

Canadian Business Boom Spills Over To Atlantic

By DAL WRIBINGTON
HALIFAX (CP)—The people of the Atlantic provinces have their economic problems but they are sharing to a greater extent than before in the Canadian business boom.

Experts of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council draw this conclusion in a new review of current conditions in this region compared with Canada as a whole.

They say many sectors of the region's economy still are growing slower than the national rate but the discrepancy in 1963 was smaller than in 1962.

For example, APEC reports, the region's mining and manufacturing sectors had a 4.3 per cent rise in the first quarter of 1964 but this was

because the winter house-building incentive program of the federal government had little effect upon the Atlantic provinces.

Home builders say their lack of participation was due to several factors, among them a slump in house sales in 1963 and a tighter supply of mortgage money.

The growth which occurred in Canada during 1963. In particular, the region's mining and manufacturing sectors had expansions more rapid than the nation.

"The situation was in contrast with the 1962 experience when the effects of national economic expansion, influenced to a considerable extent by a much-increased grain crop on the Prairies, did not affect the Atlantic provinces as much."

Growth in manufacturing continues in 1964, the council re-

ports. Nova Scotia output was up 13.9 per cent in value in the January - April period. New Brunswick 10.4 per cent and Newfoundland 12.3 per cent.

"In part, the manufacturing gains represent the benefits of increased activity in industrial attraction and development prevalent among the Atlantic region's provincial governments in recent years."

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Alberta Man Has Formula For College

EDMONTON (CP)—Francis Meunier has a formula for passing exams. Work, school, sleep, study, back to work, with time for meals when possible.

"My wife didn't like it. She seldom saw me and I had no

social life. I missed spending time with my children."

But his ambition was to graduate from the University of Alberta in biology and mathematics and hold down a full-time job.

Mr. Meunier, 36, has worked full time as a Canadian National Railway's dispatcher during the last four years. He began his academic career with two evening classes a week.

During his second and third years, Mr. Meunier worked for CNR from midnight to 8 a.m.,

and used the rest of the time to study and attend university lectures.

For his final year he worked a swing shift and the university agreed to let him attend lectures on the other days with the CNR paying for half his tuition.

The basic drawback to his formula for industry, says Mr. Meunier, is that "you miss so much exchange of views with students which is important to university life."

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SEE ENCOURAGING SIGN
 In some fields the council's economists say, Atlantic region growth last year was faster than the national rate. They are especially encouraged by the increase in non-agricultural employment.

The number of non-farm job holders in the Atlantic provinces grew by 3.7 per cent in 1963 compared with a Canadian increase of 2.9. It rose 6.1 per cent in the first five months of 1964.

Other bright spots:

1. The value of Atlantic region manufacturing shipments increased 7.8 per cent in 1963, slightly faster than the national rate of 6.3.
2. New capacity in the pulp and paper industry helped boost production output by 17.7 per cent, the greatest jump in recent years, compared with a Canadian gain of 4.1 per cent. Newsprint production rose 2.7 per cent while the national output fell by 0.9 per cent.
3. Iron shipments jumped 23.3 per cent as new mines came into operation in Labrador. Coal production rose 8 per cent from the low level of 1962.
4. Electric power generation, reflecting more mining and manufacturing activity, jumped 15.8 per cent. The national gain was about 4 per cent.

In expansion in the sectors was slower than the national average, notably in retail trade and farm and home products. However retail sales were 10.1 per cent higher than last year in the first five months of 1964.

EXPAND FISH INDUSTRY
 Atlantic provinces fishermen, once the mainstay of the coastal economy, continue the rapid expansion of their industry. Fish landings in 1963 rose 10.7 per cent in value compared with a national decline of 2.2 per cent.

The increase in January-May, 1964, was even greater—23.7 per cent. The landings of lobster and the increasing use of deep-sea trawlers were factors.

Some soft spots cause concern. One is residential construction, where activity has slumped for two years in a row. Last year there were 6.3 per cent fewer houses started in the Atlantic region while Canada as a whole was reporting an increase of 14.2 per cent.

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