 45 per cent of the national total—6,056 or 421 more than in 1952—compared with 39 per cent in 1952. B. C. accounted for 24 per cent of all divorces, three per cent less than in the preceding year.

Quebec Decrease  
 Second largest numerical decrease after B. C. was in Quebec where the number fell by 36 to 12 per cent to 273 and the rate declined to 6.4 from 7.4.  
 New Brunswick divorces numbered 191, a decrease of 19 or 10 per cent, and the rate dropped to 33.8 from 38. Nova Scotia had 185 divorces against 188, the rate decreasing to 27.9 from 28.8.  
 Prince Edward Island had 15 divorces, six more than in 1952, and the rate jumped to 14.2 from 8.7.

Bay, Labrador, reported Friday as being swamped by more than 150 applications for 10 staff vacancies.

Montrose heads an interviewing team which will scout prospects in Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario. He said one reason for the rush to get to Goose Bay undoubtedly was the fact that teachers could, in some cases, earn twice there what they can in this province.  
 Robert Leckie School teaches the children of Royal Canadian Air Force personnel stationed at the big Labrador base.

Pontiac, great chief of the Ottawa Indians, was slain by an Illinois Indian at Port St. Louis in 1769.

### Dark Lightning

By Helen Topping Miller

CHAPTER XXVIII

(Continued)

"I wouldn't rate any royalty, Hickey. Not if you do the work and put up the money."  
 "You rate—or I don't," Hickey said, pulling his long lips grotesquely. "You done considerable work on that well—and you got to stick with me...and we could maybe go ahead with it before Mason got back, and then there wouldn't be no argument."  
 "But I'd want a paper drawn up—and Mis' Mason, here, to sign it. I wouldn't want to go ahead without a definite understanding on it. Not that you folks ain't honest, Mis' Mason—but it's just businesslike way to do."

"Of course," said Mona Lee, a little breathlessly. "What do you think, Gary?"  
 "I think—well, I think it's just a wild chance. As Hickey says, there's nothing to lose, anyway. But an eighth is a pretty substantial royalty..."  
 "I wouldn't undertake it for no less," Hickey insisted. "I reckon Mason would rather pay an eighth royalty and have him an oil well than to pull that derrick down and listen to all the people around telling him he was a fool to spend in a wildcat on his own, in the first place."

"Oh, he would!" said Mona Lee. "Gary I'm going to do it. Harvey left that power of attorney for me—I can do it. And I'm going to...and if we should get oil..."  
 The excitement gripped Gary. After all they did have nothing to lose. And Hickey was a shrewd old driller. He was taking a risk himself. It cost money to shoot a well, and a man had to be prepared to control it if it came in.  
 "You write out a paper, son," Hickey said, "if Mis' Mason's agreeable. You know what to put in it—I don't."

"I'll get the pen and ink, Gary. I feel kind of scared, doing this on my own—but we can't lose anything, can we?"  
 "No, you can't lose anything. You're exchanging a certain failure—which is what that well is new—for a gambling chance on getting oil. I'm quite certain Mr. Mason would agree to take the chance if he were here."

"Make it an agreement between Mis' Mason and Harvey and you and me," instructed Hickey when Gary was ready to write. "And we want it witnessed—two witnesses. It's got to be a paper that will stand in law."  
 "Hickey, I still think I shouldn't be cut in on this. I'm willing to help you—you can pay me whatever you think I'm worth—but this is your idea. You'll be financing it and taking all the risk and trouble."  
 "No," Hickey was stubborn. "I ain't going into it alone. I might get sued—and I want somebody

### \$1,800.00 WINNER on AYLMEY \$50-A-DAY



Mrs. J. Monks, of 137 St. David's Ave., North Vancouver, receives her \$1,800.00 jackpot cheque won on the Aylmer Soup \$50-A-DAY Radio Show.  
 Mr. B. J. Wallis, Assistant Sales Manager of Canadian Canners (Western) Limited, Aylmer Products, makes the presentation.  
 Mrs. Monks enclosed an AYLMEY Cream of Mushroom Soup label with her entry that correctly identified the "Mystery Voice" as Dr. Leslie Bell. On the right is Mr. Earl Mitchell who receives \$50.00 for selling Mrs. Monks her Aylmer Soup.  
 Aylmer \$50-A-DAY is heard daily, Monday to Friday at 11.30 a.m. on OFCY.

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Just as Irish as "Paddy's Pig" and a million times more beautiful! These Cloths are double damask in scroll and floral design with hand hemmed edges. In two useful sizes—

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### BRIDGE SETS

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SIZE 52" X 68"	SIZE 60" X 80"
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"Begorra!" they're Made in Ireland of finely blended cotton and rayon in a damask weave with colored border. Shades are blue or gold.

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DODGE TOWN PANEL

Here's why YOU'LL SAVE with a **DODGE** NEW 1954 "JOB RATED" TRUCK

**YOU'LL HAVE FASTER DELIVERY**

You'll like the loading ease of the new Dodge trucks—floors of these panel and express models are knee-level. You'll find wheeling through traffic and parking is a cinch—because Dodge trucks have the shortest turning radius, right or left, to speed up your hauling. Cab floors, too, are so much lower that drivers can slip in and out with passenger car ease. Further, Dodge trucks cut costs because they're "Job-Rated" from engine to rear axle to fit your job... and stay on your job with a minimum of upkeep.

**YOU'LL CARRY MORE**

The new Dodge Town Panel, illustrated above has a full 155 cu. ft. body capacity to handle bulky loads. Express bodies have extra width and depth. The Dodge "Job-Rated" truck design (which reduces truck weight by shortening wheelbase and overall truck length) gives a sizable payload advantage over trucks of similar Gross Vehicle Weight... you haul more at lower cost.

**YOU'LL HAVE GREATER COMFORT**

New Dodge cabs are designed to make driving safer and more comfortable. Floors and running boards are lower, doors higher and wider. The big, one-piece windshield and high side windows with lower sills give safe, wide angle vision. Dodge Truck cab and express models have 3-man seats, chair-high with full luxury-type seat cushions.

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