HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Production: Industrial output during May, as measured by the Bureau's composite index, was nearly 6% greater than in May last year and close to last October's record level for a month. Manufacturing was over 5% above a year earlier, durable manufactures showing a gain of over 8% as compared to 2.8% for non-durables. Mining continued to lead in rate of gain with a rise of 10.3%. (Page 2)

Border Travel: Lagging behind 1955 during April and May after earlier gains, entries of foreign motor vehicles into Canada shot upward in June to set a new record for the month. Half-year total, however, was still below last year's. (Page 2)

Labour: Employment continued to rise in June, the Bureau's monthly survey placing the estimated number of persons with jobs at June 23 some 143,000 higher than a month earlier and 189,000 higher than a year earlier and the number without jobs and seeking work 48,000 lower than in May and 40,000 lower than in June last year. The increase of 149,000 from June last year brought the estimated size of the labour force to 5,764,000. (Page 3)

Foreign Trade: Final figures on April's record imports, which were 39% higher in value than a year earlier, show gains among a wide range of commodities and specially marked increases in such items as non-farm machinery, rolling-mill products, automobiles, automobile parts, farm implements and machinery, and pipes, tubes and fittings. (Pages 4 & 5)

Transportation: Railway car loadings in the second week of July were nearly 10% larger than last year ... Rural and inter-city bus lines had close to a tenth fewer passengers in the first quarter this year than last but slightly higher revenue ... Net deliveries of oil through pipe-lines were 21% greater in May than a year earlier. (Pages 5 & 6)

New Citizens: Three times as many certificates of Canadian citizenship were granted last year to persons with former allegiance to other countries than in 1954. (Page 7)

Merchandising: Television set sales were down again in May from last year and radio set sales up ... Sales of farm implements and equipment, down in 1953 and 1954 from a peak level in 1952, moved up in 1955. (Page 8)

Mining: Iron ore shipments to the end of June this year were 55% greater than in the first half of 1955. (Page 14)
Industrial Production Index
At Near-Record Level In May

Canada's composite index of industrial production for May, on the 1935-39 base, stood at 283.2, according to preliminary figures. This was 5.9% above last year's May index of 267.4 and only slightly below the all-time peak of 284.0 reached in October 1955. For the first five months this year the index averaged 272.4, 7.7% above last year's corresponding figure of 252.9.

The manufacturing component of the index for May rose 5.3% to 288.7 from 274.2 and the index of mining production 10.3% to 253.9 from 230.2. The sub-index measuring output of electricity and gas stood at 293.2, 4.3% above the May 1955 index of 281.1.

The index of non-durable manufactures, at 245.0, was 2.8% above the figure for May last year. Output in the rubber and clothing industries rose over 12% and nearly 9%, respectively. In the tobacco products group production increased nearly 7%. Output of paper products advanced 4.5%. The printing and publishing and chemicals groups showed moderate gains of between 2% and 3% over May last year, while output of foods and beverages fell off 1.5%. Activity in the textile industry was somewhat lower.

For durable manufactures the composite index for May rose to 357.1, 8.1% above last year's May figure of 330.3. Output of iron and steel products increased nearly 16% in this comparison and production in the non-metallic minerals group advanced over 13%. The electrical apparatus group showed a gain of 11.5%, while output of transportation equipment rose 4%. Small increases of 1% or less were recorded by the wood products and non-ferrous metals industries.

The manufacturing index for the January-May period rose 6.8% to 277.3. The non-durables component advanced 5.8% to 237.2 from 224.3, while the durables index rose 7.9% to 340.1. The mining index advanced 17.2% to 244.7 from 208.8, and the sub-index for electricity and gas rose fractionally to 284.4 from 282.6.

TRAVEL

Foreign Vehicle Entries Reached New Peak For June

A new high record for June was established in the number of foreign vehicles entering Canada on travellers' vehicle permits but entries in the first half of this year showed a small decline from a year earlier. Entries numbered 320,390 in June versus 289,577 last year and 775,484 in the half-year period versus 785,888.

All provinces had larger numbers of entries in June: Ontario, 264,250 (183,706 a year earlier); Quebec, 43,712 (38,671); British Columbia, 34,647 (32,685); New Brunswick, 18,338 (16,922); Manitoba, 7,060 (6,764); Alberta, 6,571 (6,147); Saskatchewan, 3,596 (2,815); Newfoundland and Nova Scotia -- by ship -- 1,335 (82); and Yukon Territory, 881 (785).

Entries in the half-year were: Ontario, 458,856 (472,239 in 1955); Quebec, 127,047 (122,683); British Columbia, 100,480 (103,545); New Brunswick, 49,853 (49,523); Manitoba, 15,854 (17,824); Alberta, 11,955 (11,562); Saskatchewan, 6,853 (5,995); Newfoundland and Nova Scotia -- by ship -- 2,365 (364); and the Yukon Territory, 2,221 (2,149). (1)
Employment continued to expand at a rapid pace during June and was close to an all-time record by the week ended June 23, according to the monthly joint statement by the Department of Labour and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Unemployment declined sharply and at the end of the month was below the June average of the last five years.

At June 23 the number of persons with jobs was estimated at 5,647,000, some 148,000 higher than in May and 189,000 higher than in June 1955. The number of persons without jobs and seeking work was 117,000 in June, 48,000 lower than in May and 40,000 lower than in June 1955. The number registered for employment at NES offices showed similar changes.

All of the increase from mid-May to mid-June occurred in non-farm industries where employment rose by an estimated 161,000 to a level 266,000 above that of June 1955. Farm employment declined slightly during the month and was some 77,000 lower than in June 1955. While there was strong demand for almost every type of labour during the month, construction appeared to be exerting the strongest pull on available supplies.

Canada's civilian labour force stood at 5,764,000 on June 23 versus 5,664,000 a month earlier and 5,615,000 a year ago. Persons at work 35 hours or more numbered 5,156,000 versus 4,997,000 on May 19 and 4,996,000 at the same time last year, and the number at work less than 35 hours was 348,000 versus 390,000 at mid-May and 333,000 a year ago.

A rapid increase in outdoor activities during June, after bad spring weather, brought employment in the Atlantic region to an all-time record level. The employment increase in Quebec in June was smaller than the record gain of June last year but greater than the increase during the same period in the two preceding years. In Ontario a further increase in employment in June from the high spring totals brought employment to an all-time record level. Employment continued to increase in the Prairie region, also reaching the highest figure on record for the month. In the Pacific region there was a further rise from the high levels already attained early in the spring.

Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings In 1955

Higher wage rates were mainly responsible for a general increase of 2.6% in 1955 average hourly earnings in manufacturing to a record high 144.5¢ from 140.8¢ in the preceding year, according to the Bureau's annual review of man-hours and hourly earnings. Lengthy labour-management disputes during the autumn in several components of the durable goods group and accelerated activity in a few industries paying below-average rates tended to minimize the effect of widespread though moderate increases in pay rates.

Average weekly wages of hourly-rated wage-earners in manufacturing rose to a new high of $59.25 from $57.16 in the preceding year and the work-week averaged 41.0 hours, slightly longer than the preceding year's all-time low average of 40.6 hours.

In the post-war years there have been substantial increases in average earnings per hour and per week, while the average work-week has been considerably shortened. In 1945 hourly earnings of hourly-rated wage-earners in manufacturing averaged 69.4¢, weekly wages averaged $30.74, and the work-week averaged 44.3 hours. (2)
New All-Time High Record Value For Imports In April

Value of Canada's imports topped all other months by a wide margin in April, reflecting the high levels of economic activity in Canada and in particular the extent of investment. Gains were widespread among the commodities but were especially large for such items as non-farm machinery, rolling-mill products, pipes, tubes and fittings, engines and boilers, farm implements and machinery, and automobiles and parts. Imports from the United States and the United Kingdom soared to record-breaking levels and sharp gains were also posted for Latin American countries and Europe.

Imports from all countries in April were valued at $532,400,000, up 39% from last year's corresponding total of $382,600,000. This boosted January-April purchases 31% to $1,804,600,000 from $1,373,300,000 a year earlier. Volume of imports jumped almost 35% in April and prices averaged about 3% higher.

Purchases from the United States in April were valued at $400,294,000, steeply above last year's $284,784,000, raising the four-month total to $1,361,782,000 from $1,030,458,000. Imports from the U.S. accounted for 75% of all imports in April, a slightly larger proportion than a year earlier. All commodity groups except fibres and textiles were larger in value in April and the four months and were especially large in the iron and products group which contains many kinds of machinery and equipment and materials used in investment.

Imports from the United Kingdom jumped to $50,046,000 in April from $33,792,000 a year earlier and to $147,841,000 in the January-April period from $119,225,000. Except for a small decline in the agricultural group in the January-April period, imports were larger in value both in April and the four months for all main commodity groups, the increase being largest in absolute terms in the iron and products section.

Purchases from the rest of the Commonwealth dropped in value to $13,941,000 in April from $18,246,000 a year earlier and four-month imports from the group eased to $52,959,000 from $53,834,000. Imports were smaller than a year ago in April from Australia, Malaya and Singapore, India, Ceylon and British East Africa.

Mainly accounted for by substantially larger purchases from Mexico, Venezuela, Cuba, Colombia and Brazil, total imports from all Latin American countries rose in value in April to $30,704,000 from $23,682,000 in the corresponding month last year and to $122,012,000 in the January-April period from $91,901,000.

Larger purchases from all main European sources, including Belgium and Luxembourg, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, and Switzerland, boosted imports from the area to $25,980,000 in April from $15,465,000 a year earlier and to $72,361,000 in the January-April period from $47,716,000.

Imports from all other countries climbed to $10,942,000 in April from $6,087,000 a year ago and to $45,178,000 in the January-April period from $28,265,000. Japan, Netherlands Antilles, and Lebanon were the major sources both in April and the four-month period. (3 & 4)

The table on the following page shows the value of Canada's chief commodity imports in April and the January-April period, ranked according to size in the four months, with comparative data for 1955.
FOREIGN TRADE (Concluded)  

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TRANSPORTATION

Railway Car Loadings Up In Second Week Of July  

Car loadings on Canadian railways increased 9.7% in the second week of July to 95,626 cars from last year's corresponding total of 87,181 cars. This brought cumulative loadings for the year to date to 2,279,066 cars, 11.1% above last year's 2,051,957 cars. Receipts from connections rose to 30,524 cars in the week from 29,716 and 954,712 cars in the January 1 - July 14 period from 867,386.

Grain loadings were up to 10,351 cars in the week from 7,831 a year earlier, iron ore to 7,773 from 6,699, "other" mine products (non-metallic) to 3,592 from 2,506, pulpwood to 4,580 from 4,046, and miscellaneous carload commodities to 6,058 from 5,529. Loadings of automobiles, auto trucks and parts declined to 2,070 cars from 2,470. (5)

Fewer Passengers, More Revenue On Inter-City & Rural Bus Lines  

Number of passengers carried on regular and chartered services of rural and inter-city bus lines declined 7.9% in March to 5,055,209 from 5,488,979 last year and 9.5% in the January-March period to 14,574,933 compared to 16,105,239 in the corresponding period a year earlier. Revenues, on the other hand, increased 6.2% in the month to $2,881,431 from $2,712,497 and were slightly higher (0.2%) in the first quarter at $8,306,945 versus $8,290,234. (6)
TRANSPORTATION (Concluded)

Net Deliveries Of Oil
Increased 21% In May
Net deliveries of oil through Canadian pipe lines increased 21% in May to 20,882,575 barrels from 17,328,184 a year ago and 28% in the January-May period to 109,305,503 barrels from 85,550,707 in last year's corresponding period.

Net deliveries in May increased in British Columbia to 3,077,634 barrels from 2,551,261 a year ago, Manitoba to 5,926,787 from 3,884,162, Ontario to 3,396,676 from 2,632,389, and Quebec to 6,357,631 from 5,823,113, but declined in Alberta to 1,013,579 from 1,031,821 and Saskatchewan to 1,110,268 from 1,405,438. (7)

VITAL STATISTICS

Falling Marriage Rate Seen As Heritage Of Depression Era

There were more Canadian births and deaths in 1955 than in any year on record, according to preliminary annual vital statistics released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics today. Marriages were fewer than in 1954 and several other years. However, in relation to population, while some of the rates - significant indicators of the nation's health - showed increases, others fell and some were unchanged from 1954.

New babies were born at the rate of about one every minute for a record total of 441,682, up from 435,142 in 1954, but the birth rate dropped slightly to 28.4 per thousand population from the 1954 figure of 28.7. At least part of this decline is due to the recent falling off in the marriage rate, which has been dropping since 1951 and last year stood at 8.2 down from 8.5 in 1954 and the lowest since before the war. The number of marriages in 1955 was 127,777 compared to 128,385 the previous year.

The trend in the marriage rate is seen as no indication of a tendency among young people to postpone or avoid marriage but more as a temporary drying up of the supply of potential brides and grooms. The small crop of depression babies born during the years from 1934 to 1939, when Canada's birth rate hovered around 20, are just now reaching marriageable age and thus producing a second-generation effect on the current marriage rate. Secondary effects on the birth rate are less direct because of offsetting factors in the fertility pattern, but all provinces except Newfoundland and British Columbia showed lower birth rates last year than in 1954. The fall in the national rate caused a corresponding drop in the rate of natural increase from 20.5 in 1954 to 20.2 in 1955.

While the number of deaths rose to 128,154 from 124,520 in the previous year the death rate remained level at 8.2 per thousand population, one of the lowest in the world. Figures for 1955 are not yet available from other countries; but in 1954 Canada's death rate ranked second only to that of the Netherlands. However, in spite of dramatic reductions in mortality in the past generation the Canadian infant death rate remains relatively high in comparison with western countries, showing a slight drop in the current year to 31 per 1,000 live births from 32 the year before. Highest provincial infant death rates were for Newfoundland (42), Quebec (38) and New Brunswick (37). The national rate for babies dying in the first month of life was unimproved at 19 per thousand births. In all, 6,902 infants were born dead during the year. Maternal deaths increased to 335 from 312, and the rate to 0.8 from 0.7 per 1,000 live births. (8)
Citizenship Certificates Granted to 58,711 In 1955

Certificates of Canadian citizenship were granted last year to 58,711 persons who formerly owed allegiance to other countries, three times as many as the 19,545 granted in 1954, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports.

Just over one-sixth, or 10,661 of the persons naturalized in 1955, had formerly been citizens of Poland (3,303 in 1954). Italy had been the country of allegiance of 4,532, or almost 8% (568 in 1954). Other British Commonwealth countries accounted for 3,766, or 6.4% (3,568); Netherlands for 3,564 (783); U.S.S.R. for 2,434 (416); China for 2,366 (1,425); Lithuania for 2,275 (569); and Latvia for 2,063 (505).

Among the 13,332 persons who had reported themselves as stateless when applying for Canadian citizenship, almost half had been born in Poland, almost one-fifth within the present boundaries of the U.S.S.R., and about 6% each in Austria, Czechoslovakia, Germany and Hungary. This group numbered 3,434 in 1954.

Ontario was the province of residence of over half (58%) of the new citizens, while Quebec was represented by 17%, an increase from 13% in 1954. British Columbia's representation dropped from 14% in 1954 to 9% in 1955. The Prairie Provinces were the residence of 15% in 1955, as compared with 16% in 1954, and only 1% lived in the Atlantic Provinces as compared with 2% in 1954.

Of the persons becoming Canadian citizens in 1955, 34,895, or 59.4% were males. However, the Census of 1951 recorded 441,490 persons who owed allegiance to some other country, 56.8% of these being males. The age group 20-64 (which may be considered as the labour force group) accounted for 50,963, or 87% of the persons granted certificates of Canadian citizenship in 1955. Of the males granted certificates in 1955, 22,409 or 64% were married.

The location of persons granted certificates of Canadian citizenship in 1955 was predominantly urban (84.5%), with as many as two-thirds living in urban centres of 100,000 population and over. Only 15.5% lived in rural areas, though the total population of Canada as reported at the 1951 Census was only 61.6% urban. The persons naturalized in 1955 were composed to a high degree (82.9%) of persons who immigrated to Canada in the years 1946 to 1950, inclusive.

About 87% of males granted certificates in 1955 (30,323 out of 34,895) were part of the Canadian labour force. Almost one-third of the males in the labour force were engaged in manufacturing and mechanical occupations, 14% were labourers in other than primary industries. Construction occupations accounted for 11% and agricultural, service, and professional occupations for about 8% each. About 57% of the females (13,534 out of 23,816) were homemakers and 8% were under 14 years of age. Only 30% (7,057) were in the labour force, mainly in manufacturing and mechanical (2,456), in service (1,738), and clerical occupations (1,319).

Merchandising

Department Store Sales Increased In The Week

Canadian department store sales increased 8.2% in the week ending July 14 this year over last. Sales in all provinces increased with the exception of Manitoba which reported a 45.5% decline. Sales increases in the other provinces were: Atlantic Provinces 10.3%; Quebec 13.1%; Ontario 13.2%; Saskatchewan 7.9%; Alberta 18.6%; and British Columbia 9.9%. 
TV-Set Sales Lower Again In May  

Producers' sales of television sets declined again in May as compared with a year earlier but radio-set sales continued to show gains.

Sales of TV sets have been lower than a year earlier since December last, while radio sales have been higher since the start of 1955.

Sales of television sets declined to 20,088 in May from 20,709 a year earlier and to 186,341 in the January-May period from 216,540. Radio set sales rose to 66,275 in May from 51,376 and to 262,206 in the five months from 211,433.

The decline in sales of TV sets was in table models, sales of this type dropping to 10,101 units in May from 11,691 and to 88,359 in the January-May period from 127,963. Sales of consoles rose to 9,504 in May from 8,754 and to 93,394 in the five months from 86,062. Sales of three-way combinations were up to 483 in May from 264 and to 4,588 in the five months from 2,515.

Sales of radio receiving sets were larger for all three main types in May and for two in the five months. May sales were: home sets, 25,984 (20,204 a year earlier); portable and auto, 37,959 (29,436); and combinations, 2,332 (1,736).

Five-month sales: home sets, 125,864 (93,936); portable and auto, 123,719 (104,208); and combinations, 12,623 (13,289). (10)

Sales Of Farm Implements Sales of farm implements and equipment at wholesale prices in Canada in 1955 increased 5.7% to $155,166,000 from $146,703,000 in the preceding year, reversing the down-trend of the two previous years from the peak total of $250,277,000 in 1952, according to a special statement by DBS. Sales increased in all provinces except Saskatchewan, the gains ranging from 0.7% in Manitoba to 30% in the Maritimes. Saskatchewan sales dropped 11.4%.

Ontario sales at $43,820,000 accounted for 28.2% of the Canada total compared to 26.8% worth $39,360,000 a year earlier, Saskatchewan was second with 21.3% worth $33,113,000 (25.5% valued at $37,372,000 a year earlier); then Alberta, 18.6% worth $28,801,000 (19.1% worth $28,018,000); Quebec, 14% worth $21,714,000 (11.5% worth $16,943,000); Manitoba, 10.1% worth $15,653,000 (10.6% worth $15,538,000); Maritime Provinces, 4.2% worth $6,486,000 (3.4% worth $4,987,000); British Columbia, 3.4% worth $5,186,000 (2.9% worth $4,215,000); and Newfoundland, 0.2% worth $344,000 (0.2% worth $269,000). Sales of repair parts increased also by 4.1% to $28,452,000 from $27,336,000.

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Larger Storage Stocks Of Fish Total cold storage stocks of fish were substantially larger at the end of June, amounting to 46,680,000 pounds versus 38,163,000 a month earlier and 37,863,000 a year ago. Holdings of cod were 8,174,000 pounds (8,906,000 a year ago); haddock, 5,723,000 pounds (5,495,000); halibut, 8,961,000 (10,198,000); salmon, 1,884,000 (1,890,000); sea herring, 871,000 (686,000); other sea fish, 17,828,000 (6,523,000); and inland fish, 3,239,000 (4,165,000). (11)
Overseas Exports of Canadian wheat in the week ending July 11 amounted to 337,627,000 bushels compared to 336,751,000 a week ago and 355,619,000 a year ago. Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on July 11 amounted to 337,627,000 bushels compared to 336,751,000 a week ago and 355,619,000 a year ago. (12)

Larger quantities of refined beet and cane sugar were manufactured in June and in the January-June period this year than last. Sales increased in the month but declined in the six months and stocks at June 30 were larger. Receipts, melttings and sales of raw cane sugar increased in June but declined in January-June but month-end stocks were larger.

Manufacture of refined beet and cane sugar in the six months rose to 591,784,000 pounds from 589,037,000 a year ago, but sales fell to 696,847,000 pounds from 704,262,000. Receipts of raw cane sugar declined in the period to 528,866,000 pounds from 557,671,000 and melttings and sales to 594,818,000 from 606,703,000. June totals were: manufacture of refined beet and cane sugar, 128,623,000 pounds (128,208,000 a year earlier); sales of refined sugar, 156,573,000 (142,783,000); stocks of refined at month's end, 173,746,000 (221,256,000); receipts of raw cane sugar, 158,175,000 (157,225,000); melttings and sales of raw cane sugar, 129,821,000 (129,600,000); and month-end stocks of raw cane sugar, 107,483,000 (103,541,000). (13)

 Stocks of creamery butter in 9 cities of Canada declined slightly to 66,101,000 pounds at July 19 from 67,322,000 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks in the 9 cities (in thousand pounds) were: Quebec, 5,086 (4,751 a year earlier); Montreal, 35,296 (32,248); Toronto 6,449 (9,610); Winnipeg, 15,148 (15,665); Regina, 803 (1,262); Saskatoon, 790 (627); Edmonton, 992 (1,932); Calgary, 530 (454); and Vancouver, 1,007 (773).

Commercial canners have contracted for larger acreages of tomatoes and asparagus but smaller acreages of peas, corn and beans this year than last. Contracted acreage of tomatoes is up to 40,660 from 36,070 and asparagus to 2,080 from 1,670, but the area of peas is down to 56,150 from 62,080, corn to 37,250 from 40,120 and beans to 8,980 from 9,290.

Contracted acreage of tomatoes in Ontario and Manitoba stands at 31,500 acres (28,070 in 1955); Quebec, 7,420 (6,250); and British Columbia, 1,740 (1,750). Acreage of asparagus contracted for in Ontario and Quebec is 1,900 (1,430 in 1955) and British Columbia, 180 (240). Acreage of peas contracted for in Ontario stands at 25,330 (30,030 in 1955); Quebec, 15,100 (18,260); Manitoba and Alberta, 7,160 (6,600); British Columbia, 6,600 (5,190); and the Maritimes, 1,960 (2,000). In Ontario the contracted acreage of corn is 18,300 (21,830); Manitoba and Alberta, 5,630 (4,680); Quebec, 11,140 (11,190); and British Columbia, 2,180 (2,420). Contracted acreage of beans in Quebec is 5,120 (5,630 in 1955); Ontario 1,320 (1,180); British Columbia, 1,150 (1,110); and Manitoba and Alberta, 760 (800).
Output of Carbonated Beverages

Larger quantities of carbonated beverages were produced in June and the first half of this year than last. June output was 12,856,372 gallons versus 12,214,470; in the half-year 56,171,818 gallons versus 52,575,991. (14)

Home Nursing Services

Maternity Cases & Aged Medical Patients In 1955

A major proportion of home nursing services in Canada continued to be provided to maternity cases and to persons 65 years of age and over, according to the Bureau's 1955 report on Home Nursing Services which is based on home nursing and health counselling services rendered by the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada. Services of the Order are available to about 39% of the total population of the provinces in which its branches are located. The Order has a total of 117 branches located in all provinces except Prince Edward Island.

Cases discharged in 1955 totalled 121,330, a slight increase over 1954. The number of visits, increasing annually since 1952, reached 985,512 in 1955, almost 6% more than in 1954. Of the total 121,330 cases, 64,547 or 53% were maternity and newborn, while 45,252 or 37% were medical and surgical. The remaining 10% received other health instruction. The corresponding number and percent of visits for these cases were: maternity and newborn, 195,269 (20); medical and surgical, 692,641 (70); and all other visits, 97,602 (10).

Maternity cases, excluding complications, numbered 33,557 and accounted for 88,629 visits in 1955. The average of approximately 3 visits per case remained unchanged from other years. This group shows a decrease of 182 cases and slightly over 3,000 visits compared with 1954, and a decrease of 7% in the cases and 16% in visits since 1952. Newborn cases decreased by 101 and visits by 4,705 from the preceding year.

Home nursing services were provided for 22,963 cases of persons 65 years of age and over in 1955, constituting about one-half of all medical cases. The number of visits paid to persons in this older age group was 440,523, accounting for about two-thirds of visits to all medical cases. In this group the main illnesses for which services were provided included diseases of the heart, diseases of the digestive system and anaemias and the greatest number of visits were to diabetics.

Females accounted for 33,256 or 71% of the total number of discharged medical and surgical cases, an increase of slightly under 1% as compared with 1954. The number of visits increased over 6%. The largest increases over 1954 are noted in diabetics and diseases of the heart with 26% and 23%, respectively. Diabetes accounted for the largest percentage of total visits (15.1), followed by diseases of the heart (13), diseases of the central nervous system (11.9), and anaemias (10.9).

Medical and surgical care visits as a whole have increased by almost 17% since 1952. Nursing care visits for maternity and newborn cases have declined each year since the study began in 1952, showing a decline of 34% in the period. Group health activities, however, including prenatal classes or clinics, child health conferences or clinics, industrial nursing and school health services, increased 20.6% since 1952. (15)
Output Of Asphalt And Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tiles In June

Production of asphalt floor tiles declined in June and vinyl-asbestos tile production increased from last year, but output of both types was larger in the first six months this year than last. Output of asphalt floor tiles amounted to 10,059,976 square feet in the January-June period versus 9,077,794 a year ago and vinyl-asbestos floor tile to 6,763,443 square feet versus 5,511,461. June output of asphalt floor tiles totalled 1,466,630 square feet compared with 1,677,335 a year ago and vinyl-asbestos to 1,107,709 square feet compared to 809,081. (16)

Hard Board Production And Shipments Increased In June

Production of hard board by Canadian manufacturers increased 22% in June to 21,523,009 square feet from 17,614,514 a year ago and 36% in the January-June period to 124,333,814 square feet from 9,671,186 a year earlier. Domestic shipments rose 17% in the month to 12,844,630 square feet versus 11,001,983 and 33% in the six months to 75,036,295 square feet versus 56,581,991. June export shipments declined less than 1% to 6,894,152 square feet compared with 6,918,986, but were 29% larger in the half-year at 46,034,409 square feet compared to 35,761,338. (17)

Production Of Stoves And Furnaces In May

Production of warm air furnaces rose to 10,557 units in May from 8,044 in the preceding month. At the same time the output of 4-element domestic cooking stoves and ranges increased to 22,862 units from 20,402, gas cooking stoves (no oven) to 4,316 units from 2,714, solid fuel cooking stoves and ranges to 2,414 from 2,142, and fuel oil (distillate) cooking stoves and ranges to 817 from 525. The month's output of fuel oil (distillate) heating stoves and space heaters fell to 4,686 units from 6,337, electric rangettes to 3,530 from 4,550, solid fuel heating stoves and space heaters to 1,524 from 1,881, and gas cooking plates (no oven) to 711 from 781. (18)

Heating & Cooking Apparatus Industry

Boosted largely by warm air furnaces designed for oil burning, power type oil burners, and gas and electric water-tank heaters, the value of factory shipments by the heating and cooking apparatus industry increased to a new record high in 1954 to $102,113,000 compared to the previous peak of $97,357,000 in 1953, according to the Bureau's annual report on the industry. Number of establishments rose by 2 to 120, but employees fell to 8,905 from 9,218. Salary and wage payments rose to $28,444,000 from $28,116,000, cost of materials to $48,144,000 from $43,614,000, and fuel and electricity costs to $1,390,000 from $1,315,000.

Value of factory shipments for some of the products in 1954 were (1953 figures in brackets): coal or wood burning warm air furnaces, $2,517,000 ($4,105,000); oil burning warm air furnaces, $1,703,000 ($1,752,000); gas burning warm air furnaces, $1,703,000 ($1,752,000); cooking stoves and ranges, coal, wood or sawdust burning, $3,028,000 ($4,449,000); gas cooking stoves and ranges (not combinations), $3,040,000 ($3,586,000); domestic electric cooking stoves and ranges over 35 amperes, $13,369,000 ($13,684,000); fuel oil (distillate) cooking stoves and ranges, $1,189,000 ($1,047,000); fuel oil (distillate) heating stoves and space heaters, $2,313,000 ($2,466,000); residential power type oil burners, $7,407,000 ($6,038,000); and domestic water-tank heaters, $2,165,000 ($592,000). (19)
Production of men's and youths' all wool one-pant suits increased in the first quarter of this year from last, but output of all wool two-pant suits declined. Output of women's and misses' dresses and all wool and partly wool coats increased, but production of cotton blouses declined.

Production of men's and youths' all wool one-pant suits amounted to 294,809 compared to 273,270 a year earlier, all wool two-pant suits to 88,673 compared to 104,702, boys' suits of all types and materials to 67,154 compared to 48,893, nylon dress shirts to 12,979 dozen versus 5,826 and cotton dress shirts to 171,356 dozen versus 152,724.

Output of women's and misses' dresses increased to 3,193,613 from 2,927,436, and of all wool and partly wool coats to 457,134 from 451,415, but cotton blouse production declined to 100,389 dozen from 108,202. (20)

Synthetic Textiles And Silk Industry In 1954

For the third successive year the value of factory shipments by Canadian manufacturers in the synthetic textiles and silk industry declined in 1954, falling 9.6% to $132,403,000 from $146,418,000 in 1953 and 20% from 1951's peak total of $166,550,000, according to the Bureau's annual report on the industry. Number of establishments fell to 46 from 47 a year earlier, employees to 13,662 from 15,723, salaries and wages to $40,628,000 from $43,939,000, cost of materials to $57,081,000 from $63,938,000, and costs of fuel and electricity to $3,538,000 from $3,895,000.

Selling value at factory of some of the principal products in 1954 were (corresponding 1953 figures in brackets): rayon continuous filament yarn, $23,456,000 ($36,575,000); nylon continuous filament yarn, $4,451,000 ($6,143,000); all spun rayon, $13,947,000 ($15,084,000); rayon and spun rayon mixtures of continuous filament, $3,444,000 ($4,002,000); rayon and cotton mixtures of continuous filament, $3,842,000 ($1,162,000); "other" woven fabrics, $6,474,000 ($5,672,000); knitted fabrics, $3,868,000 ($4,555,000); synthetic singles yarn and thread, $38,193,000 ($38,207,000); all other products, $15,262,000 ($11,486,000); and value of custom and commission work, $3,051,000 ($3,954,000). (21)

Wool Textile Industries

Value of factory shipments in the wool group industries declined for the third consecutive year in 1954, dropping to $122,733,000 from $142,869,000 in 1953, according to the Bureau's annual report on the group. Number of establishments fell to 183 from 187, employees to 12,862 from 15,206, salary and wage payments to $32,520,000 from $37,947,000, cost of materials to $69,513,000 from $83,322,000, and costs of fuel and electricity to $2,402,000 from $2,653,000.

Values for some of the principal products in the year were: suiting, dress goods, overcoatings, cloakings and auto fabrics and upholstery fabrics (wool or containing wool), $42,612,000 ($51,666,000 in 1953); blankets, slumber throws and auto rugs (wool or containing wool), $4,771,000 ($4,505,000); felt of all types, $14,561,000 ($13,965,000); carpets, mats, rugs and other floor covering, $13,962,000 ($13,333,000); woolen yarns for sale, $8,862,000 ($10,091,000); oil spun worsted, $14,656,000 ($17,233,000); and dry spun worsted, $3,212,000 ($4,479,000). (22)
Rubber Consumption Increased

Consumption of natural, synthetic and reclaim rubber rose in May to 9,776 long tons from 9,538 a month earlier and stocks at May 31 advanced slightly to 14,207 tons from 13,649. Domestic production increased to 10,989 tons versus last month’s 10,713. (23)

Distilling Industry In 1955

Canada’s distilling industry continued its gains of the previous five years in 1955, when the selling value hit a new peak with an increase to $129,630,000 from the previous peak of $125,967,000 in 1954, DBS reports in its annual survey of the industry. Number of establishments declined to 20 in 1955 from 21 a year earlier and cost of materials to $44,385,000 from $45,250,000, but employees rose to 5,179 from 5,049, salaries and wages to $17,648,000 from $16,111,000, and fuel and electricity costs to $2,235,000 from $2,212,000.

Sales of beverage spirits outside the industry increased for brandies to $343,000 from $320,000, gins to $6,497,000 from $5,920,000, liqueurs, cordials, cocktails, etc., to $1,062,000 from $898,000, and "other" beverage spirits to $338,000 from $314,000, but declined for whiskies to $79,904,000 from $80,874,000 and rums to $3,067,000 from $3,082,000. Value of sales and transfers within the industry increased to $28,292,000 from $24,252,000, bringing the total value of beverages sold to $119,504,000 compared to $115,660,000. (24)

Cordage Rope & Twine Industry

Value of factory shipments in the cordage rope and twine industry increased 3.5% in 1955 to $15,572,000 from $15,045,000 in 1954, when the value had reached a post-war low, according to the Bureau's annual survey of the industry. Number of establishments increased to 17 in 1955 from 16 in 1954, but number of employees declined to 1,191 from 1,198. Salaries and wages rose to $3,736,000 from $3,701,000, cost of materials to $8,090,000 from $7,901,000, and costs of fuel and electricity to $205,000 from $204,000.

Increased factory selling values were recorded in 1955 for baler twine (all sisal) rising to $3,829,000 from $3,379,000, twines - hemp, jute, sisal and all other - to $2,257,000 from $2,190,000, rope - manila, sisal, cotton, jute, hemp and all other - to $4,114,000 from $4,095,000, yarns - flax, hemp, jute, etc. - to $421,000 from $415,000, and all "other" products to $1,378,000 from $807,000. Binder twine sales registered the lone decrease, falling to $3,573,000 from $4,159,000. (25)

MINING

Salt Industry In 1955

Value of producers' shipments in the salt industry in 1955 reached a new record high of $10,122,000 (exclusive of containers), up 21.4% from the previous peak total of $8,340,000 in 1954, DBS reports in its annual survey of the industry. Number of establishments remained unchanged at 13, but number of employees rose to 691 from 669, salary and wage payments to $2,347,000 from $1,381,000, cost of process supplies and containers to $2,280,000 from $1,945,000, and fuel and electricity costs to $1,019,000 from $758,000.

Dry salt shipments in the year amounted to $9,184,000 versus $7,663,000 a year earlier, comprising fine vacuum salt valued at $7,224,000 versus $6,872,000, coarse grainer salt at $21,000 versus $32,000, mined rock salt at $1,874,000 versus $672,000, and salt recovered in chemical operations at $56,000 versus $86,000. Salt content of brines used and shipped totalled $938,000 compared to $677,000 and value of containers amounted to $1,691,000 versus $1,514,000. (26)
Iron Ore Shipments  
Iron ore shipments by Canadian mines in the first six months of this year totalled 6,354,227 tons, up 55% from 4,089,634 tons in the first half of last year. Export shipments accounted for most of the increase in quantity with a rise of 49% to 5,487,703 from 3,679,658 tons, but shipments to Canadian consumers showed a steeper rate of gain with a rise of 111% to 866,524 from 409,976 tons. Stocks at the end of June were moderately higher this year than last at 2,002,757 compared to 1,969,312 tons.

Half-year shipments from Ontario iron mines increased to 1,638,891 tons from 1,442,340 last year, and end-of-June stocks were up to 976,856 compared to 722,326 tons. Shipments from mines in other provinces climbed to 4,715,336 from 2,469,756 tons, the mid-year stocks declining to 1,025,901 against 1,246,986 tons.

Total June shipments moved up to 2,873,610 tons from 2,440,242 in May and were 35% above last year's June total of 2,129,963 tons. Export shipments were up to 2,647,101 tons from 1,936,625 a year earlier and domestic shipments to 226,509 from 193,338 tons. (27)

PRICES

Security Price Indexes

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<th>Investors' Price Index</th>
<th>July 19</th>
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<td>286.5</td>
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</tbody>
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Mining Stock Price Index

| Total Mining Stocks             | 146.2   | 143.0   | 138.4   |
| Golds                          | 80.7    | 79.8    | 76.8    |
| Base Metals                    | 296.1   | 287.8   | 279.4   |

Wholesale Price Indexes

| General Index                   | 218.7   | 225.3   | 226.5   |
| Vegetable Products             | 196.2   | 198.4   | 199.5   |
| Animal Products                | 230.5   | 221.4   | 229.5   |
| Textile Products               | 226.9   | 228.9   | 229.6   |
| Wood Products                  | 294.5   | 306.0   | 304.9   |
| Iron Products                  | 217.2   | 237.0   | 235.8   |
| Non-ferrous Metals             | 184.5   | 207.2   | 206.1   |
| Non-metallic Minerals          | 173.4   | 178.8   | 179.2   |
| Chemical Products              | 176.5   | 180.9   | 181.1   |
| Combined Index, Iron and Non-  | 232.4   | 260.8   | 259.4   |
| ferrous Metals (excluding gold)       |         |         |         |
Price Indexes Of Commodities and Services Used By Farmers

Largely due to seasonally higher farm wage rates, the all-Canada composite price index of commodities and services used by farmers (on the 1935-39 base) advanced 4% to 231.0 for April from 222.2 for January. At this level the index stands 2.2% above the April 1955 figure of 226.0 and one-tenth of a point above the peak of 230.9 touched in April 1952. Exclusive of farm family living, the all-Canada composite index rose 6% to 249.0 between January and April, 3.4% over the comparable figure of a year ago.

The composite index for eastern Canada advanced to 230.7 from 225.2 in January and 226.6 a year ago. Exclusive of living costs the index rose to 250.4 from 241.4 in January and 243.1 a year earlier. The western composite index moved up to 231.3 from 219.2 in January and 225.4 a year ago. Exclusive of the farm family living component the index advanced to 247.7 from 228.2 in January and 238.5 a year earlier.

The all-Canada index of farm wage rates reached an all-time peak of 485.1, comparing with 413.4 for January and 454.2 for April last year. For eastern Canada the index advanced to 461.6 versus 427.0 in January and 433.4 in April last year, and for western Canada it rose to 518.4 from 394.0 in January and 483.8 a year ago.

The national index for equipment and material prices moved up to 209.6 from 206.0 for April and 204.7 a year ago. The eastern index advanced to 208.0 from 204.5 in January and 205.3 a year ago, and the western index rose to 211.1 from 207.4 in January and 204.1 a year earlier. (28)
(Publications are numbered similarly to news items to indicate source of latter)

1-M: Volume of Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Travellers' Vehicle Permits, June, 10¢
2-Review of Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings, 1945-55, 25¢
3-Trade of Canada - Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade, April, 10¢
4-Trade of Canada - Imports for Consumption, April, 20¢
5-M: Carloadings on Canadian Railways, July 14, 15¢
6-M: Passenger Bus Statistics (Intercity & Rural), March, 10¢
7-M: Pipe Line (Oil) Statistics, May, 10¢
8-Vital Statistics (Preliminary Annual), 1955, 10¢
9-Canadian Citizenship Statistics, 1955, 25¢
10-Radio & Television Receiving Sets, May, 10¢
11-M: Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, June, 25¢
12-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, July 11, 10¢
13-M: Sugar Situation, June, 10¢
14-M: Monthly Production of Carbonated Beverages, June, 10¢
15-Statistics of Home Nursing Services (Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada), 1955, 50¢
16-M: Asphalt & Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tiles, June, 10¢
17-M: Hard Board, June, 10¢
18-M: Stoves & Furnaces, May, 10¢
20-Quarterly Production of Garments (Selected Items), First Quarter 1956, 25¢
21-Synthetic Textiles & Silk Industry, 1954, 25¢
22-Wool Textile Industries, 1954, 25¢
23-Consumption, Production & Inventories of Rubber, May, 20¢
24-Distilling Industry, 1955, 25¢
25-Cordage, Hose & Twine Industry, 1955, 25¢
26-Salt Industry, 1955, 25¢
27-M: Iron Ore, June, 10¢
28-Price Index Numbers of Commodities & Services Used by Farmers, April, 10¢
   -- M: Contracted Acreages of Canning Crops, July 23, 10¢
   -- Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings with Average Weekly Wages, May, 20¢
      (Summarized in Weekly Bulletin dated July 13)
   -- Inventories, Shipments & Orders in Manufacturing Industries, May, 20¢
      (Summarized in Weekly Bulletin dated July 20)
   -- Canal Statistics, 1955, 25¢
   -- Summary of Monthly Railway Traffic Reports, 1955, 25¢
      (Summarized in Weekly Bulletin dated May 25)
   -- M: Railway Freight Traffic, March, 10¢
M: Memorandum

Prepared in Press & Publicity Section, Information Services Division

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Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery,
Ottawa, 1956

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Salt Used In Pulp and Paper Mills
Canada's pulp and paper mills used 99,524,000 pounds of salt valued at $598,029 in 1954.

Remodelled Rugs
The value of rugs made in Canadian factories from old carpets increased in 1954 to $687,698 from $288,618 in 1953.

Whiskey Imports and Exports
There were 2,015,426 proof gallons of whiskey valued at $9,064,728 imported into Canada in 1955 and 7,064,442 proof gallons valued at $60,362,136 were exported.

Zinc Output
Heavy demands by the automotive industry boosted Canada's output of zinc 13% in 1955 to 853,932,000 pounds. British Columbia accounted for close to one-half the year's output.

Furnace Blowers
Nearly twice as many furnace blowers were shipped from Canadian factories in 1954 than in the previous year, the number rising to 60,127 from 32,878 and the selling value to $1,192,187 from $983,416.

Coal Shipments
Total coal shipments from Canadian mines for sale to Canadian users except railroads and ships' bunkers amounted in 1955 to 11,522,000 tons. Shipments were largest to Quebec of any province at 2,296,000 tons, next largest to Nova Scotia at 1,791,200 tons, followed by Manitoba, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, New Brunswick and Alberta. Quantity shipped to Ontario was under 418,000 tons.

Spark Plugs
Over 26,000,000 spark plugs were made in Canada in 1954.

Pennants & Crests
Factory selling value of felt pennants and crests made in Canadian factories in 1954 amounted to $807,196; almost double the 1953 value of $420,782.

Binder Twine
Amount of binder twine made available for consumption in Canada last year was 221,500 cwt., slightly more than in 1954, far above the 1953 quantity of 166,463 cwt. and sharply below the 1952 total of 470,490 cwt.

Man-Day Coal Output
Average output per man-day in Canada's coal mines was 3.826 short tons in 1955 compared to 3.581 in 1954. Average for strip mines increased to 13.309 from 12.512 tons and for underground mines to 2.718 from 2.618.

Passenger Cars
Back in 1945 only one passenger car was registered for every 104 persons in Canada, while 1955 figures show one car to every 5.3 persons. In both years Ontario had the most passenger cars with one to every 7.2 persons in 1945 and one to every 4 in 1955.

Distilling Materials
The distilling industry in Canada in 1955 used 108,891,111 pounds of Canadian corn and 123,096,431 pounds of imported corn, 37,589,990 of Canadian malt and 97,720 of imported malt, 49,471,846 of rye, 19,496,949 of wheat, 35,672,813 of molasses and 546,764 pounds of sugar.