HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Labour: Hourly earnings in manufacturing averaged lower at the start of September than at the beginning of August, the third drop in as many months. Among the contributing factors: lay-offs for model change-over in the automobile industry. (Page 13)

Manufacturing: Production of pig iron and steel continued below last year's level in September and the three-quarter tally showed drops of 24% for pig iron, 25% for steel ingots and 20% for steel castings. Manufacturers sold nearly 2 1/2 times as many TV sets this August and 8-month sales were 88% above last year. Output of cement and most of the principal concrete building materials was higher than in 1953 in September and the first 3 quarters. (Pages 6 & 7)

Food: Stocks of creamery butter, cheese, skim milk powder, ice cream, eggs, margarine, frozen fish and apples were larger on November 1 than a year earlier, but holdings of evaporated whole milk, poultry, meat, frozen cream, potatoes, onions, carrots, celery and pears were smaller. (Pages 2 & 3)

Agriculture: Latest estimates show a 20% larger apple crop and a 10% larger grape crop this year than in 1953. In contrast, other fruit crops were smaller -- peaches by 12%, plums and prunes by 3%, peaches by 19%, apricots by 4%, cherries by 4%, strawberries by 5%, raspberries by 10% and loganberries by 5%. (Page 2)

Prices: Five of the 10 regional consumer price indexes declined and five advanced between September 1 and October 1. Main changes were lower food prices, higher clothing prices and rents. (Page 12)

Merchandising: Although factory shipments fell in September to the lowest level since the early months of 1949, dealers sold more new passenger cars than in 1953 for the first time this year. Both factory shipments and retail sales of commercial vehicles were down sharply. The 9-month tally shows declines from last year in shipments and sales for both passenger cars and commercial vehicles. (Page 9)

Trade: By the standards of earlier years, Canada's foreign trade was at a high level in the first half of 1954. The value of exports was surpassed only in the January-June periods of 1953 and 1952, while the value of imports was greater than in any first half-year except 1953. (Page 10)
Canada's crops of apples and grapes were larger this year than last, but smaller crops of other important fruits were harvested. The apple crop is now estimated at 14,100,000 bushels, 20% larger than last year's 11,731,000. British Columbia's crop rose 19% or 1,100,000 bushels to 7,100,000, and Nova Scotia's crop increased 61% to 1,755,000 bushels. Estimates place the hand-picked crop in Nova Scotia at only 885,000 bushels, the remainder (870,000 bushels) being salvaged from the quantity blown to the ground during the hurricane of September 12. It is estimated that 20,000 bushels of windfalls were marketed as fresh fruit in Nova Scotia following the storm, the rest being shipped for processing. Quebec's crop rose 15% to 2,000,000 bushels and Ontario's increased 13% to 2,983,000 bushels.

The grape crop increased 10% to 88,200,000 pounds from 80,500,000 a year earlier. Production of pears fell 12% to 1,300,000 bushels, plums and prunes 3% to 754,000 bushels, peaches 19% to 2,300,000 bushels, apricots 4% to 158,000 bushels, cherries 4% to 431,000 bushels, strawberries 5% to 28,400,000 quarts, raspberries 10% to 10,600,000 quarts, and loganberries 5% to 1,600,000 pounds. (1)

Larger Stocks Of Most Dairy And Poultry Products This November Cold storage stocks of creamery butter, cheese, skim milk powder, ice cream and eggs were higher on November 1 than at the same time last year, while holdings of evaporated whole milk, poultry meat and frozen cream were lower. Creamery butter stocks amounted to 114,058,000 pounds versus 91,878,000 pounds; cheese 48,387,000 pounds versus 45,539,000 pounds; evaporated whole milk 59,758,000 pounds versus 61,351,000 pounds; skim milk powder 17,180,000 pounds versus 14,833,000 pounds; ice cream 908,000 gallons versus 841,000 gallons; frozen cream 483,000 pounds versus 785,000 pounds; eggs 321,000 cases versus 197,000 cases; and poultry meat 16,850,000 pounds versus 18,706,000 pounds. (2)

Production Of Creamery Butter, Cheddar Cheese Higher In October And 10 Months Production of creamery butter and cheddar cheese increased in October and the first 10 months this year as compared with a year earlier. Ice cream production was slightly higher in the month but lower in the cumulative period, while output of concentrated milk products was unchanged in October from a year earlier but moderately higher in the 10 months.

Creamery butter production in October amounted to 25,763,000 pounds as compared with 25,590,000 in the same month last year, bringing the January-October total to 282,612,000 pounds as compared with 272,947,000. Domestic disappearance in October totalled 27,011,000 pounds as compared with 28,008,000, and January-October disappearance aggregated 239,628,000 as compared with 235,263,000.

October's production of cheddar cheese amounted to 7,523,000 pounds as compared with 7,035,000, and January-October output aggregated 75,356,000 pounds as compared with 68,787,000. Ice cream production in October totalled 1,778,000 gallons as compared with 1,713,000, and in the 10-month period aggregated 25,349,000 gallons as compared with 25,803,000. Production of concentrated milk in October totalled 33,659,000 pounds as compared with 33,609,000 last year, bringing the 10-month total to 404,478,000 pounds as compared with 393,209,000 pounds. (3)
Production and Stocks of Process Cheese In October

Production of process cheese in October amounted to 3,976,000 pounds, up 5% from September’s revised total of 3,800,000 pounds but down 21% last year’s October output of 4,999,000 pounds.

Cumulative output for the first 10 months this year totalled 36,803,000 pounds, down 1% from 37,110,000. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of October were 1,342,000 pounds against 1,274,000 a month earlier and 1,244,000 last year.

Margarine Production Increased In October And 10-Month Period

Margarine production in October rose to 11,717,000 pounds from 11,581,000 a year earlier and the cumulative output for the January-October period climbed to 95,063,000 pounds from 89,264,000. November 1 stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and other warehouses moved up to 2,988,000 pounds earlier and 2,401,000 a year ago. (4)

Stocks Of Frozen Fish Up 4.3% On November 1

Stocks of frozen fish on November 1 amounted to 67,290,000 pounds, up 4.3% from last year’s 64,532,000 pounds, according to advance figures. Holdings of frozen fresh fish rose 3.7% to 64,651,000 pounds from 62,354,000, and the stocks of frozen smoked fish increased 21.2% to 2,639,000 pounds from 2,178,000. Freezings in October totalled 17,030,000 pounds, a decrease of 27% from September’s 23,332,000.

Holdings of cod on November 1 were 11,407,000 pounds (6,982,000 a year ago); haddock, 4,963,000 pounds (1,742,000); salmon, 12,396,000 pounds (15,727,000); sea herrings, 4,944,000 pounds (9,255,000); other sea fish, 28,074,000 (25,461,000); and inland fish 5,506,000 (5,365,000). (5)

Meat Stocks Lower On November 1

Stocks of meat held by packers, abattoirs and cold storage warehouses on November 1 totalled 53,784,000 pounds, 20% less than last year’s 67,436,000 pounds. Holdings of frozen meat declined to 22,365,000 pounds from 34,947,000, fresh meat to 19,383,000 pounds from 19,824,000, and cured meat to 12,036,000 pounds from 12,665,000. (6)

Stocks Of Vegetables & Fruit On November 1

Smaller stocks of potatoes, onions, carrots and celery were held in cold and common storage on November 1 than at the same time last year. Apple stocks were up from a year earlier, but the holdings of pears were down. Stocks of frozen fruit and fruit in preservatives, and frozen vegetables and vegetables in brine were larger.

November 1 stocks of potatoes were 22,921,000 bushels (27,468,000 a year ago); onions, 661,000 (1,243,000); carrots, 564,000 (1,215,000); cabbage, 559,000 (368,000); and celery, 181,000 crates (273,000). Apple stocks were 7,581,000 bushels (6,531,000); and pears, 231,000 bushels (336,000).

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives on November 1 amounted to 39,580,000 pounds as against 34,101,000, and the holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, totalled 23,603,000 pounds against 22,671,000. (7)
Smaller Pack Of Green And Wax Beans In 1954.
The commercial pack of green or wax beans this year declined to 3,163,710 dozen containers from 3,447,555 dozen in 1953 and net weight of contents fell to 48,-315,467 pounds from 55,480,367.
Amount processed other than by canning was 2,218,565 pounds versus 2,127,724.

Canned Fruit Stocks Up 20% At The End Of September, But Vegetables Down 18%
Commercial canners, wholesalers and chain store warehouses had larger stocks of canned fruit at the end of September this year than a year earlier but the holdings of canned vegetables were smaller, according to advance figures. Canned fruit stocks were up 20% to 6,886,636 dozen containers from 5,663,770 dozen but the vegetable stocks were down 18% to 21,520,727 dozen containers from 25,294,206 dozen. Among the principal canned fruits there were increases in applesauce, apricots, blueberries, cherries, cocktail and salad fruits, peaches, Bartlett pears, pineapple, plums and gages, raspberries and strawberries, but decreases in loganberries and Keiffer pears. Stocks of green or wax beans, beets, corn, peas, spinach, and tomatoes were smaller, but holdings of most other canned vegetables were larger. End-of-September stocks of individual items in dozen cans, with 1953 figures in brackets, are detailed below:

Canned fruits: solid pack apples, 46,237 (50,226); crabapples, 15,074 (20,322); applesauce, 190,782 (33,343); apricots, 442,076 (335,479); blueberries, 122,695 (53,141); cherries, 529,742 (362,022); cocktail and salad fruits, 670,599 (436,922); grapefruit, 23,818 (16,856); loganberries, 19,446 (46,642); peaches, 2,861,862 (2,639,523); Bartlett pears, 275,486 (180,806); Keiffer pears, 54,131 (152,844); apple pie filling, 12,578 (10,356); other pie filling, 74,145 (48,219); pineapple, 462,578 (346,723); plums and gages, 447,-565 (404,428); raspberries, 305,367 (271,711); rhubarb, 3,935 (4,683); strawberries, 275,385 (177,260); all other fruits, 52,453 (72,354).

Canned vegetables: asparagus, 311,309 (272,694); green or wax beans, 511,149 (3,644,486); baked beans, 1,608,552 (1,495,583); beets, 558,645 (512,-818); carrots, 159,787 (98,020); carrots and peas, 435,313 (494,711); corn, 4,938,386 (6,409,145); mixed vegetables, 321,611 (208,275); peas, 6,723,936 (6,897,639); pumpkin and squash, 291,262 (290,336); sauerkraut, 162,369 (67,-256); spinach, 172,660 (215,325); tomatoes, 2,147,635 (4,484,019); all other vegetables, 178,113 (193,887).

Other canned foods: apple juice, 274,180 (138,083); other fruit juice, 740,652 (585,423); apple juice concentrate, 34 (335); infant and junior fruits, 1,986,855 (1,800,278); infant and junior soups, 452,912 (536,493); infant and junior vegetables, 947,835 (1,215,173); other infant and junior foods, 1,736,323 (1,854,807); jams, 457,474 (385,347); jellies, 72,279 (69,997); marmalades, 144,788 (115,213); salad dressing and mayonnaise, 104,613 (86,346); peanut butter, 105,055 (108,728); pickles, 552,366 (499,470); prepared mustard, 173,271 (132,568); relishes, 72,972 (61,844); ready dinners, 364,732 (264,812); sandwich spread, 49,380 (43,157); chili sauce, 196,365 (284,905); meat sauces, 58,754 (52,374); other sauces, 150,963 (82,489); soups, 7,150,209 (8,685,984); spaghetti, 555,516 (398,632); tomato juice, 4,011,567 (5,641,457); tomato ketchup, 2,271,889 (2,342,794); tomato pulp, paste and puree, 245,330 (314,-362); vinegar, 238,686 (148,972); honey, 90,301 (94,483).
Supplies of wheat remaining on or about October 1 in the four major wheat exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,086,000,000 bushels, about 1% greater than the 1,977,300,000 available a year ago. October 1 supplies were held as follows: United States, 1,190,500,000 bushels (1,046,000,000 a year earlier); Canada, 684,400,000 (795,600,000); Australia, 110,000,000 (52,600,000); and Argentina, 61,100,000 (82,700,000).

Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial positions. The October 15 Canadian crop estimate (released on November 5), as anticipated, was well below the September 1 estimate. The inclusion of the new estimate in the above calculations has brought the current total supply position of the "Big Four" into close alignment with that of a year ago.

Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from the four major exporting countries in August and September amounted to 114,800,000 bushels, down 6.9% from last year's comparable total of 123,300,000 bushels. Shipments from Canada declined to 48,800,000 bushels from 53,200,000, and the United States to 32,400,000 bushels from 41,900,000. Exports from Argentina rose to 22,500,000 bushels from 19,200,000, and Australia to 11,100,000 bushels from 9,000,000.

Record Year For Brewers

Factory selling value of the production of Canada's brewing industry reached an all-time peak of $327,-
981,578 last year, 7% above the 1952 output of $303,929,962. Taxes and duties paid to the Federal and Provincial Governments totalled $127,095,922 as against $125,161,156 in 1952, leaving a net value of production of $200,885,656, an increase of $22,116,850 or more than 12%. Beer, ale, stout and porter were the main products, totalling 206,908,214 gallons valued at $324,203,939 as compared with 193,830,348 gallons worth $300,475,178. Other products were soft drinks, $1,709,094 ($1,511,302 in 1952); wet and dried grains, $1,297,166 ($1,221,959); and yeast, $150,497 ($131,755).

Factory sales of beer, stout and porter were higher last year than in 1952 in all parts of the country. The increase in Ontario amounted to 5,888,114 gallons or 8% to 82,284,806, and in Quebec to 5,642,545 or 8% to 67,642,030. Saskatchewan sales had the largest percentage gain with an increase of 829,206 gallons or 9.5% to 9,559,251. Sales in Alberta increased by 524,940 gallons or 4% to 14,621,338, in the Atlantic Provinces by 407,795 or 5% to 8,568,353, in Manitoba by 290,210 or 3% to 9,865,826, and in British Columbia by 83,056 or less than 1% to 14,936,610.

Materials cost Canada's 61 breweries $51,482,008 last year as compared with $49,713,888 in 1952. Malt consumption advanced to 397,785,315 pounds valued at $254,429,167 from 393,125,325 pounds worth $241,701,912. Hops totalled 4,288,812 pounds as against 4,229,038 in 1952, but the value declined to $3,398,160 from $3,623,261. Cartons, cans, crowns, corks, bungs, labels and other expendable packaging materials cost the industry $19,391,620 as compared with $18,247,373. In addition to the expenditure on consumable materials, another $6,201,987 as against $5,665,785 in 1952 was spent for new bottles, cases, barrels and kegs. (9)
MANUFACTURING

More Cement & Concrete Building Products

Cement production advanced in September to 1,992,085 barrels from 1,922,704, and in the 9 months to 16,952,936 barrels as against 16,641,682 last year. Shipments in September to customers were lower this year at 2,064,267 barrels versus 2,209,399, but 9-month shipments were up to 17,453,637 barrels from 16,835,939.

During September 10,922,710 concrete bricks were produced as compared with 6,924,869 a year earlier, and 9-month production increased to 64,942,532 from 47,421,386. Output of gravel concrete blocks advanced to 7,314,553 from 6,987,779 in September, but declined to 53,309,887 in the three-quarter comparison from 54,616,127. Cinder concrete block production increased to 1,561,649 from 1,330,775 in September and to 13,251,778 from 10,052,199 in the 9 months, and the output of haydite, slag and other types of concrete blocks advanced to 1,094,871 from 511,604 in the month and to 5,254,701 from 4,563,554 in the January-September period. Production of concrete chimney blocks rose to 139,819 from 135,729 in September, but fell to 746,297 from 805,490 in the 9 months.

Production of cement drain pipe, sewer pipe, water pipe and culvert tile amounted to 37,403 tons in September as compared with 23,419 tons in September last year, and in the first 9 months increased to 234,175 tons from 195,546. September output of ready-mixed concrete increased to 245,225 cubic yards this year from 219,079 cubic yards in 1953, and the three-quarter production totalled 1,652,266 cubic yards as against 1,262,554 cubic yards a year earlier.

Production of Sawn Lumber In August

Production of sawn lumber this August rose 16% in British Columbia, 48% in Nova Scotia, 15% in Saskatchewan, and 4% in Ontario, but in the other provinces was lower than in August last year. In the January-August period British Columbia's production rose 1% and Saskatchewan's 22%, but declines were common to other provinces.

British Columbia's production of sawn lumber and ties in August amounted to 413,109,000 board feet as compared with 355,879,000 a year earlier, bringing the 8-month total to 2,706,545,000 board feet as compared with 2,675,724,000.

Ontario's August output of sawn lumber totalled 143,085,000 board feet as compared with 138,130,000, and cumulative production for the 8-month period was 544,770,000 board feet versus 623,446,000. August's production in Quebec amounted to 109,622,000 board feet as compared with 152,683,000, and in the 8 months the output aggregated 761,778,000 board feet against 933,416,000.

January-August production totals for the other provinces were: Prince Edward Island, 5,054,000 board feet (6,645,000 a year ago); Nova Scotia, 211,265,000 (233,907,000); New Brunswick, 192,033,000 (309,282,000); Manitoba, 42,562,000 (54,477,000); Saskatchewan, 77,057,000 (63,089,000); and Alberta, 273,019,000 (310,091,000). (11 & 12)
Another Sharp Boost In TV-Set Sales In August

Producers' sales of TV sets took another sharp jump in August, while radio receiving set sales continued to drop, according to figures. TV set sales totalled 55,794 units, steeply above last year's 22,350, and second only to the all-time monthly peak of 59,277 sold in October last year. January-August sales rose sharply to 262,717 units from 157,738 last year. Radio receiving set sales in August were cut to 30,568 units from 39,858 last year, and January-August sales dropped to 281,629 units from 378,160.

TV set sales increased in all provinces in August as compared with a year earlier. In Quebec sales were tripled to 22,358 units from 7,901, and in Ontario were up steeply to 20,164 units from 13,979. In the Prairie Provinces sales jumped to 6,374 units from 83, in British Columbia to 5,355 from 334, and in the Atlantic Provinces to 1,543 from 53.

 Declines in radio sales in August were common to all provinces except the Atlantic area and Saskatchewan. Sales in Ontario totalled 13,367 (19,220 last year); Quebec, 6,814 (8,066); Atlantic Provinces, 3,292 (2,996); Alberta, 2,217 (2,715); British Columbia, 2,215 (3,448); Saskatchewan, 1,403 (1,392); and Manitoba, 1,260 (2,021). (13)

Output Of Pig Iron, Steel Ingots And Castings Again Declined In September

Canadian production of pig iron and steel ingots and castings continued below last year's level in September and for the first three quarters of 1954 pig iron production showed a drop of almost 21%, while production of steel ingots was down by nearly one-fourth and steel castings by close to one-fifth.

Production of pig iron dropped to 156,373 tons in September from 243,963 in the same month last year, bringing 9-month output to 1,635,428 tons as against 2,271,754. September output of steel ingots fell to 241,553 tons from 321,332 last year, and January-September production amounted to 2,287,962 tons as against 3,034,491. Output of steel castings dropped to 5,805 tons in September from 8,012 a year earlier, and in the 9 months was down to 64,595 tons as against 80,347.

August's shipments of primary steel shapes from steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, fell to 204,799 tons from 251,409 a year earlier, and January-August shipments declined to 1,743,942 tons from 2,161,137. Producers interchanged 106,784 tons in August, down from 118,658, and 8-month shipments dropped to 856,838 tons from 981,404. (14, 15 & 16)

Output Of Iron Castings, Cast Iron Pipe And Fittings Lower This August

Production and shipments of iron castings and cast iron pipes and fittings continued below last year's level in August, and for the first 8 months of 1954 production was down more than 12% and shipments almost 11%.

Production fell to 43,300 tons in September from 50,200 last year, and in the January-August period amounted to 475,600 tons as against 542,000. Shipments declined to 40,700 tons in August from 43,600 a year earlier, and in the first 8 months amounted to 338,900 tons as against 380,200. (17)
Rubber Consumption Up In September

Combined consumption of natural, synthetic, and reclaim rubber in September rose to 7,250 tons from 5,399 in August, and month-end stocks fell to 12,073 tons from 13,009. Domestic disappearance of synthetic and reclaim rubber rose to 8,294,119 barrels as compared with 7,101,563. (18)

Refinery Receipts Of Domestic Crude Petroleum Increased 16.8% In August

Refinery receipts of Canadian crude petroleum rose 16.8% in August as compared with a year earlier, while receipts from other countries declined 5.9%. The result was an overall increase of 5.5% in receipts from all sources. The month's output of refined products was moderately higher and refinery inventories at the beginning of September rose 22%. Receipts of crude petroleum from all sources totalled 14,906,245 barrels as compared with 14,127,034 last year, domestic sources accounting for 8,294,119 barrels as compared with 7,101,563.

Among major refined products there were increases in August's production of motor gasoline, stove oil, diesel fuel, and heavy fuel oil, but a decline in furnace oil. Total output of refined products in the month amounted to 14,598,405 barrels as against 14,432,489, and September 1 refinery stocks totalled 23,522,129 barrels against 19,290,713. (19)

Leather Footwear Output Declined Again in August

Continuing the series of monthly declines of the past year, production of leather footwear in August fell 2% to 3,226,197 pairs from 3,296,904 in August 1953. This brought the cumulative output for the January-August period to 25,147,209 pairs, nearly 7% below last year's 26,961,739 pairs. (20)

Shipments Of Leather Tanneries Up In 1953

Canadian tanneries shipped $47,996,398 worth of products last year, about 3% more than in 1952 when $46,601,610 worth was shipped. However, this was less than in previous post-war years and well below the 1947 peak of $69,240,166.

The principal types of leather shipped in 1953 were cattle and horse upper leather, $17,491,815 ($15,418,297 in 1952); sole leather, $7,947,394 ($7,823,658); calf upper leather, $6,060,540 ($5,665,391); glove leather, $2,345,577 ($3,565,685); and chrome splits, $1,733,265 ($1,741,658). These five items accounted for about 74% of the total value shipments in both years. Materials cost $30,354,423 last year as compared with $27,973,421 in 1952, hides and skins representing 77% in both years, and tanning extracts, dyes and other materials the other 23%. Hides and skins numbered 4,087,864 with a weight of 123,665,726 pounds and a value of $22,415,421 as compared with 3,741,088 skins weighing 109,220,031 pounds and worth $20,006,120 in 1952. Skins of Canadian origin accounted for 2,859,301 as compared with 2,388,944.

The number of tanneries in operation decreased last year by 7 to 60, but the number of employees in the industry increased by 3% to 4,051 from 3,923 in 1952. The industry's payroll rose by 9% to $11,757,558 from $10,790,441, and the cost of fuel and electricity increased to $1,111,472 from $1,071,424. The higher costs for power and materials reduced the net value of the industry's shipments to $16,530,503 as compared with $17,556,765 in 1952. (21)
Passenger Car Sales Showed First 1954 Gain In September But Factory Shipments Declined

Retail sales of new passenger cars in September were above a year earlier in number for the first time and in value for the second time this year, but factory shipments fell to the lowest level since the early months of 1949. Both sales and factory shipments of commercial vehicles were down sharply. In the January-September period retail sales and factory shipments of both passenger cars and commercial vehicles were down from last year.

September sales of passenger cars rose to 23,175 units from 22,495 in the same month last year and their retail value increased to $58,521,000 from $55,762,000. January-September sales declined to 258,275 units from 293,665, and the value was cut to $662,356,000 from $736,194,000. September sales of commercial vehicles dropped to 5,137 units from 7,534, and the retail value fell to $13,269,000 from $19,993,000. In the 9-month period the sales were down to 59,052 units from 82,865, and the value fell to $152,785,000 from $207,837,000.

Factory shipments of Canadian-made passenger cars in September dropped to 10,548 units, steeply below last year's 27,300, and January-September shipments were cut to 241,555 units from 289,207. Shipments of U.S. makes declined in September to 474 units from 561, and 9-month shipments were down to 15,327 units from 20,572. Sales of European-made passenger cars fell in September to 1,222 units from 1,856, and January-September sales dropped to 16,595 units from 23,133. Shipments of Canadian-made commercial vehicles in September totalled 3,434 units, approximately halved from last year's 7,721, and 9-month shipments dropped to 59,052 units from 100,843. September's shipments of U.S. makes declined to 264 units from 295 and cumulative shipments fell to 3,015 units from 3,223. The month's sales of European trucks and buses rose to 129 units from 116, but 9-month sales declined to 1,253 units from 1,279.

Financing of sales of new passenger cars followed the trend of sales in September with a rise to 10,319 units from 9,968, and the amount of financing climbed to $19,138,000 from $17,611,000. In January-September 103,113 units were financed for $188,668,000, down from 115,562 units financed for $198,633,000. New commercial vehicle financing fell in September to 2,270 units from 3,368, and the financing to $5,011,000 from $6,836,000. In the 9-month period 22,656 units were financed for $49,188,000 as compared with 33,635 financed for $70,316,000.

Used passenger car financing fell in September to 26,109 units from 28,715, and the financed value to $21,280,000 from $23,684,000. In the 9 months 262,194 units were financed for $218,002,000 as compared with 307,013 financed for $258,652,000. In the commercial class 5,275 used units were financed in September for $4,226,000, as compared with 6,103 involving $5,233,000. In the January-September period 45,087 units were financed for $38,724,000 as against 53,732 units financed for $49,186,000. (22 & 23)

Department Store Sales Increased 2.4% In Week

Department store sales increased 2.4% during the week ending November 6 as compared with the same week last year. British Columbia had a sales gain of 11.9%, Ontario 8%, and Manitoba 2.4%. Sales in the other provinces were lower, Saskatchewan leading with a drop of 22.2%, Alberta next at 8.9%, the Atlantic Provinces 3%, and Quebec 0.4%.
Canada's trade in the first half of 1954 was quite high by the standards of earlier years, according to the Review of Foreign Trade for the half-year by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Exports in this period totalled $1,872,000,000, and were surpassed only by those of 1952 and 1953, while imports reached $2,050,000,000, greater than in any first half-year except 1953.

Both exports and imports were smaller in volume than in the first half of 1953, with import volume showing the larger decline. But the continued fall in export prices in the half-year, while import prices remained fairly stable, caused the value of exports to be reduced by almost as much as the value of imports. The import balance was somewhat smaller relative to total trade than in the first half of 1953.

Statistics for the half-year indicate that the sharp decline in Canadian trade which occurred in the latter months of 1953 was arrested during the first half of 1954, and that some measure of recovery occurred in the period.

The greater part of the decline in export volume resulted from the lower level of world trade in grains after the 1953 harvest. Consuming countries required smaller imports after two good harvests and competition from other exporters was also more severe.

Some exports to the United States were affected by the economic readjustments in that country, especially farm implements, some metals and lumber. But lower sales of some products to the United States were partly offset by greater sales in overseas markets, which generally showed no economic declines.

Smaller imports of textiles and textile fibres accounted for a large part of the decline in total imports. This decline followed the growth of inventories in Canada and an apparent weakening of demand in 1953. Other sizeable reductions were in purchases of farm tractors and other farm machinery, automobiles, primary iron and steel and refrigerators.

Changes in the direction of trade during the half-year were not great. The sharp decline in grain shipments to overseas countries was partly offset by greater sales of other goods, and the net reduction in overseas exports was therefore little greater than in exports to the United States. Imports from several Commonwealth countries and from Latin America increased in value in the half-year, due partly to higher prices for such products as coffee, tea, cocoa and wool, but there was little reduction in the share of imports drawn from the United States.

Canada ranked first among world countries in imports per capita and in total trade per capita in 1953 for the first time in the post-war period, and was second only to New Zealand in exports per capita, states the review. New Zealand made an especially sharp cut in her imports in 1953 in order to help in rebuilding the exchange reserves of the sterling area. It does not appear likely that imports into New Zealand will again be low enough in 1954 to permit Canada to maintain first rank in trade per capita.

MORE
Available statistics on trade in 1954 indicate that, for the first half-year at least, Canada probably ranked fourth in total value of trade, after the Federal Republic of Germany as well as the United States and the United Kingdom. Canada last ranked fourth in trade in 1951, when her trade was exceeded by that of France. Canada appears to have ranked second to New Zealand in trade per capita for this same period.

In the full year 1953 Canada's total trade per capita (in U.S. funds) was $630 as compared with $640 in 1952. New Zealand was second at $573 ($707 in 1952), and was followed by Hong Kong, $515 ($521); Belgium and Luxembourg, $513 ($543); Switzerland, $484 ($478); Sarawak, $453 ($461); Denmark, $430 ($418); Netherlands, $429 ($422); Sweden, $425 ($463); Trinidad and Tobago, $425 ($416); Norway, $421 ($432); Venezuela, $419 ($447); Australia, $389 ($425); United Kingdom, $331 ($342); Malaya and Singapore, $295 ($386).

Canada's per capita imports in 1953 were valued at $323 (U.S. funds) as compared with $310 in 1952, followed by Hong Kong at $301 ($295 in 1952); Norway, $270 ($262); Belgium and Luxembourg, $265 ($271); New Zealand, $258 ($370); Switzerland, $240 ($250); Denmark, $228 ($222); Netherlands, $225 ($217); Sweden, $220 ($243); Sarawak, $218 ($215); Trinidad and Tobago, $204 ($214); United Kingdom, $184 ($196); Ireland, $175 ($164); Israel, $171 ($193); and Australia, $167 ($229).

Canada's exports per capita in 1953 were valued at $307 (U.S. funds) as compared with $330 in 1953, second only to New Zealand's $316 ($337 in 1952). Next in order were Venezuela at $266 ($294); Belgium and Luxembourg, $243 ($271); Switzerland, $245 ($228); Sarawak, $235 ($246); Australia, $222 ($196); Trinidad and Tobago, $221 ($202); Hong Kong, $213 ($227); Sweden, $206 ($220); Netherlands, $204 ($205); Denmark, $202 ($196); Norway, $151 ($170); United Kingdom, $148 ($150); and Malaya and Singapore, $142 ($194).

The review also discusses trade with principal countries and trading areas during the first half of 1954 and outlines the principal commodity changes revealed by the trade statistics. A special chapter reviews Canada's export and import price and volume indexes for 1926-53, and a special table summarizes tariff relations with the countries distinguished in Canadian trade statistics.

PRICES

Security Price Indexes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>November 11</th>
<th>November 4 (1935-39=100)</th>
<th>October 14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investorg Price Index</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Common Stocks</td>
<td>199.2</td>
<td>196.2</td>
<td>188.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrials</td>
<td>202.4</td>
<td>199.5</td>
<td>190.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>174.0</td>
<td>171.0</td>
<td>171.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banks</td>
<td>225.3</td>
<td>221.5</td>
<td>216.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining Stock Price Index</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Mining Stocks</td>
<td>97.7</td>
<td>94.8</td>
<td>95.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golds</td>
<td>66.2</td>
<td>64.9</td>
<td>66.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Base Metals</td>
<td>169.3</td>
<td>163.2</td>
<td>161.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MORE
Consumer Price Indexes (Continued)

Consumer price indexes for regional cities registered mixed changes between September 1 and October 1, as 5 of the 10 series advanced and 5 declined. Among foods, decreases were fairly general for meats, coffee, potatoes, carrots and apples, while eggs, oranges, fresh and canned tomatoes, and lettuce were mostly higher. As a result, food indexes were lower in 7 cities and higher in 3.

Shelter indexes registered further increases as rents advanced in 9 of the 10 centres. With the exception of Saint John and Regina where clothing prices are only collected quarterly, all cities recorded lower clothing indexes. Substantial declines in fur coats combined with decreases for women's and girls' cloth coats, women's suits, men's suits, slacks and work shirts were mainly responsible. Household operation series were unchanged in 6 cities, higher in 3 and lower in 1 as scattered changes were reported in most centres. The most significant change in this group was an advance in telephone rates in Ottawa.

Increases in health services and drugs, and higher local transit fares in Vancouver, were predominant among changes in the other commodities and services series. Indexes for this group were higher in 8 cities and unchanged in 2.

Total indexes for October 1 and September 1, and October 1 group index detail are shown in the following table. These indexes show changes in retail prices of goods and services in each city. They do not indicate whether it costs more or less to live in one city than another.

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities of Canada at the beginning of October 1954 (Base 1949=100)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Sept. 1 1954</th>
<th>Oct. 1 1954</th>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Shelter</th>
<th>Clothing</th>
<th>Household Operation &amp; Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. John's</td>
<td>103.4</td>
<td>103.0</td>
<td>104.3</td>
<td>107.5</td>
<td>101.9</td>
<td>103.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax</td>
<td>114.8</td>
<td>114.6</td>
<td>108.4</td>
<td>123.5</td>
<td>115.2</td>
<td>119.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint John</td>
<td>117.7</td>
<td>117.6</td>
<td>113.8</td>
<td>122.1</td>
<td>117.9</td>
<td>116.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montreal</td>
<td>116.6</td>
<td>117.0</td>
<td>115.0</td>
<td>134.0</td>
<td>107.0</td>
<td>116.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>116.9</td>
<td>117.3</td>
<td>113.8</td>
<td>129.7</td>
<td>111.8</td>
<td>116.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>118.8</td>
<td>118.9</td>
<td>111.9</td>
<td>142.5</td>
<td>110.5</td>
<td>116.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winnipeg</td>
<td>115.7</td>
<td>115.5</td>
<td>111.7</td>
<td>124.4</td>
<td>113.1</td>
<td>113.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatoon-Regina</td>
<td>115.2</td>
<td>115.2</td>
<td>114.1</td>
<td>134.9</td>
<td>116.4</td>
<td>118.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonton-Calgary</td>
<td>115.7</td>
<td>115.6</td>
<td>112.7</td>
<td>120.9</td>
<td>112.8</td>
<td>115.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>118.1</td>
<td>118.6</td>
<td>112.5</td>
<td>125.8</td>
<td>112.7</td>
<td>125.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Index on the base June 1951 - 100

MINING

Shipments of Dry Common Salt

Shipments of dry common salt from Canadian mines were slightly lower in September than a year earlier but 9-month shipments were narrowly higher. The month's total amounted to 45,049 tons as compared with 45,950, bringing the cumulative total to 363,047 tons as compared with 362,651. Producers' stocks at the end of September were 22,269 tons versus 21,326. (25)
Third Successive Decline In Average Hourly Earnings In Manufacturing At September Month

Average hourly earnings in manufacturing at the beginning of September declined for the third month in a row, and was the result of seasonal and other changes in industrial and sex distribution and lessened incentive production bonuses during the vacation period. Lay-offs for model change-over in the automotive industry were among the more important changes.

Hourly earnings at the start of September stood at 139.6 cents as compared with 140.9 cents a month earlier and 135.7 cents a year ago. The work-week averaged 40.9 hours as compared with 40.7 at the beginning of August and 41.0 last year, and weekly wages averaged $57.10 as compared with $57.35 at August 1 and $55.64 at the same time last year.

In the durable goods division average hourly earnings at 150.9 cents were slightly under August’s 151.5 cents but above 1953’s 147.3 cents. The work-week averaged 40.9 hours, unchanged from August, but down from last year’s 41.3 hours. Weekly earnings were $61.72, moderately below August’s $61.96, but up from $60.83 a year earlier.

Wage-earners in non-durable manufactures earned an average 128.5 cents per hour as compared with 129.9 cents a month earlier and 123.0 cents a year ago. Average hours worked out to 40.8, up from 40.4 a month earlier and the same as last year, and weekly wages averaged $52.48, but up from $50.18 a year ago. (26)

TRANSPORTATION

More Revenues, Lower Expenses

Doubled Airline Net This July

An increase in operating revenues and a decrease in operating expenses left Canada’s airlines with a net operating revenue of $1,728,331 this July, almost twice the $869,821 net of July last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Fewer miles were flown and less freight was carried this year, but more passengers and mail were transported than in 1953.

A sharp increase in revenue from unit toll transportation was sufficient to more than offset a considerable drop in revenue from bulk transportation, and total operating revenues advanced to $10,463,985 from $10,241,738. On the debit side, reductions in general administration and aircraft operation and maintenance costs were large enough to outweigh increases in other accounts, and total operating expenses fell to $8,735,654 from $9,371,917.

All-told, scheduled and non-scheduled carriers flew 6,143,229 payload miles this July as compared with 6,447,766 last year, and logged 50,948 revenue hours as compared with 53,814. The average number of aircraft operated during the month was reduced to 685 from 711.

Paying passengers numbered 244,501 this year as against 226,803 in July last year, and the amount of mail transported weighed 1,735,327 pounds as against 1,292,170 pounds. On the other hand, the amount of revenue goods carried was more than halved to 10,437,066 pounds from 21,584,054 pounds a year earlier. (27)
(Publications numbered similarly to reviews to indicate source of latter)

1- M: Third Estimate of Commercial Fruit Production, 1954, 10¢
2- M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, November 1, 10¢
3- Dairy Factory Production, October, 10¢
4- M: Margarine Statistics, October, 10¢
5- M: Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, November, 10¢
6- M: Stocks of Meat & Lard in Cold Storage, November 1, 10¢
7- M: Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, November 1, 10¢
8- The Wheat Review, October, 25¢
9- Brewing Industry, 1953, 25¢
10- M: Cement & Cement Products, September, 10¢
11- Production, Shipments & Stocks of Sawmills East of the Rockies, August, 25¢
12- Production, Shipments & Stocks of Sawmills in British Columbia, August, 25¢
13- Radio & Television Receiving Sets, August, 10¢
14- M: Production of Pig Iron & Steel, September, 10¢
15- Steel Ingots, September, 10¢
16- Primary Iron & Steel, August, 25¢
17- M: Iron Castings & Cast Iron Pipes & Fittings, August, 10¢
18- Consumption, Production & Inventories of Rubber, September, 25¢
19- Refined Petroleum Products, August, 25¢
20- M: Production of Leather Footwear, August, 10¢
21- Leather Tanning Industry, 1953, 25¢
22- New Motor Vehicle Sales & Motor Vehicle Financing, September, 25¢
23- Motor Vehicle Shipments, September, 10¢
24- Review of Foreign Trade, First Half Year, 1954, 50¢
25- M: Salt, September, 10¢
26- Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings with Average Weekly Wages, September, 25¢
27- Civil Aviation, July, 15¢

M - Memorandum

Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.,
Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery,
Ottawa, 1954

4502-503
By the close of 1953 Canada had nearly 451,000 miles of telegraph wire -- enough to girdle the globe 19 times.

Births outnumbered deaths by more than 3 to 1 in 1953 for a net population gain of 289,444, a natural increase rate of 196 per ten thousand population, 2 1/2 times the rate of 15 years ago.

Canada's 1-room rural schools averaged about 20 pupils each in 1952-53, averages in the provinces ranging from 15 in British Columbia to 29 in New Brunswick.

Montreal's 29 power laundries did $9,392,575 worth of business last year, topping the $6,440,176 volume of Toronto's 28 establishments by 46%. On the other hand, Toronto's 45 dry cleaning and dyeing plants led the 27 establishments in Montreal by 16% -- $6,827,979 to $5,930,428.

Last year an all-time peak of 33,400,000 tons of freight was locked through Canada's canals, 78% more than the 18,800,000 tons shipped through in 1933.

New dwelling units completed during 1953 averaged 6.3 months under construction. However, regional averages varied widely, the low Quebec figure of 5.5 months comparing with averages of 6.4 months in the Prairie Provinces, 6.6 months in Ontario, 6.8 months in British Columbia, 7.3 months in the Maritime Provinces, and 7.9 months in Newfoundland. The national average was 7 months in 1953, the range being from 5.6 in Quebec to 9.8 in the Maritimes.

Canada's 60 leather tanneries have cut the price of hair almost 56% in the last two years, from an average of 23.6¢ a pound in 1951 to 10.4¢ last year. In 1953 they sold close to 3,000,000 pounds.

Last year a record 13,786,345 vehicles crossed the border into Canada from the United States, 1,167,114 more than in 1952. About 62% were foreign vehicles and the balance Canadian.

The number of horses on farms declined 9% from 1,096,200 last year to 993,300 at the start of June this year, the first time in many years that the number has fallen below a million.

Peat fuel production, which has been on the downgrade for more than a decade, stopped completely last year. Peak output of recent years was 644 tons in 1944. Output in 1952 was only 32 tons with a value of $320.

In 1941 the largest proportion of the books borrowed from public libraries in all but two of 41 cities of 10,000 population and over were adult fiction, juvenile books leading in Vancouver and adult non-fiction in Calgary. In the next 10 years the fiction proportion fell in all but two cities (Ottawa and Calgary), and in 1951 non-fiction led in 16 cities and juvenile books in four. Fiction accounted for over 67% of the books borrowed in Moose Jaw, but only 27% of the total in Toronto. Non-fiction represented 69% of Port Arthur's total, but only 11% of the totals in North Bay and Cornwall. The proportion that were juvenile books ranged from 55% in North Bay to 6% in Port Arthur.