HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

CANADA'S FOREIGN COMMODITY TRADE in March continued the advance of February from the low January value with a marked seasonal gain that brought the total value of exports just above that of March last year and the total import value just slightly under last year's March figure. (Page 3)

FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS rose in February, continuing the upward trend dating from November last, the index registering 234.2, an increase of 1.1 points over January and 5.2 points over November. Prices of livestock, dairy products, potatoes, poultry and eggs moved higher in February but grain prices were unchanged. (Page 9)

CASH INCOME OF CANADA'S FARMERS from the sale of farm products and from participation payments on previous year's grain crops in 1953 was estimated at $2,741,300,000, down 3% from the 1952 peak of $2,826,600,000. Higher income from wheat, dairy products, eggs, corn, sugar beets, hay and wool was more than offset by lower returns from other products. (Page 9)

CREAMERY BUTTER STOCKS in nine regional cities totalled 30,406,000 pounds on April 22 this year, 66.5% more than the 18,256,000 pounds in store a year earlier. Holdings were substantially higher in the east but were lower west of Winnipeg. (Page 8)

FIRST-QUARTER PRODUCTION FIGURES show gains of 18% for refined sugar, 17% for salad and cooking oils, 15% for shortening and 6% for margarine over the first three months of last year, but a drop of 31% in the output of lard. (Page 8)

RAILWAY CARLOADINGS during the second week of April totalled 66,274 cars, a drop from 73,227 a year earlier. This brought cumulative 1954 loadings to 969,605 cars, down from 1,052,471 last year. (Page 11)

FOREIGN VEHICLE ENTRIES into Canada on traveller's vehicle permits were 6% lower this March, the drop more than offsetting increases of 2.8% in January and 3.8% in February to lower the first-quarter total to 175,571 from 176,457 last year. (Page 12)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES were 6% above last year's level in the week ending April 17. Gains were recorded in all provinces except Saskatchewan. (Page 4)
INTERNATIONAL TRADE

February Imports From United States

Reduced purchases from the United States again accounted for most of the 5.6% decline in the value of Canada's commodity imports in February to $292,600,000 from $310,000,000 in the same month last year, according to final figures. February's final total is below the preliminary figure published earlier. Since January imports had fallen to $280,200,000 from $327,800,000 a year earlier, the cumulative value for the January-February period declined to $572,800,000 from $637,800,000.

A drop in volume was responsible for the decline in the value of February imports, prices averaging slightly higher than last year. Only three of the major commodity groups -- agricultural and vegetable products, wood and paper, and non-ferrous metals and products -- were higher in value this February. The larger declined occurred in fibres and textiles, iron and products, and non-metallic minerals.

Final value for exports, as published earlier, was $274,700,000, narrowly below last year's February value of $275,500,000. This followed a drop in January to $260,700,000 from $317,300,000, and the January-February total declined to $535,300,000 from $592,800,000. The overall result was a reduced import surplus of $12,800,000 on the month's foreign trade compared with $30,400,000 in February last year. Added to January's import surplus of $14,800,000 ($6,600,000 last year), the two-month purchase balance was $27,600,000 versus $37,000,000.

Canada bought more this February from the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries, Latin American countries, and European countries. Imports from the United States declined to $217,532,000 from $241,010,000 last year and followed a January drop to $202,788,000 from $249,910,000. This reduced the January-February value to $420,320,000 from $490,209,000. Wood and paper and non-ferrous metals were the only groups to rise in value in February, while the largest decreases occurred in fibres and textiles, iron and products, and non-metallic minerals.

Following a small drop in January, February purchases from the United Kingdom were moderately higher at $29,026,000 versus $27,153,000. The combined January-February value was $57,335,000, slightly under last year's $57,718,000. Seven of the nine main groups were up in value in February, largest gain occurring in iron products. Purchases from other Commonwealth countries were higher in value at $10,464,000 versus $8,917,000, and the two-month value rose to $19,477,000 from $18,292,000. There were increased purchases in February from British East Africa, Ceylon, Malaya, Singapore, and Australia.

February imports from Latin American countries rose in value to $21,543,000 from $20,836,000 last year, and the January-February value advanced to $45,021,000 from $42,042,000. Among the chief sources of supply there were increased purchases in February from Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela, but decreases from Mexico and Cuba.

With larger purchases in February from Belgium and Luxembourg, Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland, imports from European countries moved up in value to $8,108,000 from $8,786,000 last year. The January-February value rose to $19,516,000 from $19,161,000. Mainly as a result of a steep rise in imports from Lebanon, imports from the remaining group of foreign countries climbed in February to $4,394,000 from $2,976,000. In the two-month period the value was up to $9,727,000 from $9,307,000.

Among the principal import commodities there were gains this February in fruits, coffee and chicory, books and printed matter, rolling-mill products, non-farm machinery, and automobile parts, but declines in raw cotton and cotton products, wool and wool products, engines and boilers, farm implements and machinery, automobiles, coal, crude petroleum and aircraft and parts.
Main commodity group values show gains in agricultural and vegetable products to $33,900,000 from $31,900,000; non-ferrous metals and products to $24,600,000 from $22,000,000; and wood and paper to $13,200,000 from $11,800,000. The remaining groups declined: animal products, $6,900,000 ($7,000,000 last year); fibres and textiles, $26,200,000 ($36,200,000); iron and products, $104,000,000 ($111,600,000); non-metallic minerals, $39,200,000 ($43,500,000); chemicals and products, $15,900,000 ($16,100,000); and miscellaneous commodities, $28,800,000 ($29,500,000). (1 & 2)

The following table shows the value of Canada's major commodity imports in February and the January-February period together with corresponding 1953 totals. These are listed in order of size of this year's January-February period:

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Foreign Commodity Trade In March Recovers To Last Year's Level

Canada's foreign commodity trade in March continued the advance of February from the low January value with a marked seasonal gain that brought the total value of exports just above that of March last year and the total import value just slightly under last year's March figure, according to preliminary summary figures.

Total exports in the month were valued at $321,200,000, up from $279,800,000 in February and $265,400,000 in January, and moderately above the value of $313,000,000 for March last year. Commodity imports had an estimated value of $253,400,000, showing a somewhat larger gain from 292,600,000 the previous month and $280,200,000 in January but being slightly below last year's corresponding value of $360,100,000. The estimated import surplus for the month was thus reduced to $32,200,000 from $47,100,000 last year.

In the first quarter this year exports were down in aggregate value to $866,000,000 from $914,000,000 in 1953, the decline being due almost wholly to the sharp January drop. Estimated imports in the period declined somewhat more to $926,200,000 from $998,000,000. The estimated cumulative surplus for the three months accordingly declined to $59,900,000 from $84,000,000 last year.

Commodity trade with the United States in March was up substantially from the two previous months but almost unchanged from March last year. Total exports amounted to $205,200,000 against $206,400,000 last year, and imports to $271,200,000 against $272,800,000, the estimated import surplus being fractionally lower at $66,000,000 against $66,500,000. Aggregate exports in the quarter were down to $537,200,000 from $574,900,000 in 1953 and estimated imports to $691,500,000 from $763,100,000, the estimated import surplus decreasing to $154,300,000 from $188,200,000.
Shipments to the United Kingdom in March also advanced over the two earlier months and were up sharply over March last year at $52,800,000 against $38,800,000, while estimated imports were only slightly above the February and January values and down from last year at $30,800,000 against $37,600,000. The estimated export surplus thus climbed to $22,000,000 from $1,300,000. In the three months, exports were up to $135,900,000 from $124,600,000 last year and imports down to $88,100,000 from $95,300,000, making an estimated export surplus of $47,800,000 compared to $29,300,000.

March shipments to other Commonwealth countries declined to $13,700,000 compared to $16,800,000 last year, the aggregate value for the three months falling to $37,700,000 from $56,500,000. Purchases from Commonwealth countries were slightly lower in the month at $9,500,000 against $10,900,000, but the quarter's total was practically unchanged at $29,100,000. Sales to the remaining countries were down slightly in the month at $49,500,000 against $51,000,000 and in the three months at $155,500,000 against $158,000,000. Estimated imports from these countries, on the other hand, were up in March to $41,900,000 from $38,800,000 last year, and in the quarter to $117,500,000 from $110,400,000.

The preliminary figures for March and the January-March period are summarized in the following table. The import figures are estimates and subject to revision; final and detailed import figures will not be available for several weeks. Those for exports are based on final figures, which will be issued in detail shortly.

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<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
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<td><strong>321.2</strong></td>
<td><strong>914.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>866.3</strong></td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td><strong>353.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>998.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>926.2</strong></td>
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**EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS**

Federal Employment

Payrolls in January Federal civil servants numbered 135,411 in January, up from 135,053 in the preceding month and 129,553 a year earlier, and their earnings totalled $34,756,076 versus $32,123,778 in December and $30,615,759 in January last year. The January total, but not the December includes increases granted in December.

Prevailing rate and casual employees and ships' crews in federal government employment numbered 36,697 in January as against 36,396 in the preceding month and 32,042 a year earlier. Their earnings totalled $6,984,971, a drop from $7,456,851 in December but above last year's January total of $6,699,580. (3)

**MERCHANDISING & SERVICES**

Department Store Sales Department store sales rose 8% during the week ending April 17 as compared with the corresponding week last year. There were gains in all provinces except Saskatchewan where the drop was 7.2%. The rise in the Maritimes was 4.6%, Quebec 4.8%, Ontario 14%, Manitoba 3.3%, Alberta 6.2%, and British Columbia 10%.
Higher Yields In Eight Of Eleven Producing Areas
Pushed Mineral Output Value To New Crest in 1953

Gains in six of the mineral-producing provinces and in both territories last year outweighed decreases in the other three provinces to push the value of Canada's mineral production to an all-time crest of $1,331,211,503, almost $46,000,000 above the 1952 peak of $1,285,342,353, according to the detailed preliminary report. The first estimate of 1953's mineral output was published last January 4. Last year's was the seventh record in a row and production value was more than two and one-half times the 1946 total of $502,816,251. The mineral production figures do not include pitchblende products.

Last year saw oil emerge as Canada's most important mineral in value terms; it accounted for 15% of the mineral production value as compared with 11% in 1952. In the preceding year gold was first, closely followed by nickel and copper, each accounting for about 12% of the total value. In 1953 nickel again represented 12% of the total while copper accounted for 11% and gold for 10%. The proportion of the total value accounted for by coal declined to 8% from 9%, and by zinc to 7% from 10%. The proportion was unchanged for asbestos at 7%, lead at 4% and cement at 4%, but other minerals represented 22% of the total value last year as against 19% in 1952.

Ontario accounted for 34.6% of the national output value in both 1953 and 1952, the province's production value increasing to $460,476,113 from $444,669,412. Quebec was still the second largest producer last year despite a value decline to $252,826,012 or 19% of the national total from $270,483,962 or 21% in the preceding year. Alberta production was valued at $245,954,755 or 18.5% of the total, a jump from $196,811,654 or 15.3% mainly due to the sharp gain in crude petroleum. British Columbia production was valued at $160,741,387 or 12.1% of the total, a drop from $170,071,244 or 13.2% in 1952. Mineral production in Nova Scotia was worth $67,100,707, up from $64,552,383 and representing 5% of the all-Canada total in both years. Saskatchewan production was valued at $48,136,064 or 3.6% of the total, a decrease from $49,506,094 or 3.9%. Output in Newfoundland increased in value to $33,688,389 from $32,512,313, or 2.5% of the total in both years. Output in Manitoba increased slightly in value to $25,671,957 from $25,105,748, or 1.9% of the total output value in both years. Output in the Northwest Territories climbed to $10,521,038 or 0.8% of the total from $8,944,835.

Output in the Northwest Territories climbed to $10,521,038 or 0.8% of the total from $8,944,835 or 0.7%.

Canadian production of metals declined in value for the second straight year in 1953 to $708,912,835 from $727,904,836 in 1952, decreases in six producing areas more than offsetting gains elsewhere. Output value of cadmium, cobalt, copper, indium, iron ore, iron ingots, nickel, platinum, selenium, silver, tellurium, tin, titanium ore and tungsten was higher, but that of other metallics decreased.

The value of Canada's fuel production surged to a record $311,235,192 in 1953 from $263,582,319 in 1952, gains in five producing areas more than offsetting declines elsewhere. The sharp increase for crude petroleum and natural gas outweighed drops for coal and peat.

Output of other non-metallic minerals climbed in value to $127,457,625 last year from $125,047,050 in 1952, with gains in all producing areas except Alberta. Increases were recorded for all except asbestos, diatomite, grindstones, iron oxides, mica, quartz, salt, sodium sulphate, and sulphur, which declined.

Production of structural materials also soared to a new all-time high of $183,605,851 last year from $168,808,618 in 1952, with advances in all producing areas except Nova Scotia and Quebec. Increases for cement and clay products outweighed declines for stone, lime, sand and gravel.
Most Leading Minerals Showed Production Declines In January

Production of the majority of Canada's leading mineral products was lower in January than in the corresponding month last year. Exceptions to the decline were crude petroleum, natural gas, iron ore and nickel.

The month's output of crude petroleum rose to 8,014,143 barrels from 5,287,251 in the same month last year, natural gas to 15,320,894 M cubic feet from 11,921,886 M, nickel to 12,670 tons from 12,466, and iron ore to 237,105 tons from 215,982.

Listed among the declines were: asbestos, 56,800 tons (70,076 a year ago); cement, 889,594 barrels (1,038,573); clay products, $1,638,046 ($1,745,152); coal, 1,623,925 tons (1,790,441); copper, 17,783 tons (23,824); gold, 293,049 fine ounces (371,265); gypsum, 169,182 tons (174,718); lead, 17,684 tons (19,502); lime, 92,614 tons (97,474); salt, 77,221 tons (80,125); silver, 2,413,990 fine ounces (2,459,531); and zinc, 27,030 tons (32,474). (5)

Clay Product Sales

Sales of domestic clay products by Canadian producers were valued at $1,638,046 this January, a drop from $1,745,152 last year. There was a slight increase in the value of building brick sold, but decreases were reported for all other items.

Sales of building brick were valued at $1,059,452 versus $1,057,522 in January last year, structural tile $274,550 versus $278,220, drain tile $45,774 versus $59,648, sewer pipe $153,373 versus $209,441, fireclay blocks and shapes $21,279 versus $42,829, pottery $29,524 versus $34,900, and other clay products $54,094 versus $62,592. (6)

Output Of Crude Oil

Canada's oil wells filled 8,014,143 barrels with crude petroleum this January, 2,726,892 more than in January last year and more than double the 3,979,624 filled in the first month of 1952. Production was higher than in 1953 in all producing areas except New Brunswick and the Northwest Territories, where yields were lower.

Alberta fields continued to supply the bulk of the national output, this year's January yield of 7,584,174 barrels comparing with 5,040,354 last year. Main producers in both years were the Redwater (2,153,425 barrels this January versus 1,654,230 last year) and the Leduc-Woodbend (1,902,262 versus 1,518,565) fields. Third largest producer this January (with 690,541 barrels) was the Bonnie Glen field, which last January trailed (with 118,231 barrels) the Joarcam, Turner Valley, Acheson and Wizard Lake fields.

In Saskatchewan, January production of crude petroleum increased to 280,752 barrels this year from 174,869 last year; in Manitoba, to 106,801 from 41,582 barrels; and in Ontario, to 32,663 from 15,000 barrels. In the Northwest Territories, January output was reduced to 8,606 barrels this year from 14,009 in 1953, and in New Brunswick, to 1,147 from 1,437 barrels. (7)

Natural Gas Output

Canadian production of natural gas increased to 15,320,894 M cubic feet this January from 11,921,886 M a year earlier and 10,201,550 M in the same month of 1952. During the month, 10,801,389 M cubic feet were sold for $4,966,246 to 286,829 domestic, commercial and industrial customers as compared with 9,159,944 M sold for $3,752,911 to 264,385 customers in January last year. (7)

M A N U F A C T U R I N G

Manufactured Gas Sales

During January distributing companies sold 2,551,048 M cubic feet of manufactured gas in Canada for $3,110,132 as compared with 2,499,023 M sold for $3,005,294 in the same month last year. Number of customers, however, was down to 573,765 from 579,178, with fewer domestic and commercial users but more industrial consumers. (7)
Refined Petroleum Products

Output Higher This January

Canadian refineries produced 13,559,633 barrels of petroleum products this January, 2,119,615 more than in the same month last year. Output was reduced for aviation gasoline, tractor fuel, aviation turbine fuel, kerosene, other light fuel oil, asphalt, coke, lubricating oil and grease, but production was increased for naptha specialties, motor gasoline, stove oil, diesel fuel, furnace oil, heavy fuel oil, liquefied petroleum gases, petroleum feed stocks, wax and candles, and other products.

During the month the refineries received 13,693,704 barrels of crude oil, 2,463,793 more than a year earlier. Receipts of domestic crude climbed to 7,347,572 from 3,837,249 barrels, while receipts of imported crude declined to 6,346,132 from 7,392,662 barrels. February 1 inventories of refined petroleum products were up to 19,765,133 barrels this year from 17,215,778 in 1953, with larger stocks of all except aviation gasoline, other light fuel oil, heavy fuel oil and asphalt.

Paint Sales Lower

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for the bulk of the output, were valued at $8,161,000 in February, 5% under last year's corresponding total of $8,588,000. Since January's sales value had fallen to $6,686,000 from $7,573,000 a year earlier, the cumulative total for the January-February period declined to $14,847,000 from $16,161,000.

Production & Shipments

Of Hard Board In March

Both production and domestic shipments of hard board were lower in March and the first quarter of this year than in the corresponding periods of 1952. Export shipments were higher this March but were down in the three-month comparison.

The month's output amounted to 13,445,058 square feet (15,315,445 a year earlier, bringing the three-month total to 34,471,067 square feet (43,734,801). Domestic shipments in March were 10,309,799 square feet (11,971,328), and in the quarter were 25,191,804 square feet (33,452,816). March export shipments were 4,581,469 square feet (3,744,951), and in the quarter aggregated 8,066,431 square feet (10,303,390).

1953 Year-End Stocks Of Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal

Dealers' stocks of non-ferrous scrap metal at the end of 1953 were larger than a year earlier for nickel, tin-lead, and zinc, but lower for aluminum, brass and bronze, and copper. Totals follow by kind, 1952 figures being in brackets: aluminum, 2,149,998 (2,966,096) pounds; brass and bronze, 5,598,878 (6,693,748); magnesium, 36,290 (8,258); copper, 3,984,283 (6,177,021); nickel, 235,997 (147,469); tin-lead, 9,431,089 (7,085,777); zinc, 3,549,155 (3,440,793).

More Suits, Fewer Dresses

Made In Last 1953 Quarter

Canadian production of all wool suits for men and youths increased in the fourth quarter last year as compared with the last three months of 1952 but declines were recorded for coats and dresses for women and misses, according to the Bureau's quarterly report on garment production.

All wool one-pant suits for men and youths numbered 246,861 against 237,410, and all wool two-pant suits 77,232 against 60,800. All wool one-pant suits for boys, however, numbered only 3,728 against 12,098. All wool pants and slacks for men and youths showed little change at 190,701 versus 190,397. Output of fine cotton shirts for men and youths increased to 181,802 dozen from 150,857 dozen, but production of fine nylon shirts decreased to 9,767 from 10,079 dozen.

Wool coats for women and misses numbered 312,956 as compared with the 330,840 made in October-December of 1952, and dresses of all materials totalled 2,650,030 as compared with 2,940,951. Output of nylon blouses for women and misses showed a slight increase to 59,659 dozen from 58,356 dozen last year.
Nine-City Butter Stocks 66.5% Higher At April 22 This Year

Stocks of creamery butter in nine regional cities totalled 30,406,000 pounds on April 22 this year, 66.5% more than last year's corresponding total of 18,256,000 pounds. Holdings were substantially higher in the east but were lower west of Winnipeg.

Stocks were up in Quebec city to 2,999,000 from 686,000 pounds, in Montreal to 14,668,000 from 7,808,000, in Toronto to 5,902,000 from 4,716,000, and in Winnipeg to 5,584,000 from 3,084,000. Holdings were down in Regina to 195,000 from 632,000, in Saskatoon to 103,000 from 118,000, in Edmonton to 271,000 from 460,000, in Calgary to 123,000 from 137,000, and in Vancouver to 561,000 from 615,000.

More Margarine And Shortening, Less Lard Made In First Quarter

Canadian production of margarine, shortening, refined oils, edible tallow, grease and other oils increased in the first quarter of this year, but output of lard and inedible tallow decreased, according to the Bureau's monthly report on oils and fats.

Output of margarine rose to 28,055,000 pounds from 26,469,000 in the first three months of last year. Packaged shortening was up to 17,312,000 from 14,067,000 pounds, and bulk shortening to 20,985,000 from 19,196,000. Production of coconut oils increased to 3,372,000 from 2,889,000 pounds, and salad and cooking oils to 6,700,000 from 5,747,000. Output of edible tallow advanced to 7,437,000 from 6,269,000 pounds, white grease to 1,047,000 from 696,000, other grease to 1,394,000 from 1,183,000, and other oils to 3,144,000 from 2,479,000. Lard production dropped to 21,571,000 from 23,242,000 pounds.

March production was higher than a year earlier for all except lard, but compared to the preceding month declines were registered for packaged shortening, coconut oils, grease and other oils. March-end stocks were lower than holdings of a month earlier for all except lard, white grease and other oils, which were higher.

More Sugar Made In First Quarter But Total Supply Under Last Year

Canadian production of refined beet and cane sugar increased to 213,819,000 pounds in the first quarter this year from 179,989,000 last year. However, added to January 1 stocks, which were appreciably lower this year, this put total supply at 507,852,000 pounds, a reduction from the 522,621,000 available in the January-March period last year. First quarter sales improved this year and March-end stocks were consequently reduced to 216,718,000 from 251,568,000 pounds a year earlier.

During the quarter manufacturers received 121,644,000 pounds of raw cane sugar as against 98,526,000 in the first three months of 1953. Added to January 1 stocks, which were also higher this year, this put total supply at 278,838,000 pounds, an increase over the 250,929,000 on hand in the first quarter of last year. Meltings and sales took 218,088,000 pounds as against 185,966,000 a year earlier, with the result that March-end holdings declined to 60,750,000 from 64,963,000 pounds.

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on April 7 totalled 352,810,000 bushels, moderately below the 355,403,000 bushels a week earlier, but almost 30% above last year's corresponding total of 272,129,000 bushels. Prairie farmers reduced their marketings of wheat during the week ending April 7 to 2,504,000 bushels from 2,850,000 a year earlier, but increased their deliveries of oats to 861,000 bushels from 706,000, and of barley to 1,350,000 bushels from 972,000. Deliveries of rye declined to 57,000 bushels from 107,000, and of flaxseed to 29,000 bushels from 42,000.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week totalled 3,414,000 bushels, down from 4,927,000 a week earlier, but up from last year's 3,131,000. Cumulative clearances from the beginning of the present crop year to April 7 aggregated 139,116,000 bushels as compared with 173,181,000 at the same time last year.
Canadian farmers realized $2,741,300,000 from the sale of farm products and from participation payments on previous years' grain crops in 1953, according to preliminary estimates. This was 3% below the revised and now all-time high estimate of $2,826,600,000 established in 1952. Supplementary payments made to western farmers under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act amounted to only $1,600,000 in 1953 compared with $5,100,000 in 1952. Higher income from the sale of wheat, dairy products, eggs, corn, sugar beets, hay and wool was more than offset by lower returns from other products.

The decline in farm cash receipts did not occur in all provinces. Cash income in Nova Scotia was fractionally above that of 1952 and receipts in Saskatchewan continued up to a new record high level. Declines occurred in the other provinces and varied from less than 1% in British Columbia to nearly 3% in Prince Edward Island.

Cash receipts from sales of grains, seeds and hay were moderately lower in total in 1953 at $1,083,388,000 a year earlier. Wheat receipts moved up to $687,653,000 but wheat participation payments declined to $125,353,000 from $165,708,000. Final wheat payments usually made before the end of the calendar year were delayed until the closing of the 1953-54 pool on January 30, 1954.

Receipts from the sales of oats declined to $60,645,000 from $70,909,000, and participation payments fell to $10,950,000 from $24,747,000. Barley receipts dropped to $123,519,000, but participation payments moved up to $35,876,000 from $32,842,000. Receipts from sales of rye fell to $13,312,000 from $24,319,000, flax to $19,468,000 from $26,660,000, but corn rose to $19,506,000 from $13,661,000.

Cash receipts from sales of vegetables and other field crops declined to $170,384,000 from $214,897,000. As a result of the substantial reduction in potato prices from the unusually high levels of the preceding year, income from this source was down more than 50% to $31,707,000 from $69,140,000. A smaller crop and reduced prices combined to produce returns from tobacco of $59,200,000 against $66,700,000 in 1952.

Lower prices for all livestock except hogs, and smaller marketings of hogs and sheep combined to reduce income from sales of live stock about 6% to $775,138,000 from $818,439,000 in 1952. Income from the sales of dairy products, at $413,100,000, was approximately 4% above that of 1952, lower prices being more than offset by increased production. Income from sales of eggs rose to $123,774,000 from $109,499,000, and fruits to $141,807,000 from $39,972,000.

Income from farm sales of forest products was slightly lower at $83,637,000 compared with $84,097,000, and fur farm revenues dropped to $8,844,000 from $11,135,000.

Farm cash income from the sale of farm products by provinces, 1952 totals in brackets (in millions): Prince Edward Island, $31.6 ($32.4); Nova Scotia, $39.8 ($40.6); New Brunswick, $53.0 ($46.0); Quebec, $719.0 ($737.1); Ontario, $719.0 ($692.7); Manitoba, $249.8 ($214.2); Saskatchewan, $710.1 ($743.4); Alberta, $506.5 ($491.5); and British Columbia, $104.2 ($103.4).

No estimates for Newfoundland are available. (16)

Farmland price index rose in February to 234.2, 1.1 points above the revised estimate for January and 5.2 points above the November level. Compared with the preceding month, February prices were higher for live stock, dairy products, potatoes, poultry and eggs, and unchanged for grains.

Provincial indexes were higher than in January for all areas except Saskatchewan and British Columbia, and were as follows: Prince Edward Island, 174.8 (170.8 in January); Nova Scotia, 219.6 (222.3); New Brunswick, 189.5 (196.4); Quebec, 270.1 (273.0); Ontario, 258.2 (259.8); Manitoba, 217.1 (218.0); Saskatchewan, 196.6 (196.5); Alberta, 221.4 (221.6); and British Columbia, 262.4 (260.5). (17)
Production of Carbonated Beverages Higher in March

Production of carbonated beverages in March increased to 7,137,824 gallons from the preceding month's 6,322,700 gallons and last year's corresponding total of 6,840,284 gallons, according to the first issue of a new monthly memorandum. This brought the first-quarter total to 19,252,453 gallons as compared with 19,287,960 a year earlier. (18)

Stocks of Frozen Fish

Stocks of frozen fish were smaller on April 1, totalling 26,348,000 pounds compared with 35,293,000 on March 1, and 33,435,000 a year earlier. Cod stocks were 3,808,000 pounds (7,334,000 a year ago); haddock, 1,946,000 (2,683,000 salmon, 4,385,000 (4,341,000); sea herring, 5,500,000 (8,291,000); other sea fish, 9,755,000 (8,141,000); and inland fish, 2,037,000 (5,125,000). (19)

Landings of Fish in Newfoundland in March

Fishermen of Newfoundland caught 11,895,000 pounds of fish valued at $296,000 in March as compared to a catch of 13,795,000 pounds worth $275,000 taken in the same month last year, according to a special statement by the Bureau. (20)

List of Flour & Feed Mills

The Bureau has published a revised list of 101 flour mills and 1,426 feed mills which were in operation this year. Both names and addresses are given. The list shows 58 flour mills in Ontario, 14 in Alberta, 11 in Manitoba, 10 in Saskatchewan, 5 in Quebec, and 3 in British Columbia. No flour mills are listed for the Atlantic Provinces. Feed mills in Ontario numbered 771, Quebec 409, Alberta 82, British Columbia 46, Manitoba 45 New Brunswick 22, Saskatchewan 21, Prince Edward Island 18, and Nova Scotia 12. (20)

PRICES

Wholesale Price Indexes

(1935 - 1939 = 100)

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* 1953 Indexes are revised.

Security Price Indexes

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Railway Carloadings Decreased Again In Second Week Of April

After an increase in the first week of April (to 66,003 from 62,795 cars a year earlier), railway carloadings resumed the downward trend of the previous six months. There were 66,274 cars of revenue freight loaded on Canadian railways during the week ended April 14, as compared with 73,227 cars a year earlier. This brought the cumulative total from the beginning of the year to 969,605 cars as compared with 1,052,441 in the corresponding interval last year. Receipts from connections were down during the week to 29,561 cars from 30,410, and cumulative receipts were off to 423,973 from 468,452 cars.

Eastern division loadings were off 5,231 cars from a year earlier in the latest week to 43,362 cars, with decreases in grain, iron ore, non-ferrous ores and concentrates, non-metallic mine products, and L.C.L. freight, but increased amounts of fuel oil were loaded at stations in this region. Receipts from connections numbered 26,281 cars against 27,554.

Reduced loadings of grain, miscellaneous car loadings and less-than-carload merchandise contributed to a drop of 1,722 cars in the western division to 22,932 cars for the week. Coal shipments were up 209 cars to 1,393 cars. Cars received from connections numbered 434 more at 3,280.

Less Rail Traffic But December Yielded Profit Instead Of Loss

Canada's major railways experienced a general decline in December business last year but a sharper drop in expenses than in revenues yielded a net revenue of $10,904,548 in contrast with a $1,593,684 loss on December operations in 1952. Total revenues were off $5,276,635 or 5% from a year earlier to $94,519,343, while expenses dropped $17,774,867 or 17.5% to $83,614,795.

Reductions in freight, passenger, other passenger, other passenger train and water line revenues outweighed small gains in other revenue accounts. All expense accounts were lower except traffic, which rose 8%. Revenue freight tonnage was off 10% at 12,726,737 tons and ton mileage 13% at 5,090,022,000 ton miles. Average length of haul fell to 400 miles from 413 and tons per loaded freight car mile from 32.5 to 31.7 tons.

Freight receipts per revenue ton mile rose from 1,350 cents to 1,445 cents. Passengers numbered 2,520,963, a 5% drop, and revenue passenger miles were 6% lower at 259,182,000 miles. Receipts per passenger mile were reduced slightly from 2.947 to 2.935 cents. During the month the railways employed 188,264, some 10,730 less than a year earlier, and the payroll was reduced $2,368,732 to $54,157,964.

Passenger Traffic On Transit Systems Lighter In Year 1953

With decreases in both urban and interurban traffic, the number of passengers carried on Canadian transit systems in the year 1953 dropped to 1,403,245,000 from 1,450,719,000 in the preceding year and the all-time peak total of 1,620,337,000 in 1949. Combined revenues increased to $165,815,000 in 1953 from $165,138,000 the year before, an advance in urban receipts more than offsetting a drop in the interurban total.

Urban systems transported 1,310,156,000 revenue passengers in the year 1953, down from 1,353,213,000 the year before, but fare increases boosted their revenues to $119,347,000 from $116,970,000. On interurban systems, 93,089,000 passengers were carried, down from 97,506,000 in 1952, and their revenues dropped to $46,468,000 from $48,168,000.

In 1953, urban carriers received an average of 9.11 cents per passenger compared with 8.64 per fare in 1952. The average passenger on interurban services paid 49.9 cents per trip in 1953 as against 49.4 cents in 1952. On interprovincial routes the average fare fell to 184.8 cents from 193 cents.
Pipe-Line Deliveries Of Oil At New Monthly Peak In January

The movement of oil through Canadian pipe lines continues to set new records. January deliveries rising to 15,467,000 barrels, up 4,642,000 from last year's corresponding total of 10,725,000 barrels. Total net receipts amounted to 15,430,000 barrels, up 4,500,000 or 42%.

Provincial deliveries (1953 figures in brackets) were: British Columbia, 939,868 (nil); Alberta, 1,148,191 (1,589,024); Saskatchewan, 1,221,726 (1,222,193); Manitoba, 3,911,760 (1,681,920); Ontario, 2,837,248 (1,515,229); and Quebec, 5,038,013 (4,716,935). Included in Manitoba's deliveries were 3,368,596 barrels (1,191,468) transferred to the Lakehead Pipe Line at Gretna and 543,164 (490,524 delivered within the province). During the month, 2,672,137 barrels which had been transported through the United States via the Lakehead Pipe Line re-entered Canada at Sarnia. (24)

Water Transportation Revenues Up 15% To Record High In 1952

Total revenues of Canada's water transportation industry reached a record $288,197,617 in 1952, $37,960,589 or 15% more than in 1951. At the same time, total expenses jumped $43,859,741 or 17% to $252,162,736, with the result that net income before income tax was reduced to $36,034,881 from $41,934,033. Income tax took $18,938,368 as against $21,012,336 in 1951.

Operating revenues increased to $279,184,792 from $246,218,010, and other income to $9,012,825 from $4,019,018. Revenues from freight rose to $218,838,813 from $193,640,875, from towing to $16,943,581 from $16,398,371, and from charter to $29,377,166 from $20,912,682, but income from passenger service dropped to $6,076,304 from $7,234,284.

Operating expenses advanced to $248,714,757 from $204,774,042, but other expenses were reduced to $3,414,897 from $3,528,953. Vessel operation cost $124,380,846 versus $111,868,640, maintenance $20,821,006 versus $17,913,922, rentals $51,073,921 versus $31,773,928, administration and general expenses $13,002,420 versus $11,802,514, and insurance $8,688,221 versus $7,784,768.

During the year the industry employed 20,192 as compared with 20,149, in 1951, the payroll increasing to $47,564,739 from $43,949,077, exclusive of meals valued at $5,876,457 as compared with $5,565,915. The number of vessels operated during the season increased to 2,050 from 1,968 in 1951. At the end of the year, 1,559 versus 1,483 Canadian-owned vessels and 209 versus 204 chartered vessels were in operation, while 45 versus 79 Canadian-owned ships were idle. The 1952 year-end total of 1,813 vessels represented a gross investment of $253,200,000 as against 1,766 valued at $224,400,000 at the end of 1951.

There were nine vessels worth $366,794 lost during 1952, while 26 crew members were killed and 1,809 persons were injured. In 1951 there were 10 ships worth $320,543 lost, 12 persons killed and 1,700 injured. In the seven postwar years 1946-52 a total of 87 vessels worth nearly $5,000,000 were lost, while 356 persons were killed and 13,544 were injured. (25)

Travel

Fewer Entries On Traveller's Vehicle Permits This March

Foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits were 6% lower this March. This more than offset increases of 2.8% in January and 3.8% in February and lowered the January-March total 0.5%. March entries totalled 67,218 versus 71,587 and the January-March total 175,571 versus 176,457. The decrease was not general, however, smaller entries in Quebec, British Columbia and Alberta outweighing gains in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick.

January-March entries into Ontario totalled 89,764 (88,954 a year earlier); Quebec, 32,141 (33,655); British Columbia, 31,580 (34,745); New Brunswick, 12,325 (12,120); Manitoba, 5,317 (2,602); Alberta, 2,095 (2,107); Saskatchewan, 1,482 (1,232); Yukon Territory, 738 (517); and Northwest Territories and Nunavut, 192 (201). (26)
Convictions for indictable offences in Canada climbed slightly more than 3% in 1952 to 41,591 from the preceding year's 40,289 which was the lowest since 1937 with the exception of the year 1942, according to the Bureau's annual report on criminal and other offences. The year's total was substantially below 1950's 42,624, and approximately on a par with 1948 and 1949. Summary convictions rose to an all-time high of 1,565,707 from 1,338,466 the year before.

During 1952, Canadian courts of law dealt with 35,086 adults charged with 51,125 indictable crimes, of whom 29,761 were found guilty of 41,591 offences. This compares with 34,181 adults charged with 48,225 indictable crimes in 1951, of whom 28,980 were found guilty of 40,289 offences, and 36,134 persons charged with 48,842 indictable crimes, of whom 30,922 were found guilty of 41,661 offences in 1949.

The figures indicate that persons guilty of serious crimes, so far as they are dealt with in the courts, have not appreciably climbed in numbers in the last four years. The levelling off becomes more marked if the increase in population over this period is taken into account.

Thefts continued to account for the greater number of convictions for indictable offences in 1952 when the total was 13,036 compared with 13,260 the year before. Burglary, house and shop breaking was next in order with 5,784 convictions (5,585 in 1951), false pretences 4,175 (3,747), forgery and uttering 2,224 (1,950), and aggravated assault, 1,783 (1,664).

The steady upward climb in recent years in the number of summary convictions is related to a large extent to the increase in the use of motor cars. Since 1946, when war restrictions affecting the use of motor vehicles were lifted, the number of convictions for breaches of traffic regulations has shown a marked increase from 453,630 in 1946 to 1,065,426 in 1951 and 1,310,637 in 1952. They accounted for 82.6% of all summary convictions in 1952 as against 81.4% in 1951 and only 68.8% in 1946.

Summary convictions for intoxication totalled 85,682 in 1952 (83,898 in 1951), vagrancy, 6,956 (6,893); disturbing the peace, 12,760 (12,213); common assault, 4,546 (4,046); breaches of game and fisheries acts, 5,839 (5,996); and infractions of the Income Tax Act 4,741 (3,601). (27)

ANNUAL INDUSTRY REPORTS

22% Slump in Value of Shipments of Hardwood Flooring Industry in 1952

Factory shipments of Canada's hardwood flooring industry totalled $12,281,016 in 1952, a 22% reduction from the 1951 gross output value of $15,800,285. Material costs were 23% lower at $6,916,692 against $8,978,183, while employment decreased 17% to 1,463 from 1,768 and the payroll 11% to $3,587,950 from $4,033,546.

Hardwood flooring shipments represented 78% of the total shipments in 1952, and were valued at $9,144,497, a 23% drop from $5,811,035 in 1951. Quantity of hardwood flooring shipped was down from 72,852 M feet to 51,924 M feet, of which 54% was birch, 17% maple, 24.5% plain cut red oak, and the balance other hardwoods. Shipments of matched lumber, planed lumber, mouldings and other products were valued at $2,689,567, a 15.5% increase from $2,328,560.

Exports of hardwood flooring fell to 3,046 M feet worth $395,341 in 1952 from 6,140 M feet worth $868,722 in 1951. Imports, however, were up to 12,823 M feet worth $1,622,381 from 9,700 M feet worth $1,593,761. Last year exports improved to 4,425 M feet worth $505,543, and imports showed a further gain of 16,441 M feet worth $2,201,072. (28)
### RELEASED THIS WEEK

(Publications are numbered similarly to news items to indicate source of latter)

1. Summary of Foreign Trade, Feb., 10¢
2. Imports for Consumption, Summary, Feb., 20¢
3. Federal Government Employment & Payrolls, Jan., 10¢
   --- The Labour Force, Mar., 20¢, (Summarized in Bulletin of Apr. 23)
5. Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, Jan., 10¢
6. Products Made From Canadian Clays, Jan., 10¢
7. Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, Jan., 15¢
8. Refined Petroleum Products, Jan., 25¢
9. Sales of Paints, Varnishes & Lacquers, Feb., 10¢
10. Hard Board, Mar., 10¢
11. Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal & Secondary Non-Ferrous Ingot, 4th Quarter, 1953, 10¢
12. Quarterly Production of Garments (Selected Items), 4th Quarter, 1953, 25¢
13. Oils & Fats, Mar., 10¢
14. Sugar Situation, Mar., 10¢
15. Grain Statistics, Weekly, 10¢
16. Farm Cash Income, 1953, 25¢
17. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, Feb., 10¢
18. Production of Carbonated Beverages, Mar., 10¢
19. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, Apr., 20¢
20. #44: Flour Mills & Feed Mills in Canada, 1954, 52¢
21. Railway Carloadings, Weekly, 10¢
22. Operating Revenues, Expenses & Statistics of Railways, Dec., 10¢
23. Summary of Monthly Transit Reports, 1953, 10¢
24. Pipe Lines (Oil) Statistics, Jan., 10¢
25. Water Transportation, 1952, 25¢
27. Statistics of Criminal & Other Offences, 1952, 50¢

M - Memorandum
RP - Reference Paper

4502-503
Peneded Zinc: Three out of every four tons produced in Canada are exported.

Gambling convictions have decreased spectacularly in recent years, and in 1952 numbered only 2,656. There were two and one-half times as many in 1949, six times as many in 1945, and 15 times as many in the peak year of 1936. There were 369 convictions for every 100,000 population in 1936, more than 20 times the 1952 ratio of 18.

Goat Foods: 161 tons were produced in 1952, 48 tons or over 42% more than in 1951.

Flour Mills: Of the 101 in operation, 58 are in Ontario, 14 in Alberta, 11 in Manitoba, 10 in Saskatchewan, five in Quebec and three in British Columbia.

Prospecting: Silver-lead-zinc mining companies spent $2,300,000 on prospecting in 1952, more than two and one-half times the $900,000 spent in 1951 and nearly eight times the $300,000 spent in 1946.

Convictions for breaches of traffic regulations have increased steadily since 1944. In 1952 there were roughly 1,300,000, nearly five times as many as eight years earlier, and they represented 83 versus 63% of all summary convictions. The number per hundred thousand population was four times as great as in 1944 at 8,965 versus 2,255.

Tennis Racquets: 19,287 were made in 1952, or 26% fewer than in 1951, and average factory price rose 62¢ or 15% to $4.80.

Most important mineral in value terms last year was oil, which represented 15% of the total mineral production value as compared with 11% in the preceding year. In 1952 gold was first, closely followed by nickel and copper, each accounting for about 12% of the total. In 1953 nickel again represented 12% of the total while copper accounted for 11% and gold for 10%. The proportion accounted for by coal declined to 8 from 9%, and by zinc to 7 from 10%. The proportion was unchanged for asbestos at 7%, lead at 4% and cement at 4%, but other minerals represented 22% versus 19%.

Chain stores accounted for 84% of the total sales of variety stores in 1952 as compared with 87.1% in 1941 and 89.1% in 1930.

Chain stores transported slightly more than 40% of the 71,300,000 tons of foreign cargoes loaded or unloaded at ports in Canada in 1952 as compared with 50.5% of the 659,500,000 tons in 1951.

Refined Sugar: 213,819,000 pounds were produced in the first quarter this year, 18% more than the 179,989,000 made last year.

Silver: Average price per troy ounce fell to 83.52 cents in 1952 from 94.55 cents in 1951, but was higher than in any other year since 1946.

Sourdough Flooring: Factories shipped 51,924,000 feet in 1952, of which 54% was birch, 24.5% plain cut red oak, 17% maple, and the balance other hardwoods.

Feed Mills: There are 1,426 in operation in nine provinces, 771 of which are in Ontario and 409 in Quebec. There are none in Newfoundland nor the territories.

Most important mineral in value terms last year was oil, which represented 15% of the total mineral production value as compared with 11% in the preceding year. In 1952 gold was first, closely followed by nickel and copper, each accounting for about 12% of the total. In 1953 nickel again represented 12% of the total while copper accounted for 11% and gold for 10%. The proportion accounted for by coal declined to 8 from 9%, and by zinc to 7 from 10%. The proportion was unchanged for asbestos at 7%, lead at 4% and cement at 4%, but other minerals represented 22% versus 19%.

Butter & Cheese Factories: 59.3% were owned by individuals and partnerships in 1939 but by the end of the war the proportion had dropped to 49.1% and by 1952 to 41.3%. In the same interval the proportion owned by co-operative associations increased from 20.3% in 1939 to 33.5% in 1945 to 40.6% in 1952. Incorporated companies owned 20.4% at the start of the war, 17.4% in 1945 and 18.1% at the end of 1952.