Labour: Unemployment rose seasonally between mid-November and mid-December, but the number of persons without jobs and seeking work at mid-December was about 20% below a year earlier. At the same time the civilian labour force had risen to 5,588,000 as against 5,435,000.

The People: Births in Canada during 1955 reached a record total of 1,422,000, according to estimates based on registrations in provincial offices to the end of December. Total deaths increased to 126,570 from 123,441 during 1954, but the estimated crude death rate fell to a record low of 8.1 per 1,000 population. Marriages at 125,311 were slightly fewer than in 1954, the marriage rate continuing its gradual decline from the record rate set in 1946.

Merchandising: Department store sales for all Canada were 6.8% larger during last December than in December 1954, with gains in all provinces except Saskatchewan. Credit purchases formed a larger proportion of Canadian retail sales in the third 1955 quarter than in the previous six quarters, but the increase over the second 1955 quarter was entirely in charge account sales. Biggest increase in instalment credit over a year earlier was in sales of motor vehicle dealers.

Food: Storage holdings of meat, potatoes and onions, apples and creamery butter were larger on January 1 this year than twelve months earlier, but stocks of cheese, cabbage, frozen fruit and fruit in preserves were smaller. Production of creamery butter, ice cream, concentrated milk products, margarine and process cheese was up in 1955 over 1954, but output of cheddar cheese fell.

Manufacturing: Latest monthly reports show 1955 cumulative period gains for production of washing machines, mineral wool and a wide range of clay products.

Business: Cheques cashed in Canadian clearing centres were 12% larger in dollar value in November last and 9% in the January-November period over the corresponding 1954 periods. Gains were recorded for all economic areas, except the Atlantic Provinces in the eleven months.

Mining: Total iron ore shipments were more than twice as large both in November and the eleven months ending November last year than in the same 1954 periods. Shipments were up sharply to Canadian consumers as well as for export.
Usual Seasonal Decline In Employment Between Mid-November and Mid-December

Unemployment increased seasonally from mid-November to mid-December, but the number of persons without jobs and seeking work and the number registered for employment at National Employment Services offices remained about 20% below year-earlier levels, states the joint monthly release by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Labour. In the week ended December 10, 1955, there were an estimated 5,338,000 persons with jobs, some 31,000 less than in November but 201,000 more than a year earlier and 250,000 more than in December 1953.

Despite the adverse effects of winter weather, non-farm employment continued to show as much strength as in earlier months. The non-farm employment peak of 4,681,000 reached in August, 1955 had changed very little by December 10 when there were an estimated 4,675,000 persons in non-farm jobs. This was 291,000 higher than a year earlier. Most major industries continued to show gains with manufacturing, trade and services leading.

The number of persons without jobs and seeking work on December 10 was 200,000 versus 162,000 a month earlier and 248,000 a year ago. On December 3 the number of applications for employment on file at NES offices was 286,700, an increase of 58,300 over the total for November 17 but a decline of 76,000 from a year earlier. Canada's civilian labour force on December 10 stood at 5,588,000 versus 5,581,000 a month earlier and 5,435,000 a year earlier.

Persons at work 35 hours or more in the week ending December 10 totalled 4,769,000 versus 4,632,000 in the week ending November 19 and 4,632,000 a year earlier. The number at work less than 35 hours was 512,000 versus 381,000 in November and 450,000 at the same time in 1954. Persons with jobs but not at work for various reasons numbered 127,000 versus 149,000 a month earlier and 105,000 a year earlier.

Of the 512,000 who worked less than 35 hours in the December survey week, 234,000 or 4.2% of the labour force were regular part-time workers, while the remaining 278,000 or 4.9% of the labour force included 23,000 off work because of bad weather, 42,000 on short-time, 33,000 who were ill, 18,000 who were on vacation, and 162,000 with other reasons. Almost all of this latter group lost time during the week due to the observance of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Of the 127,000 or 2.3% who had jobs but did no work during the survey week, 123,000 usually worked full-time and these included 52,000 who were ill and 13,000 on vacation.

The increase as compared with a month earlier in the number of applications for employment on file at NES offices was distributed among the regions in the following order: Quebec, 17,800; Prairie region, 13,400; Ontario, 13,200; Atlantic region, 7,700; and the Pacific region, 6,200. The regional decreases as compared with a year earlier were as follows: Ontario, 39,600; Quebec, 22,600; Pacific region, 6,000; Atlantic region, 5,600; and the Pacific region, 2,200. (1)
Record 1955 Baby Crop; Both Marriage & Death Rates Down

An all-time record of 442,000 births occurred in Canada in 1955, according to estimates based on registrations filed in provincial offices up to the end of December. This compares with 435,142 births in 1954. However, the birth rate (per 1,000 population) estimated at 28.4, declined for the first time in five years but it was still the third highest on record since 1921, comparing with the previous record rates of 28.9 in 1947 and 28.7 in 1954.

While the cumulative total of 126,570 deaths reported for 1955 exceeded the 123,441 during 1954 by 2.5%, the estimated crude death rate (per 1,000 population) of 8.1 for 1955 is a record Canadian low, breaking the previous record 8.2 of 1954.

The 125,851 marriages registered during the year 1955 represented a total just under the 126,641 registered in 1954. The marriage rate (per 1,000 population) which is provisionally estimated at 8.2 in 1955 compares with 8.5 in 1954 and has been gradually declining from the all-time record of 10.9 in 1946.

Increases in the number of births registered during 1955 over those registered in 1954 were reported in all but two provinces but the magnitude was under 3% in each case except British Columbia which had an increase of 6.3%. Births in Ontario rose to 140,503 from 137,502 in 1954, Quebec to 131,509 from 129,654, Alberta to 34,465 from 33,883, British Columbia to 33,846 from 31,889, Nova Scotia to 19,068 from 18,765, New Brunswick to 16,903 from 16,384, Newfoundland to 14,866 from 13,962, and Prince Edward Island to 2,815 from 2,738. Registrations in Saskatchewan declined to 22,074 from 22,603.

In 1955 the cumulative death totals increased for all but two provinces in comparison with the previous year. The number of deaths declined in Manitoba to 6,715 in 1955 from 6,822 in 1954 and in Prince Edward Island to 881 from 934. Registrations in Ontario totalled 45,673 in 1955 (45,004 in 1954); Quebec 32,667 (31,995); British Columbia 13,006 (12,716); Alberta 7,970 (7,499); Saskatchewan 6,628 (6,217); Nova Scotia 5,934 (5,736); New Brunswick 4,483 (4,284); and Newfoundland 2,578 (2,184).

In half the provinces there were more marriages in 1955 than in 1954. Registrations in Quebec totalled 34,067 (33,965 in 1954); Manitoba 6,215 (6,746); New Brunswick 4,337 (4,217); Newfoundland 3,263 (3,050); and Prince Edward Island 673 (589). On the other hand registrations in Ontario in 1955 totalled 44,416 (44,935 in 1954); British Columbia 10,997 (11,004); Alberta 9,510 (9,903); Saskatchewan 6,487 (6,359); and Nova Scotia 5,326 (5,368).

For the month of December, 1955 the 32,989 births registered represented the lowest monthly total since the previous February; it was under the 33,198 registrations of December 1954 but above the 5-year median of 32,002. The 7,775 marriage and the 9,961 death registrations in December 1955 were not only below the previous month but represented the lowest December totals of the past five years. (2)
Consumer Price Indexes For Regional Cities

Consumer price indexes for seven regional cities registered changes of 0.1% or less between November 1 and December 1, 1955. The index for Halifax decreased 0.2%, and for Montreal 0.3%. The Vancouver index showed a substantial advance of 1.4%, mainly as a result of price increases associated with an unusually severe cold spell on the west coast.

Food indexes were lower in eight of the ten cities and only slightly higher in Saint John. Prices were lower in most cities for eggs, all cuts of beef and pork, particularly pork loins, while higher prices for oranges were reported across the country. An increase of 1.2 points in the Vancouver food index resulted largely from higher prices for all fresh vegetables. The freezing temperatures of mid-November were an important factor.

Shelter indexes showed little movement between November 1 and December 1, with seven city indexes unchanged and three recording slight increases. Clothing indexes were up in all cities except Halifax, largely due to higher prices for women's fur coats. Household operation indexes were up slightly in most cities. A substantial increase in the Vancouver index resulted from higher prices for wood and sawdust, particularly the latter fuel, which was in short supply.

Other commodities and services indexes were unchanged in seven cities, and up in three cities. Increased local transportation costs in Saskatoon were responsible for most of the upward movement in the Saskatoon index.

Total indexes for December 1 and November 1, and December 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 December 1955 (base 1949=100)

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Nov. 1</th>
<th>Dec. 1</th>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Shelter</th>
<th>Clothing</th>
<th>Household</th>
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<tr>
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* Index on the base June 1951 = 100.
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Mining Stock Price Index

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Farm Product Prices Index

Little Changed in November

Canada's index number of farm prices of agricultural products for November stood at 220.8, fractionally above the revised figure of 220.7 for October. Lower prices for livestock were slightly more than offset by higher prices for dairy products, potatoes, and poultry and eggs.

November's provincial indexes were as follows, those for October being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 157.0 (151.8); Nova Scotia, 201.6 (202.5); New Brunswick, 186.6 (176.6); Quebec, 252.2 (251.3); Ontario, 245.3 (245.2); Manitoba, 209.4 (211.2); Saskatchewan, 190.9 (189.9); Alberta, 202.0 (205.1); and British Columbia, 257.5 (253.2).

FORESTRY

Production of Sawn Lumber

Up in October & 10 Months

Canadian production of sawn lumber was larger in October and the first 10 months of 1955 than a year earlier. DBS reports production in British Columbia at 532,451,000 board feet in October versus 416,283,000 a year earlier and at 4,161,287,000 board feet in the January-October period versus 3,743,720,000. In the rest of Canada production stood at 170,674,000 board feet in October versus 157,225,000 and at 2,788,651,000 board feet in the ten months versus 2,567,990,000.

East of the Rockies there were production gains in October in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Manitoba and Alberta, but decreases in the other provinces. In the January-October period production was larger in all provinces except Saskatchewan.

October production totals follow: Prince Edward Island, 550,000 board feet (391,000 a year earlier); Nova Scotia, 20,493,000 (20,980,000); New Brunswick, 15,681,000 (12,124,000); Quebec, 85,733,000 (67,789,000); Ontario, 36,577,000 (45,710,000); Manitoba, 2,974,000 (2,278,000); Saskatchewan, 557,000 (1,120,000); and Alberta, 8,109,000 (6,833,000).

January-October totals were: Prince Edward Island, 8,218,000 (7,012,000 a year earlier); Nova Scotia, 361,627,000 (273,178,000); New Brunswick, 249,902,000 (231,072,000); Quebec, 968,921,000 (932,904,000); Ontario, 713,278,000 (690,352,000); Manitoba, 48,004,000 (42,573,000); Saskatchewan, 81,789,000 (90,081,000); and Alberta, 356,912,000 (300,818,000). (4 & 5)
Department Store Sales Up 6.8% In December

But Declined 11.6% in First Week of January

Department store sales rose 6.8% in December as compared with the corresponding month of 1954, according to the Bureau's preliminary estimate. Sales gains were posted for all provinces except Saskatchewan, where the decline was 4.2%. The Atlantic Provinces had an increase of 6.7%, Quebec 9.3%, Ontario 4.2%, Manitoba 4%, Alberta 10.7%, and British Columbia 12.5%.

In the first week this year sales declined 11.6% as compared with a year earlier, part of the decline being due to the occurrence of only five shopping days this year as compared with 6 days last year. There were sales declines in all provinces. The drop in the Atlantic Provinces was 19.9%, Quebec 7.3%, Ontario 7.6%, Manitoba 18.1%, Saskatchewan 27.0%, Alberta 12.1%, and British Columbia 11.1%.

Larger Proportion Of Retail Sales Credit purchases represented a larger proportion of sales in Canada's retail establishment in the third quarter of 1955 than in the previous two quarters and the four quarters of 1954, according to the Bureau's quarterly report on retail consumer credit. Compared to the second quarter of 1955, the increase was entirely in charge account sales, the instalment proportion showing a marked decline.

Out of the average dollar of retail sales in the third quarter, the part attributable to credit purchases rose to 37.6 cents from 36.9 cents in the second quarter and compared with 34.2 cents in the third 1954 quarter and the year's high of 35.9 cents in the first quarter of 1954. The share of instalment sales in the third quarter last year, however, declined to 13.9 cents from 15.7 cents in the second quarter, but was higher than in the first quarter or the preceding three quarters of 1954.

Total retail sales in the third quarter last year showed the customary seasonal decline from second-quarter levels but were higher than in any previous third quarter. Cash sales increased 3.4% to $2,071,700,000 from $2,004,000,000 in the corresponding quarter of 1954, but were down from $2,148,400,000 in the second quarter. Instalment sales rose 21.4% to $461,800,000 from $380,300,000 the previous year, but were down from $535,600,000 for April-June, 1955. Charge account sales moved up to an all-time high of $786,500,000, 19.3% above the figure of $659,400,000 a year earlier and substantially above the preceding quarter's total of $721,300,000.

Among the specified trades in which the instalment type of credit sale is significant, motor vehicle dealers had a rise of 32.8% in instalment sales in the third quarter over a year earlier, department stores 31.6%, furniture, appliance and radio stores 10.4%, while instalment sales of family clothing stores doubled. Women's clothing stores were at the same level, and men's clothing, hardware, and jewellery stores had decreases.

In the case of charge sales, there were increases of 28.2% for motor vehicle dealers, 16.1% for furniture, appliance and radio stores, 11.4% for department stores, 4.1% for women's clothing stores, and 1.7% for hardware stores. Men's clothing and family clothing stores were down 19% and 9%, respectively.

Accounts receivable for all trades at the end of the third quarter aggregated $844,000,000 versus $803,100,000 three months earlier and $753,700,000 at the end of the third 1954 quarter. (6)
Visible Supplies Of Wheat Up Slightly

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on January 4 totalled 364,836,000 bushels, an increase of about 3% over the preceding year's 355,755,000 bushels, DBS reports. Deliveries from Prairie farms during the week fell to 3,869,000 bushels from 5,673,000 and overseas export clearances dropped to 2,495,000 bushels from 3,558,000. (7)

Meat Stocks Larger

Cold storage holdings of meat were 14% larger on January 1, totalling 77,698,000 pounds versus 67,877,000 a year earlier. Holdings of frozen meat weighed 48,149,000 pounds (40,083,000 a year earlier); fresh meat, 18,502,000 pounds (15,802,000); and cured meat, 11,047,000 pounds (11,992,000). (8)

Stocks Of Fruit And Vegetables

Stocks of potatoes, onions, carrots and celery held in cold and common storage, including the holdings of commercial growers, were larger on January 1 this year than a year ago, but the holdings of cabbage were smaller. Apple stocks were larger but the holdings of pears were unchanged. Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, were smaller but the holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, were larger.

January 1 stocks of potatoes were 20,598,000 bushels (16,514,000 a year ago); onions, 459,000 bushels (320,000); carrots, 463,000 bushels (332,000); cabbage, 96,000 bushels (132,000); celery, 30,000 crates (17,000); apples, 5,712,000 bushels (4,366,000); and pears, 50,000 bushels (50,000).

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, were 35,799,000 pounds on January 1 versus 37,023,000 a year ago, and vegetables, frozen and in brine, totalled 25,184,000 pounds versus 21,478,000. (9)

More Hogs On Farms At December 1

There were an estimated 5,981,000 hogs on farms across Canada at the start of December, 10% more than on the same date in 1954 when the hog population was estimated at 5,425,000, DBS reports on the basis of its semi-annual survey. Except for the Maritime Provinces the increase was general, resulting in a 13% rise to 3,318,000 in Eastern Canada and an increase of 7% to 2,663,000 in Western Canada.

The number of hogs over six months old was substantially greater than at December 1, 1954. The number of pigs saved from the summer and fall litters in 1955, estimated at 4,118,000 pigs, was 4% greater than during the same period in 1954. The build-up of the hog population shows signs of tapering off, increases indicated by the current survey being the lowest since the climb began two years ago.

According to intentions reported by farmers at December 1, 646,600 sows are expected to farrow during the six-month period ended May 31, 1956. Total winter and spring farrowings are expected to exceed those of last year by 3% (10)

Creamery Butter Stocks

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on January 12 totalled 63,657,000 pounds, 15% larger than last year's 55,417,000 pounds, DBS reports. Holdings were as follows by cities, in thousands: Quebec, 4,964 pounds (2,708 a year ago); Montreal, 31,102 (27,736); Toronto, 6,974 (9,410); Winnipeg, 16,572 (11,216); Regina, 904 (952); Saskatoon, 607 (278); Edmonton, 1,243 (1,383); Calgary, 387 (281); and Vancouver, 884 (1,453).
More Butter, Less Cheese In Storage

Stocks of creamery butter, evaporated whole milk, and skim milk powder were larger on January 1 this year than last, DBS reports. On the other hand, holdings of cheese, eggs and poultry meat were smaller. Holdings of creamery butter were 100,030,000 pounds (91,025,000 a year ago); cheese, 38,295,000 pounds (42,424,000); evaporated whole milk, 40,856,000 pounds (39,563,000); skim milk powder, 13,174,000 pounds (11,615,000); eggs, 209,000 cases (331,000); and poultry meat, 25,096,000 pounds (26,654,000). (11)

Production Of Creamery Butter Higher In 1955; Cheese Lower

Larger quantities of creamery butter, ice cream and concentrated milk products were made in Canada in the year 1955 than in the preceding year, preliminary figures show. Cheddar cheese production declined.

Production of creamery butter rose 2% in the full year to 318,248,000 pounds from 312,854,000 in 1954. At the same time domestic disappearance rose 4% to 301,852,000 pounds from 292,936,000. Declines in production in the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia were outweighed by increases in the rest of Canada.

The year's make of cheddar cheese declined 7% to 78,638,000 pounds from 84,436,000 a year earlier. All provinces had smaller totals. With increases in all provinces except Nova Scotia, production of ice cream in 1955 increased 13% to 32,502,000 pounds from 28,642,000.

Output of concentrated milk products increased 5% in 1955 to 472,530,000 pounds from 450,189,000 in the preceding year. Production of whole milk products rose to 347,500,000 pounds from 331,021,000 and milk by-products to 125,030,000 pounds from 119,168,000. (12)

Margarine Production 8% Larger In 1955

Production of margarine in the full year 1955 amounted to 125,094,000 pounds, an increase of 8% over the preceding year's 115,868,000 pounds. December production jumped to 11,376,000 pounds from 9,884,000. Stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and other warehouses at the beginning of January this year were 2,920,000 pounds, down from 3,035,000 a month earlier and 3,642,000 a year ago. (13)

Production And Stocks Of Process Cheese

Production of process cheese in 1955 amounted to 45,014,000 pounds, a small increase of 1% from the preceding year's 44,440,000 pounds, DBS reports in a special statement. The December make dropped to 3,669,000 pounds from 4,245,000 in November and 3,824,000 a year earlier. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of December were 1,719,000 pounds versus 1,776,000 a month earlier and 1,278,000 a year ago. (13)

Production Of Prepared Stock & Poultry Feeds

Production of prepared stock and poultry feeds in November comprised the following: primary or concentrated feeds, 28,464 tons (25,349 a year earlier); secondary or complete feeds, 177,888 tons (160,888); and all other animal feeds, 38,488 tons (46,913). January-November production totals were: primary or concentrated feeds, 259,785 tons (235,868); secondary or complete feeds, 1,713,207 tons (1,662,400); and all other animal feeds, 504,925 tons (567,488). (14)
Sea-Fish Catch Smaller. Catch of sea-fish was smaller and less valuable in November and the first 11 months of 1955 than a year earlier. DBS figures place the month's catch at 116,889,000 pounds valued at $2,876,000 versus 137,856,000 pounds worth $3,792,000 a year ago. The January-November catch was 1,592,548,000 pounds worth $73,413,000 versus 1,804,258,000 pounds valued at $81,586,000.

November's catch on the Atlantic fell to 46,346,000 pounds valued at $1,670,000 in November from 59,546,000 pounds valued at $2,046,000 a year earlier. In the January-November period landings dropped to 1,220,681,000 pounds valued at $46,047,000 from 1,280,709,000 pounds valued at $47,375,000.

The Pacific coast catch fell in November to 70,543,000 pounds from 78,310,000 and the value declined to $1,206,000 from $2,476,000. In the 11-month period landings dropped to 371,867,000 pounds from 523,549,000 and the value to $26,366,000 from $34,211,000. (15)

Production Of Carbonated Beverages Up 13% in 1955. Production of carbonated beverages in the year 1955 amounted to 118,823,000 gallons, 13% larger than 1954's 105,317,000 gallons, DBS reports. The December output rose to 9,068,000 gallons from 8,135,000 in November and 8,778,000 a year earlier. (16)

MANUFACTURING

Production Of Washing Machines. Production of domestic washing machines continued to climb in November, rising to 27,664 units from 22,136 a year earlier. This brought January-November production to 246,198 units from 198,467. Factory shipments rose to 24,414 units in November from 19,828 and to 251,406 units in the 11-month period from 203,406. End-of-November factory stocks declined to 21,509 units from 24,796 the previous year. (17)

Production Of Mineral Wool. Production of mineral wool in November comprised 21,051,021 square feet of batts versus 21,067,222 a year earlier and 1,489,152 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool versus 1,363,271. January-November production comprised 194,057,829 square feet of the former versus 178,588,008 and 11,669,438 cubic feet of the latter versus 9,690,179. (18)

Clay Product Sales Increased. Sales of products made from Canadian clays rose in value to $3,461,000 in October from $2,932,000 in the corresponding month of 1954 and to $28,874,000 in the January-October period from $26,165,000. January-October sales were as follows for the main items: building brick, $18,409,000 ($17,384,000 a year earlier); structural tile, $3,103,000 ($2,867,000); drain tile, $2,124,000 ($1,716,000); sewer pipe, $3,520,000 ($2,844,000); fireclay blocks and shapes, $318,000 ($271,000); pottery, $459,000 ($371,000); and other clay products, $942,000 ($711,000). (19)

Stocks Of Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal. Stocks of non-ferrous scrap metal at the end of September were as follows, corresponding figures for 1954 being in brackets: aluminum, 2,284,018 pounds (3,046,446); copper, 12,671,243 (7,949,436); magnesium, 18,253 (43,124); nickel, 301,021 (307,125); lead, 9,109,664 (9,703,452); and zinc, 3,988,402 (3,882,230). (20)
Narrow Fabrics Industry

Factory value of shipments of products manufactured by 50 establishments classified in the narrow fabrics industry in 1954 were valued at $15,680,000, a decline of 10.2% from the preceding year's $17,454,000, according to the Bureau's annual report on the industry. The employees declined in number to 2,062 from 2,163 and the salaries and wages to $4,810,000 from $5,021,000.

Among the industry's chief products were: webbing, $2,834,000 ($4,668,000 in 1953); ribbons, $2,639,000 ($2,680,000); tapes, $1,540,000 ($1,315,000); lace, $1,490,000 ($1,477,000); shoe laces, $1,095,000 ($1,137,000); woven labels, $1,330,000 ($1,369,000); braids, $1,396,000 ($1,389,000); binding, $624,000 ($652,000); cords, fringes and tassels, $510,000 ($692,000); and trimmings, $341,000 ($370,000).

Rubber Products Industry

Gross factory value of shipments of Canada's rubber products industry in 1954 amounted to $264,185,000, a decline of 11% from 1953's $290,735,000, the Bureau's annual industry report shows.

The industry shipped 6,595,656 tires of all kinds valued at $130,771,000 and 4,428,193 tubes worth $99,750,090. Shipments of rubber footwear amounted to 12,545,217 pairs valued at $30,449,362, and all other products, including such products as rubber heels and soles, rubber belting and hose, medical and druggists' supplies, were valued at $93,236,279.

This industry, which comprised 73 plants in 1954 and 72 in 1953, employed 20,894 persons (22,600 in 1953) and paid them $67,476,000 in salaries and wages ($70,995,000). Cost of materials used was $106,502,000 ($114,337,000).

Canada's Tobacco Products Industry In 1954

Gross factory value of products of Canada's tobacco products industry in 1954 totalled $389,750,000, up from $378,051,000 in the preceding year and virtually unchanged from 1952's all-time peak of $389,773,000, the reports. Excise duties and taxes rose to $237,716,000 from $231,462,000 and the net output value advanced to a new high of $152,034,000 from $147,388,000.

Output of cigarettes -- the chief product of the industry -- rose to a record 22,425,791,000 from 21,156,092,000 in 1953 and the factory selling value climbed to $303,682,000 from $289,425,000. Production of cigars increased to 240,520,000 from 236,248,000 but the value declined to $17,926,000 from $18,233,000.

Production of smoking tobacco dropped to 25,125,000 pounds from 26,659,000 and the value to $62,500,000. Output of chewing tobacco fell to 1,307,400 pounds from 1,488,100 but the value was narrowly higher at $3,260,000 versus $3,253,000. Production of snuff rose to 853,000 pounds valued at $2,211,000 from 834,000 pounds valued at $2,162,000.

Expenditures on materials in the tobacco products industry eased to $79,099,000 from $79,262,000. All told this industry consumed 90,603,000 pounds of raw leaf tobacco versus 92,089,000 the year before, of which 39,246,000 pounds was of domestic origin versus 39,587,000.

There were 39 plants in the industry in 1954 (42 in 1953). The employees numbered 7,418 (7,711) and salary and wage payments grossed $21,000,000 ($23,376,000).
Coal Tar Distillation Industry

Factory value of shipments from 11 factories comprising the coal tar distillation industry in 1954 totalled $12,878,000, a drop of about 6% from the preceding year's $13,635,000, BBS reports. Major products included pitch valued at $4,757,000 ($4,783,000 in 1953); creosote oil, $2,978,000 ($3,484,000); and refined tar, $226,000 ($342,000). All other products were worth $4,317,000 ($4,163,000).

Factory Value Of Products Of Printing Trades At New Peak

Products of the printing trades and allied arts of Canada, which comprise several closely related industries -- publishing and printing, printing and bookbinding, lithographing, engraving, stereotyping and electrotyping, and trade composition -- reached a new peak value of $498,083,000 in 1953, an increase of 10.3% over the preceding year's $449,509,000, according to the Bureau's annual report.

Altogether there were 2,744 establishments classed in the printing trades in 1953, 25 more than in 1952. The average number of employees in the industry increased 2.8% to 61,602 from 59,916, and the salary and wage payments jumped to $195,727,000 from $177,373,000. Raw materials used and services received by the printing trades cost $122,512,000, up from $138,376,000.

Periodicals valued at $207,579,000 ($134,720,000 in 1952) accounted for about 46% (45%) of the value of printed matter and other products, daily newspapers alone contributing $149,623,000 ($132,532,000). The value of periodicals is made up of $150,619,000 received for advertising ($130,160,000) and $56,960,000 received for subscriptions and sales of publications ($54,559,000). Only periodicals printed in the publishers' own plants are included in these figures.

Other printed matter and other products were valued at $246,607,000 in 1953 ($227,736,000 in 1952), comprising $31,968,000 for printed and bound books ($28,619,000), $22,321,000 for miscellaneous printed advertising ($39,083,000), $3,724,000 for bound blank books ($7,331,000), $151,029,000 for miscellaneous printed goods and printed stationery ($141,455,000), and $12,565,000 for other products, such as paper boxes, waxed paper and rubber stamps ($11,297,000).

BUSINESS

Cheques Cashed Up 124 In November, 9% In 11 Months

Cheques cashed in clearing centres rose 12% in November and 9% in the January-November period last year as compared with 1954. All five economic areas shared in the rise in November and payments in the 11 months were larger for all but the Atlantic Provinces. The national total stood at $15,715,098,000 in November versus $14,045,164,000 and at $350,913,012,000 in the 11-month period versus $313,950,384,000.

Totals for November follow by economic areas: Atlantic Provinces, $4,417,042,000 ($4,162,219,000 a year earlier); Quebec, $4,043,109,000 ($4,038,231,000); Ontario, $5,696,179,000 ($6,150,757,000); Prairie Provinces, $2,445,907,000 ($2,268,277,000); and British Columbia, $1,745,360,000 ($1,621,680,000).

January-November totals were: Atlantic Provinces, $4,093,952,000 ($4,216,683,000); Quebec, $4,042,331,000 ($3,992,713,000); Ontario, $3,679,20,768,000 ($62,002,-313,000); Prairie Provinces, $2,223,20,764,000 ($21,382,980,000); and British Columbia, $11,530,197,000 ($10,855,686,000).
Shipments Of Iron Ore Up Sharply

Shipments of iron ore from Canadian mines were sharply higher in November and the first 11 months of 1955 than a year earlier. DBS places November shipments at 1,933,172 tons versus 851,382 and January-November shipments at 16,119,449 tons versus 7,177,976. Estimated output for the full year stands at approximately 17,000,000 tons, steeply above 1954's 7,400,000 tons.

Ore shipped for export jumped to 1,805,827 tons in November from 826,610 a year earlier and to 14,786,166 tons in the 11 months from 6,345,432. Shipments of ore to Canadian consumers moved up to 127,345 tons in November from 24,772 and to 1,355,953 tons in the 11 months from 832,511. End-of-November stocks were larger at 2,071,697 tons versus 1,355,953.

Shipments of ore from Ontario sources rose to 400,912 tons in November from 245,720 and to 4,330,288 tons in the 11 months from 2,385,968. November shipments from other provinces climbed to 1,532,260 tons from 605,662 and to 11,788,561 tons in the 11 months from 4,792,008. (27)

Shipments of Asbestos Up

Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines in November climbed to 112,532 tons from 87,443 in the corresponding month of 1954, bringing the January-November total to 992,628 tons versus 852,660. Output for the full year 1955 amounted to an estimated 1,055,000 tons versus 924,000 in 1954. (28)

Transportation

Passengers carried by urban transit systems last October numbered 100,755,882, almost 9% above the September figure of 98,266,312 but 2.3% below 1954's October total of 103,127,996. In the January-October period passenger traffic dropped to 1,000,470,032 from 1,048,345,053 a year earlier.

In October passengers carried by motor buses rose to 48,387,959 from 46,262,905 a year earlier. trolley buses to 20,155,067 from 19,949,774 and chartered services to 440,630 from 160,122. Fewer passengers were carried on electric cars -- 31,772,226 versus 36,758,195.

January-October passenger traffic was as follows: electric car, 333,458,824 (31,090,727 a year earlier); trolley bus, 198,904,976 (199,431,066); motor bus, 465,195,341 (466,195,833); and chartered service, 2,916,798 (1,577,427). (29)
(Publications are numbered similarly to news items to indicate source of latter)

1. The Labour Force, December, 25¢
3. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, November, 10¢
4. Production, Shipments & Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, October, 25¢
5. Production, Shipments & Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, October, 25¢
6. Retail Consumer Credit, Third Quarter, 1955, 25¢
7. Grain Statistics Weekly, January 4, 10¢
8. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat & Lard, January 1, 10¢
9. Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, January, 10¢
11. Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, January 1, 10¢
12. Dairy Production, December, 10¢
13. Margarine Statistics, December, 10¢
16. Production of Carbonated Beverages, December, 10¢
17. Domestic Washing Machines, November, 10¢
18. Mineral Wool, November, 10¢
19. Products Made From Canadian Clays, October, 10¢
20. Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal & Secondary Non-Ferrous Ingot, 3rd Quarter, 1955, 10¢
22. Rubber Products Industry, 1954, 25¢
23. Tobacco & Tobacco Products Industries, 1954, 25¢
25. The Printing Trades, 1953, 50¢
26. Cheques Cashed In Clearing Centres, November, 10¢
27. Iron Ore, November, 10¢
28. Asbestos, November, 10¢
29. Urban Transit Statistics, October, 10¢

-- Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, July-September, 25¢


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Less Streptomycin

Canadian manufacturers shipped streptomycin preparations to the value of $104,000 in 1954, down from $123,000 in 1953.

More Biologicals

Shipments of biologicals and vaccines from Canadian factories jumped almost 47% in value in 1954 to $4,821,000 from 1953's $3,268,000.

Shipping Tags

Production by Canadian printing plants of shipping tags, labels and forms attached to goods or packages were valued at over $16,771,000 at the plant in 1953.

Two Gallons

Preliminary figures per head indicate that production of ice cream in Canada last year reached a new peak of 32,502,000 gallons, which is about equal to two gallons for every man, woman and child in Canada.

More Blank

There were $3,724,000 worth of bound, blank books made in Canada in 1953 as against $3,331,000 the previous year. These included loose-leaf binders, counter check books, diaries, ledgers and account books, scribblers and exercise books.

Ownership of Plants

Of the 2,744 printing trade establishments in Canada in 1953, 1,231 were operated under individual ownership, 431 under partnership, 1,069 as incorporated companies and 13 under cooperative ownership. There were 25 more plants in operation in 1953 than in the previous year.

Pitch

Shipments of pitch from Canadian plants in the coal tar distillation industry amounted in 1954 to 135,912 tons, nearly double the 1945 shipments of 68,144 tons.

Newspaper Sales

Sales of daily newspapers in 1953 amounted to $39,329,000 compared to $37,392,000 in 1952, while advertising netted $109,734,000 as against $94,639,000 the previous year.

Hockey Pucks

Shipments of hockey pucks from Canadian rubber factories rose to 33,190 dozen in 1954 from 31,352 dozen in 1953 but factory selling value decreased to $86,001 from $93,047.

Creamery Butter

Preliminary data show production of creamery butter in 1955 at a new high of 313,000,000 pounds. This compares with 313,000,000 pounds in 1954, 303,000,000 in 1953, 283,000,000 in 1952 and 257,000,000 in 1951.

Printing Trade

Of the 2,744 establishments classed in the printing trades in 1953, there were 1,696 printing and book binding plants in operation, 795 publishing and printing, 1,29 engraving, stereotyping and electrotyping, 74 lithographing and 50 trade composition.

Fewer Overshoes

Factory shipments of overshoes and galoshes by Canadian manufacturers of rubber products dropped to 3,907,762 pairs in 1954 from 5,321,569 in 1953, while shipments of light and heavy rubbers increased to 3,599,641 from 3,407,243 pairs.