HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Population: First release of preliminary population figures of the 1956 Census, covering 492 smaller cities, towns and villages, indicate a marked rise since 1951 in urban population. Out of 31 cities and towns listed with population of 5,000 and over, all but three had gains, most of them substantial, while of the others all but 87 (mainly small villages) also had population gains. (Page 2)

Merchandising: Total Canadian retail store sales in the first half of this year are estimated to have reached $6,420,212,000, over 7.5% larger than in last year's first six months. Estimated sales were larger in all provinces and for all trades. More new passenger cars were sold in the first half of this year than in any other similar period, the sales value being also a record, of course. Commercial vehicle sales were up from last year's low level but still below several bigger earlier years. (Pages 3 & 4)

Food & Agriculture: Total carryover stocks of the five major Canadian grains at the end of the 1955-56 crop year were estimated at 768.4 million bushels, about 11% larger than a year earlier and 95% larger than the 1946-55 average. Wheat stocks accounted for 527.5 million bushels, up from 499.7 million at July 31 last year. Other main increases were in oats and barley. Cold storage stocks of meat and fish at July 31 were larger than a year earlier. Sea-fish landings to the end of June this year were up 34% in quantity and 22% in value, with gains in each on both coasts. (Pages 5 to 8)

Manufacturing: New records were set by Canadian manufacturing industries last year in total value of shipments, salaries and wages, and cost of materials, but number of employees was below 1953. (Page 9)

Electric Power: Total output of Canada's central electric stations was substantially larger in the first half of this year than last, although production in Quebec - largest producer - was considerably lower. (Page 12)

Labour: Employment during July was at a record peak, with the number of persons with jobs estimated at 5,789,000 and the number without jobs and seeking work placed at only 102,000. (Page 14)
First Release Of Population Figures Of The 1956 Census

First figures of the 1956 Census were released August 20 by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in a bulletin giving preliminary totals of the population at June 1 of some 500 cities, towns and incorporated villages.

Covering centres in every province, but including mostly the smaller cities and towns, the figures indicate a distinct rise in Canada's urban population during the last 5 years. Out of 31 cities and towns with a population of 5,000 and over, all except 3 gained in population size since 1951 and some had particularly large gains. Of the other smaller centres, only 87 declined in population and small villages accounted for most of these decreases.

Among the larger urban centres for which population figures are listed, the population of Kitchener increased to 59,209 from 44,867 in 1951; Victoria to 52,935 from 51,331; Kingston to 47,989 from 36,870; Port William to 39,019 from 34,947; Sault Ste. Marie to 37,073 from 32,452; Lethbridge to 31,120 from 22,947; St. Boniface to 28,636 from 26,342; Brandon to 24,579 from 20,598; St. Jean to 24,175 from 19,305; Dartmouth to 20,004 from 15,037; Thetford Mines to 19,316 from 15,095; Eastview to 19,019 from 13,799; St. Thomas to 18,993 from 13,799; Rouyn to 16,819 from 14,633; Sorel to 16,342 from 14,961; Waterloo to 16,273 from 11,991; Welland to 15,935 from 15,382; Jasper Place to 15,851 from 10,939; and Rimouski to 15,322 from 11,565. There was a small decline in Timmins proper to 27,347 from 27,743.

Following are the preliminary 1956 population totals for the remaining centres with population 5,000 and over listed in the bulletin with 1951 Census figures shown in brackets, arranged by provinces from east to west: New Waterford, 10,231 (10,423); Stellarton, 5,377 (5,575); Giffard, 9,507 (8,097); Grand'Mere, 13,909 (11,089); Magog, 12,638 (12,423); Coaticook, 6,444 (6,341); Kenogami, 11,232 (9,895); Malartic, 6,762 (5,983); Mont-Laurier, 5,449 (4,701); Quebec West, 7,911 (7,295); Pointe-Catineau, 6,144 (3,874).

Population totals in this preliminary release are subject to revision. In this connection, the bulletin points out that anyone who has reason to believe that he or she has been omitted from the Census should notify the Bureau, which will then make an investigation to correct any omissions. (1)

More Births, Deaths And Marriages In July, 7 Months

Larger numbers of births, deaths and marriages were registered in Canada in July and the first 7 months of this year than a year earlier. Births increased in July to 39,845 from 37,298 a year ago, deaths to 10,598 from 10,206, and marriages to 14,930 from 13,942. In the January-July period there were 258,666 births versus 256,767 a year ago, 79,540 deaths versus 75,597, and 63,863 marriages versus 60,782.

Ontario accounted for most of the rise in births both in July and the seven months, with increases from 10,866 to 13,154 and from 32,074 to 34,550, respectively. Similarly, Quebec was mainly responsible in both periods for the larger total number of marriages, with increases from 3,404 to 4,499 and from 12,935 to 16,066. The number of deaths was larger in July in all provinces except Newfoundland and Quebec and in the seven months in all except Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Alberta. (2)
Advertising Agencies, Billings
& Gross Revenue Higher In 1955
Advertising placed and other services rendered by Canadian advertising agencies increased 13.5% in 1955 to a record high total of $177,240,000 compared to the previous peak of $156,163,000 in 1954, according to the Bureau's annual report on advertising agencies. Gross revenue rose nearly 13% to $27,690,000 from $24,579,000 and net revenue (before taxes) 19% to $2,772,000 from $2,338,000.

Number of agencies increased to 104 from 91, commissionable billings to $174,925,000 from $154,467,000, market surveys and other research to $391,000 from $328,000, and "other" fees to $1,925,000 from $1,368,000. Gross revenue on commissionable billings rose to $26,469,000 from $23,230,000, but that from market surveys, other research and "other" fees fell to $1,221,000 from $2,350,000. (3)

MERCHANDISING

Department Store Sales
Department store sales increased 10.2% in July as compared with the corresponding month last year, according to the Bureau's monthly preliminary release. All provinces except Manitoba shared in the sales gain. The rise in the Atlantic Provinces was 13.8%, Quebec 9%, Ontario 13.6%, Saskatchewan 9.7%, Alberta 14.7%, and British Columbia 9.1%. The drop in Manitoba was 2%.

Sales declined 2.3% during the week ending August 11 as compared with a year earlier, declines of 6.3% in Quebec, 11.6% in Ontario and 7.8% in Manitoba more than offsetting increases of 13.4% in the Atlantic Provinces, 20.8% in Saskatchewan, 4.7% in Alberta and 4.6% in British Columbia.

Retail Sales Up Some 8% In June And Half-Year
Sales of Canada's retail establishments were up 8.2% in value in June as compared with a year earlier. There were increases of 4.7% in January, 8.2% in February, 14.1% in March, 0.5% in April and 10.1% in May. The overall result was a rise in the half-year period of 7.6%. Dollar sales were $1,286,728,000 in June versus $1,189,241,000 a year earlier and $6,420,212,000 in the half-year period versus $5,968,722,000.

All provinces shared in the increased sales both in June and the six months. Except for a small decline in June in jewellery store sales, all trades had larger sales totals in both periods.

Variety stores showed the largest percentage gain during June of 18.1%, followed by shoe stores with a rise of 15.6%, furniture, appliance and radio stores 15.1%, family clothing stores 14.4%, and grocery and combination stores 13.8%. Motor vehicle dealers, which had shown large sales increases in the first five months of the year, had a sales gain of only 1% in June.

Fuel dealers topped the trades in size of sales gain in the half-year period with a rise of 16.2%, lumber and building material dealers next with 13.9%, variety stores 10.5%, department stores 9.7%, furniture, appliance and radio 9.2%, and grocery and combination stores 7.6%.

June sales increases were as follows by provinces, half-year gains being in brackets: Atlantic Provinces, 9.4% (6.6%); Quebec, 7.7% (9.1%); Ontario, 8% (6.3%); Manitoba, 6.6% (3.2%); Saskatchewan, 8.6% (6.7%); Alberta, 11.5% (10.1%); and British Columbia, 7.3% (10.3%). (4)
More new passenger cars were sold in Canada in the first half of 1956 than in any other similar period. The 229,041 units sold exceeded last year's first-half total of 215,035 by 6.5%. The retail value reached $637,643,000, an increase of 13.8% over last year's $560,276,000. During the same period the sales of commercial vehicles rose to 46,206 units from 38,144 and the value to $167,207,000 from $109,426,000 a year earlier.

June sales of new passenger cars also established new highs for the month both in number and value. The 48,874 vehicles with a retail value of $134,787,000 were up from last year's 45,923 units sold for $119,516,000. Commercial vehicle sales reached a high record value for the month at $34,270,000 ($26,490,000 a year ago), and the number of units sold rose to 9,484 from 8,990 but were exceeded both in June 1950 and 1953.

In the first half of this year 91,050 new passenger car sales were financed for $196,518,000, exceeding last year's half-year financing by 18.3% in number and 33.9% in amount. More new passenger cars were financed for a greater amount in June (20,491 units for $44,958,000) than in any other June, comparing with 18,960 units financed for $36,245,000 in June last year.

Used passenger vehicles financed in the first half of 1956 numbered 189,810 with a financed value of $167,624,000, sharply above last year's 179,568 units financed for $149,043,000. The amount of financing in June ($35,981,000 versus $34,137,000 a year ago) was the highest on record for that month, but the number financed at 40,892 units was below last year's 41,113.

Financing of used commercial vehicles in the first half of this year fell to 27,582 units from 28,529 a year ago, but the financed value increased to $24,919,000 from $23,992,000. June's financing of used commercial vehicles declined to 5,548 units financed for $5,050,000 from 6,170 units financed for $5,281,000. (5)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Poultry Population Total number of poultry on Canadian farms at June 1, excluding Newfoundland, was estimated at 68,440,000 birds, an increase of 6,226,000 or 3% from last year's corresponding total of 66,214,000. All provinces except New Brunswick and Ontario reported increases ranging from 3% in Prince Edward Island to 11% in British Columbia. The decrease in New Brunswick was 1%, while that of Ontario was 5%.

Number of hens and chickens rose 3% at June 1 to 63,680,000 birds from 62,045,000 a year ago with decreases in New Brunswick and Ontario more than counterbalanced by increases in the remaining provinces. The turkey population rose 20% to 4,014,000 birds from 3,337,000 with New Brunswick registering the only decline.

Number of geese fell 9% to 326,000 from 357,000 with lower numbers in all provinces except Quebec and Ontario, where the totals were unchanged from last year. Ducks dropped 21% in number to 420,000 from 535,000, all provinces except New Brunswick reporting decreases. (6)
Shorn Wool Production

Declined 1 1/2% in 1956

Farm wool clip in Canada, excluding Newfoundland, declined 1.1% in 1956 to 6,372,000 pounds from 6,446,000 in 1955, according to the Bureau's annual wool survey. Number of sheep shorn fell to 874,000 from 875,200 and the average weight of fleeces to 7.3 pounds from 7.4. Production of shorn wool was unchanged in Prince Edward Island, (135,000 pounds) and Manitoba (177,000); lower in Nova Scotia (295,000 versus 309,000), Ontario (1,528,000 versus 1,578,000), Alberta (1,849,000 versus 1,925,000), and British Columbia (334,000 versus 348,000); and higher in New Brunswick (224,000 versus 216,000), Quebec (1,163,000 versus 1,136,000), and Saskatchewan (667,000 versus 622,000). (7)

Creamery Butter Stocks In Nine Cities Slightly Smaller

On August 16 amounted to 72,072,000 pounds, about 2% smaller than last year's 73,816,000 pounds. Holdings were as follows by cities (in thousands): Quebec, 5,144 pounds (4,966); Montreal, 38,309 (34,880); Toronto, 6,557 (9,791); Winnipeg, 16,452 (17,727); Regina, 1,004 (1,489); Saskatoon, 1,116 (884); Edmonton, 1,372 (2,398); Calgary, 827 (610); and Vancouver, 1,291 (1,071). (8)

Meat Stocks Larger On August 1

Stocks of meat in cold storage on August 1 were 10.5% larger at 70,671,000 pounds than last year's corresponding total of 63,958,000 pounds. Holdings of frozen meat were 39,264,000 pounds (33,012,000 a year ago); fresh meat, 18,383,000 (17,136,000); and cured meat, 13,024,000 (13,810,000). (8)

Stocks of Frozen Fruit And Vegetables On August 1

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, were smaller on August 1 at 31,947,000 pounds versus 34,423,000 a year earlier but the holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, were larger at 20,540,000 pounds versus 18,977,000. (9)

Production Of Carbonated Beverages

Production of carbonated beverages declined to 13,226,955 gallons in July from last year's corresponding total of 15,667,829 gallons. In the first seven months of this year the output was moderately higher at 69,398,773 gallons as compared with 68,243,820. (10)

Dry Skim Milk Powder Packed For Retail

Dry skim milk powder packed for retail in consumer-size packages increased to 10,209,242 pounds in 1955 from the preceding year's total of 8,124,881, according to a special statement released by DBS. Pack in the first quarter this year was 2,599,314 pounds, rising to 3,430,587 pounds in the second quarter.

Stocks Of Fish 23% Larger

Cold storage holdings of fish at the end of July amounted to 58,652,000 pounds, 23% larger than last year's 47,793,000 pounds. Holdings of cod weighed 13,200,000 pounds (11,529,000 a year earlier); haddock, 4,919,000 (5,159,000); halibut, 9,318,000 (11,716,000); salmon, 4,854,000 (3,491,000); sea herring, 835,000 (852,000); other see fish, 20,933,000 (9,264,000); and inland fish, 4,593,000 (5,782,000). (11)
Visible Supplies Of Wheat Smaller Than Last Year

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat at the end of the first week of the new crop year amounted to 364,471,000 bushels versus 360,014,000 a week earlier and 379,614,-000 a year ago. Overseas export clearances during the week totalled 7,493,000 bushels, slightly larger than last year's 7,462,000 bushels. Prairie farmers marketed 13,459,000 bushels of wheat during the week versus 16,298,000 in the July 21-31 period. (12)

Stocks Of Canadian Grain At July 31

Total carryover stocks of the five major Canadian grains in all North American positions at July 31, 1956 were estimated at 768.4 million bushels, about 11% above last year's 694.9 million, and some 95% above the ten-year (1946-55) average of 394.2 million. This year's July 31 stocks, in million of bushels, with last year's totals and the 1946-55 averages in brackets were estimated as follows: wheat, 527.5 (499.7, 234.3); oats, 116.0 (84.0, 85.8); barley, 107.5 (91.5, 62.2); rye, 15.0 (18.5, 8.6); flaxseed, 2.3 (1.2, 3.3).

Wheat and Rye

Total stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions at July 31, 1956 were estimated at 527.5 million bushels compared with last year's 499.7 million and the record 601.7 million in 1954. An estimated 165.2 million bushels of this year's total were held on farms, while 226.4 million of the off-farm stocks were in country elevators. The next largest amounts, 51.2 million and 25.5 million bushels, were in store in Eastern elevators and in the Fort William-Port Arthur terminals, respectively. Rye stocks, estimated at 15.0 million bushels were down 19% from last year's 18.5 million.

Coarse Grains and Flaxseed

July 31 stocks of oats, estimated at 116.0 million bushels, were well above those of last year and also above the ten-year average of 85.8 million. Barley stocks at 107.5 million bushels were up 18% from 1955 and well above the ten-year average of 62.2 million. Stocks of flaxseed at 2.3 million bushels were above 1955 stocks but were lower than the ten-year average of 3.3 million.

Farm Stocks

Farm held stocks of wheat, oats and barley at July 31, 1956 were above last year's and the ten-year average. Farm stocks of rye were below last year's but above the ten-year average, while stocks of flaxseed were less than those of 1955 but larger than the ten-year average. This year's stocks on farms, with last year's totals and the ten-year averages in brackets, were as follows: wheat, 165.2 (100.9, 59.9); oats, 71.2 (53.4, 58.2); barley, 50.5 (42.3, 29.4); rye, 9.1 (10.2, 3.5); flaxseed, 0.4 (0.3, 0.5). Although this year's farm-held stocks of wheat were the third largest on record, they were well below the record 214.9 million bushels in 1954 and the 190.2 million in 1943. Farm stocks of barley were second only to the record stocks of 1954, although they were only a little more than half the 1954 total.

Approximately 95% of this year's farm-held grain stocks was located in the Prairie Provinces. For the individual grains, the percentage held on Prairie farms varied from 84 for oats to 100 for flaxseed. Distribution of farm stocks, in millions of bushels, for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, respectively, was estimated as follows: wheat, 3.0, 100.0, and 60.0; oats, 8.0, 32.0, and 20.0; barley, 4.0, 25.0, and 20.0; rye, 0.4, 5.8, and 2.8. Farm stocks of flaxseed in these three provinces respectively, in thousands of bushels, were 40, 300 and 100. (13)
Supplies and Exports of Wheat in Major Producing Countries

Supplies of wheat remaining on or about July 1 in the four major exporting countries for export and carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 1,813,800,000 bushels, about 0.5% greater than the 1,805,300,000 bushels available a year ago.

July supplies were held as follows: United States, 1,030,400,000 bushels (1,025,600,000 a year earlier); Canada, 553,300,000 (519,600,000); Australia, 150,000,000 (127,300,000); and Argentina, 80,100,000 (132,800,000). Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial positions and apply only to old-crop wheat.

Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from the four major exporting countries for the first eleven months (August-June) of the current Canadian crop year increased 14% to 790,800,000 bushels from 696,700,000 during last year's comparable period. Current crop-year wheat shipments to the end of June were the second largest for any year in the comparable series beginning 1950-51, being exceeded only by the 1951-52 total of 869,500,000 bushels.

August-June shipments of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from Canada, the United States and Australia were larger than last year, while Argentina's shipments were smaller. Shipments from Canada amounted to 280,500,000 bushels (231,900,000 a year earlier); United States, 310,600,000 (253,200,000); Argentina, 103,400,000 (123,000,000); and Australia, 96,300,000 (88,600,000).

Canadian wheat supplies for the crop year 1955-56, consisting of the August 1 carryover of 499,700,000 bushels and the 1955 crop of 494,100,000, amounted to 993,800,000 bushels, about 9% above the 1954-55 total of 910,600,000 bushels. After deducting an estimated 160,000,000 bushels for anticipated domestic requirements, some 833,800,000 bushels were available for export and for carryover during the crop year as against 751,500,000 available during the 1954-55 crop year (14).

Value Of Fruit Production Due to a substantial decrease in the receipts from the sales of apples, the total farm value of commercial fruit production declined to $39,634,000 in 1955 from 1954's total of $48,098,000, a decrease of $8,464,000 or 13.4%. Farm receipts from the sale of tender tree fruits were almost $1,000,000 higher, but in the case of apples a heavier production than average was combined with sharply lower prices. Revenue was lower from berries, except grapes and loganberries, although prices were generally close to those of a year earlier.

All provinces reported decreased values in the year, with Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec reporting the largest rates of decline. The apple crop at 19,142,000 bushels was second only to the peak total of 19,300,000 recorded in 1946. Lower receipts for apples, plums and prunes, sweet cherries, strawberries, raspberries, grapes and blueberries more than counterbalanced increased receipts of pears, peaches, apricots, sour cherries and loganberries.

Fruit-crop values were as follows by provinces (in thousands): Ontario, $18,935 ($21,896); British Columbia, $12,326 ($13,736); Quebec, $5,442 ($8,114); Nova Scotia, $1,856 ($3,032); New Brunswick, $849 ($998); Prince Edward Island, $188 ($197); and Newfoundland, $38 ($125). (15)
Landings Of Sea-Fish 34% Larger & 22% More Valuable in 6 Months

Landings of sea-fish were 34% larger and 22% more valuable in the first six months of this year than last. Larger catches of Atlantic cod, haddock and lobster, and of Pacific herring more than compensated for smaller landings of Atlantic herring and Pacific halibut.

The half-year catch on both coasts weighed 892,534,000 pounds and was worth $35,820,000 to the fishermen as compared with 665,242,000 pounds valued at $29,443,000 a year earlier. The Atlantic catch weighed 523,739,000 pounds (505,907,000 in 1955) and was worth $25,417,000 ($23,793,000). The half-year's catch on the Pacific weighed 368,795,000 pounds (159,335,000 in 1955) and was worth $10,403,000 ($5,650,000).

The catch on both coasts in June amounted to 219,666,000 pounds valued at $11,712,000 versus 183,078,000 pounds valued at $9,378,000 a year ago. The month's catch in Atlantic waters in June weighed 196,453,000 pounds (169,908,000 in 1955) and was worth $8,549,000 ($7,562,000). On the Pacific June's catch weighed 23,213,000 pounds (13,170,000) and was worth $3,163,000 ($1,816,000).

The half-year catch in Newfoundland amounted to 169,330,000 pounds valued at $4,946,000 versus 147,233,000 pounds valued at $4,651,000. Nova Scotia's catch in the six months amounted to 198,946,000 pounds, little changed from last year's 198,868,000 but the landed value rose to $13,319,000 from $13,145,000. The catch in New Brunswick weighed 77,537,000 pounds versus 69,990,000 and was worth $3,084,000 versus $2,416,000. Landings in Prince Edward Island amounted to 16,054,000 pounds valued at $2,284,000 versus 15,620,000 pounds worth $2,091,000.

Quebec's catch in the half-year period weighed 61,872,000 pounds versus 74,196,000 and was worth $1,784,000 versus $1,490,000. The Ontario catch in the five months ended May (latest available) weighed 14,553,000 pounds versus 11,951,000 and was worth $1,586,000 versus $1,588,000. In Manitoba the catch in the six months amounted to 9,728,000 pounds versus 9,348,000 and was worth $1,007,000 versus $876,000. The six-month catch in the Northwest Territories weighed 3,010,000 pounds versus 3,733,000 and was valued at $347,000 versus $411,000. (16)

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

Production Of Leather & Stocks Of Hides & Skins

Production of cattle sole leather, upper leather and glove and garment leather increased in June was compared with a year earlier but output of calf and kip skin upper leather and horse glove and garment leather declined.

The month's output of cattle sole leather amounted to 1,242,505 pounds (1,104,522 a year earlier), upper leather 5,313,978 square feet (4,939,701), and glove and garment leather 860,064 square feet (765,513). Output of calf and kip skin upper leather amounted to 794,909 square feet (912,347), and of horse glove and garment leather 102,557 square feet (182,487).

End-of-June stocks of raw hides and skins held by tanners, packers and dealers were: cattle hides, 540,247 (512,632 a year earlier); calf and kip skins, 646,247 (428,837); goat and kid skins, 31,613 (12,509); horse hides, 9,559 (29,-530); and sheep and lamb skins 40,506 dozen (44,651 dozen). (17)
New High Records Set by Canada's Manufacturing Industries In 1955

Canada's manufacturing industries broke new ground last year, setting all-time high records in the value of shipments, salaries and wages paid to employees, and cost of materials and supplies used, according to advance estimates released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Number of employees was larger than in 1954 but slightly below the peak numbers employed in 1953. All provinces and all main industry groups shared in the general advance over 1954.

The factory value of shipments soared 11% to $19,544,602,000 in 1955 from $17,554,527,000 in 1954, employees to 1,287,500 from 1,267,966, salaries and wages to $4,153,079,000 from $3,896,688,000, and material costs to $10,299,006,000 from $9,241,857,000.

Value of shipments of the top ten manufacturing groups was as follows: foods and beverages -- by far the largest -- $3,593,442,000 ($3,562,547,000 in 1954); iron and steel products, $2,251,227,000 ($1,954,231,000); transportation equipment, $1,977,202,000 ($1,713,963,000); paper products, $1,751,892,000 ($1,630,163,000); non-ferrous metal products, $1,605,103,000 ($1,263,775,000); wood products, $1,389,531,000 ($1,205,960,000); products of petroleum and coal, $1,166,975,000 ($1,020,911,000); chemicals and allied products, $1,049,448,000 ($935,725,000); electrical apparatus and supplies, $974,453,000 ($863,942,000); and textiles, $735,033,000 ($640,870,000).

Ontario accounted for almost one-half the national value of shipments in 1955 with an estimated $9,646,699,000 versus $8,533,167,000 in 1954, followed by Quebec with $5,951,397,000 versus $5,395,786,000, and British Columbia with $1,645,959,000 versus $1,474,156,000.

Estimated shipment values for the other provinces were as follows in order of value size: Alberta, $647,529,000 ($575,278,000 in 1954); Manitoba, $590,546,000 ($571,409,000); Nova Scotia, $325,188,000 ($300,073,000); Saskatchewan, $297,661,000 ($280,734,000); New Brunswick, $296,691,000 ($247,350,000); Newfoundland, $113,996,000 ($109,568,000); Prince Edward Island, $23,932,000 ($19,671,000); and Yukon and Northwest Territories, $5,004,000 ($3,536,000).

Production of steel wire climbed 21% in the half-year to 234,063 tons compared to 193,366 tons a year ago, while that of wire fencing rose 9.5% to 12,089 tons from 11,037, wire rope 51% to 20,818 tons from 13,816, and nails, tacks and staples, 26% to 53,027 tons from 42,051. Output in June (1955 totals in brackets) was: steel wire, 38,120 tons (36,246); wire fencing, 1,992 (2,065); wire rope, 3,497 (2,709); and nails, tacks and staples, 8,315 (8,272). (23)
Consumption Of Rubber 

Consumption of natural, synthetic and reclaim rubber declined in June to 9,157 tons from the preceding month's 9,776 tons but month-end stocks rose to 14,898 tons from 14,207. Domestic production of synthetic and reclaim rubber was slightly higher at 10,838 tons versus 10,989. (18)

Tax-Paid Withdrawals Of Cigarettes 

Tax-paid withdrawals of cigarettes for consumption in Canada, as indicated by the sale of excise revenue stamps, increased 8.9% in the first six months of 1956 to 13,439,280,000 from 12,336,718,000 in last year's corresponding period. Tax-paid withdrawals of cigars also rose 6.1% to 125,556,000 from 118,381,000 and snuff 0.5% to 421,000 pounds from 419,000, but cut tobacco declined 10.6% to 11,443,000 pounds from 12,797,000, plug 18% to 677,000 pounds from 825,000, and raw leaf 9.5% to 484,000 pounds from 535,000.

Stocks of unmanufactured tobacco at the end of June declined to 187,570,265 pounds from 202,793,120 a year earlier, with flue-cured falling to 160,007,369 pounds from 178,425,254 and "other" to 659,783 from 674,261. On the other hand, stocks of burley increased to 7,733,439 pounds from 7,704,770, air and fire-cured dark to 2,770,888 from 2,260,504, cigar to 14,549,359 from 12,125,960 and pipe to 1,849,427 from 1,602,371. (19)

Tobacco & Tobacco Products Industry 

Value of factory shipments of the tobacco products industry, excluding excise duties and taxes, increased 6.8% in 1955 to a new high of $162,383,000 from the previous record of $152,034,000 set in 1954, DBS reports in its annual report on the tobacco and tobacco products industries. Excise duties and taxes increased in the year to $254,271,000 from $237,716,000, raising the total value of shipments to $416,653,000 from $389,750,000.

Selling value of cigars (including excise duties and taxes) rose to $19,360,000 in 1955 from $17,926,000 a year earlier, cigarettes to $332,012,000 from $303,682,000, but sales of chewing tobacco fell to $3,042,000 from $3,260,000, smoking tobacco to $59,999,000 from $62,604,000, and snuff to $2,194,000 from $2,211,000.

Value of production in the tobacco processing and packing industry rose to 88,551,000 in the year (a record high) from $73,307,000 in the previous year. Value of all kinds of processed leaf increased with flue-cured bright rising to $83,639,000 from $69,982,000, burley to $1,619,000 from $622,000, air and fire-cured dark to $316,000 from $58,000, cigar leaf to $2,770,000 from $2,478,000, and pipe varieties to $208,000 from $168,000. (20)

Sash, Door And Planing Mills Industry In 1954 

Factory shipments of the sash, door and planing mills industry declined 0.4% in value in 1954 to 929,000,000 from 1953's record high total of 920,000,000. Number of employees fell 4.2% to 19,386 from 20,241, salary and wage payments 1.5% to $47,398,000 from $48,119,000, and cost of materials to $119,759,000 from $120,989,000.

Principal products of the industry in 1954 were: sash doors and other mill-work valued at $63,089,000 compared to $62,370,000; planed lumber, $85,189,000 versus $82,544,000; and matched lumber (other than hardwood flooring), $13,792,000 versus $16,393,000. Other products included: mouldings, $9,324,000 ($8,773,000); prefabricated houses, $5,439,000 ($7,051,000); wooden furniture, $2,564,000 ($2,055,000); boxes and containers, $596,000 ($557,000); box shooks, $555,000 ($451,000); and all "other" products, $12,860,000 ($13,356,000). (21)
Hosiery & Knitted Goods Industries  

Value of factory shipments of the combined hosiery and knitted goods industries declined in 1954 for the third consecutive year, falling 6.2% to $150,819,000 from $160,792,000 in 1953 and 11.3% from 1951's record total of $169,720,000, according to the Bureau's annual report on the hosiery and knitted goods industries. Number of establishments increased by 3 in 1954 to 297, but employees fell to 21,622 from 24,413, salaries and wages to $47,578,000 from $52,421,000, and cost of materials to $70,119,000 from $77,704,000.

Factory shipments of all principal products were lower in value in 1954 than a year earlier. Shipments of hosiery (full-fashioned and seamless) declined in value to $59,012,000 from $64,240,000, underwear (combination and separate) to $25,837,000 from $28,479,000, underslips (knitted and woven) to $1,881,000 from $2,377,000, knitted outerwear (sweaters, cardigans, pullovers, etc.) to $39,605,000 from $39,924,000, gloves and mittens (knitted and fabric) to $1,722,000 from $1,766,000, yarns of all kinds for sale or transfer to $2,234,000 from $2,630,000, and all "other" products to $19,605,000 from $20,174,000. Receipts from custom processing were also lower at $923,000 compared to the previous year's $1,202,000. (24)

Increase In Proportion Of Incorporated Companies In 1954  
The proportion of incorporated companies in the manufacturing industries of Canada continues to rise, according to the Bureau's 1954 report on type of ownership. The proportion of individual ownerships and partnerships moved down from 1953 but co-operatives remained unchanged. Incorporated companies included 39.5% of all manufacturing firms in 1954 versus 38.2% in 1953, while individually-owned concerns included 43.6% of firms versus 44.4%, partnerships 14.3% versus 14.8%, and co-operatives 2.5% for both years.

Type of ownership varies widely among the different manufacturing industries. In 1954 the proportion of incorporated establishments ranged from 19.6% for wood products to 95.7% for products of petroleum and coal. Among individually-owned concerns the range was from 1.7% for products of petroleum and coal to 61.5% for wood products. In partnerships the range was from 0.9% for products of petroleum and coal to 18.8% for clothing and 18.7% for wood products. The food and beverages group had the largest proportion of co-operatives at 11%.

Individual ownerships formed the largest group in Newfoundland (50.7%), Prince Edward Island (47.1%), Nova Scotia (53.9%), New Brunswick (53.8%), Quebec (48.3%), Saskatchewan (54.7%), Alberta (49.3%), and the Northwest Territories (45.2%). Incorporated companies formed the largest group in Ontario (46.4%), Manitoba (43.4), and British Columbia (42.1%). Among the provinces, Newfoundland had the largest proportion of partnerships (31.8%), and Prince Edward Island the largest proportion of co-operatives (6.3%). (25)

Public Utilities  

Consumption Of Chemicals In Municipal Waterworks  

Municipal waterworks across Canada used more of most chemicals in 1955 than in the preceding year, according to the Bureau's annual report. Consumption of some of the principal chemicals was as follows: aluminum sulphate (filter alum), 19,152,244 pounds (18,569,226 in 1954); lime, 15,392,713 (14,038,887); salt, 7,040,580 (6,026,440); chlorine, 3,282,167 (2,975,292); sodium carbonate (soda ash), 1,711,517 (1,765,209); ammonium sulphate, 465,943 (246,911); and liquid sulphur dioxide, 194,849 (202,084). (26)
Electric Power Production

Power production by central electric stations increased to 6,732,643,000 kilowatt hours in June from last year's corresponding total of 6,090,280,000, boosting the half-year output to 39,148,501,000 kilowatt hours from 38,248,132,000 a year earlier. Output was higher in June in all provinces except Manitoba and in the half-year in all except New Brunswick and Quebec.

Consumption of primary power -- production plus imports less exports and secondary power -- jumped to 5,953,919,000 kilowatt hours in June from 5,496,284,000 a year ago and to 35,603,526,000 kilowatt hours in the half-year period from 33,662,939,000.

June production totals for the provinces were as follows (in thousands):

- Newfoundland, 83,839 kilowatt hours (66,859 in 1955);
- Prince Edward Island, 4,102 (3,311);
- Nova Scotia, 113,124 (93,243);
- New Brunswick, 77,196 (74,513);
- Quebec, 3,099,596 (2,939,562);
- Ontario, 2,360,963 (1,992,511);
- Manitoba, 231,479 (231,568);
- Saskatchewan, 115,085 (105,707);
- Alberta, 148,163 (125,554);
- British Columbia, 492,614 (451,190);
- and Yukon and Northwest Territories, 6,482 (6,262).

Provincial totals for the half-year period (in thousands):

- Newfoundland, 518,371 kilowatt hours (187,677);
- Prince Edward Island, 22,743 (21,555);
- Nova Scotia, 652,719 (583,196);
- New Brunswick, 415,254 (448,880);
- Quebec, 1,727,379 (1,551,545);
- Ontario, 1,3704,009 (1,2708,290);
- Manitoba, 758,434 (699,099);
- British Columbia, 3,189,666 (2,993,343);
- and Yukon and Northwest Territories, 46,190 (44,726). (27)

PRICES

Wholesale Price Indexes

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Security Price Indexes

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Railway Car Loadings Increased

Revenue freight loaded on Canadian railways in the first week of August climbed 12.4% to 88,352 cars from last year's corresponding total of 78,626, boosting loadings for the year to date 11.4% to 2,596,906 cars from 2,330,888. Receipts from connections rose 1.5% in the week to 30,989 cars from 30,541 and 9.3% in the January 1-August 7 period to 1,062,014 cars from 971,461.

Commodities carried in greater volume in the week included: grain, 7,796 cars (versus 5,489 in 1955); grain products, 2,680 (2,168); iron ore, 9,795 (5,628); non-ferrous ores and concentrates, 3,402 (2,968); manufactured iron and steel products, 1,486 (747); and sand, gravel and crushed stone, 6,331 (5,675).

(28)

Fewer Passengers Carried

Fewer passengers were carried by urban transit systems in May and the January-May period this year than last despite marked increases in numbers carried by chartered services and smaller increases in motor bus patronage. Revenues were higher in both periods than a year earlier.

Number of passengers carried in May was 100,295,498 versus 10,616,025 a year ago, bringing the January-May total to 507,877,732 versus 522,194,611. Revenues were $10,558,753 in May versus $9,924,717 last year and $353,171,250 in the five months versus $50,703,536.

Passengers carried on chartered service increased in the January-May period to 2,278,617 from 823,790 a year earlier and motor bus passengers to 250,632,248 from 242,199,314. These gains were more than counterbalanced by decreases in passengers carried on electric cars to 153,154,033 from 176,211,645 and on trolley bus to 101,812,834 from 102,949,862. (29)

Fewer Passengers Carried By Intercity & Rural Buses

Fewer passengers were carried by intercity and rural bus lines in April than a year earlier. The 190 lines which reported carried 4,817,048 passengers versus 5,305,064 carried by 225 firms in April last year. In the January-April period 19,393,122 passengers were carried versus 21,410,303. Revenues dropped to $2,871,455 in April from $3,009,623 to $11,179,256 in the four months from $11,299,857. (30)

Revenues, Expenses Of Air Carriers Up One-Third In January

Operating revenues of Canadian air carriers in January were one-third larger this year than last at $10,131,492 versus $7,591,646 a year ago. At the same time operating expenses showed a rise of like size to $11,194,721 from $8,393,418. The result was a larger operating loss this year of $1,063,229 versus $301,772 a year ago.

All revenue and expense accounts, except revenue from "other" flying services which dropped to $125,131 from $149,930, registered increases over a year earlier. Passenger ticket sales advanced to $6,146,899 from $5,035,060, an increase of 22.1%. Mail revenue increased slightly to $905,219 from $904,143; goods transported amounted to $567,946 as against $490,855; and receipts from excess baggage rose to $31,303 from $34,924. Total unit toll transportation revenues increased 35.3% to $9,976,419 from $7,372,931.

Aircraft operation and maintenance expenses climbed to $6,572,104 from $4,454,289, ground operation maintenance to $2,731,483 from $2,340,464, traffic costs to $1,189,002 from $1,008,900, and general administration costs to $650,287 from $542,270. (31)
Employment Reached All-Time High In July

The employment level which has been rising rapidly in recent months reached an all-time high during July, states the monthly joint news release by the Department of Labour and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Although there was the usual strong influx of students and other seasonal workers into the labour force this development produced a tighter manpower situation than in any year since the Korean build-up of 1951.

At July 21 this year the number of persons with jobs was estimated at 5,789,000, some 142,000 more than in June and 201,000 more than in July 1955. The number of persons without jobs and seeking work declined by 15,000 to 102,000, some 48,000 lower than in July 1955. Registrations for employment at NIES offices continued to show a similar downward trend, numbering 179,259 on July 19 compared to 191,871 on June 21 and 211,280 a year ago. The Canadian labour force was estimated at 5,891,000 on July 21 against 5,764,000 on June 23 and 5,738,000 a year earlier.

Particularly strong demand for workers during the month came from the farming, forestry, construction and tourist industries. Shortages of workers for these industries, but especially of farm and forestry workers, were reported from many parts of the country. Country-wide shortages continued to be evident among many professional and technical occupations.

In contrast to last month when almost all the increase in employment came from non-farm industries, two-thirds of the total increase in July came from increasing farm activity, most of which originated in the Prairie and Ontario regions where labour supplies were already short. As a result, 20 of the 21 local labour market areas classified in shortage were in these two regions.

At the beginning of August, classifications of local labour market areas were as follows (last year's figures in brackets): in shortage, 21 (1); in balance, 76 (94); and in moderate surplus, 12 (14).

Lumber Production At Production of sawn lumber in Canada in 1954 amounted to Near-Record In 1954 7,243,855,000 feet board measure, slightly under the all-time peak of 7,305,958,000 board feet produced in the preceding year. Due to lower prices the total value at $482,912,000, was 2.3% lower than in 1953 ($494,386,000) and 4.9% below the 1951 record ($507,650,000).

Gross value of all sawmill products amounted to $572,186,000, 1.5% less than the previous year's $580,694,000. Net value, or value added by manufacture, totalled $263,629,000, 2% lower than in 1953 ($269,066,000). Employment was 6.4% lower with 57,010 persons against 60,933 in 1953. Salaries and wages totalled $139,572,000, down 1.8% from $142,131,000, and the cost of materials and supplies used decreased 1.1% to $301,118,000 from $304,585,000. The number of mills fell to 7,696 from 8,194.

Output of wood shingles rose to 2,710,700 squares in 1954 from 2,610,100 in 1953 and the value to $324,039,200 from $19,897,900. Output of sawn ties dropped to 4,665,300 from 7,553,200 and the value to $3,110,400 from $14,408,200, and wood laths fell to 140,655 from 155,595 and the value to $1,512,400 from $1,686,600.
British Columbia led the provinces in the production of sawn lumber, accounting for slightly more than three-fifths (60.4%) of the national total (55.4% in 1953). Quebec was next with 15.2% (16.4% in 1953), followed by Ontario with 10% (11.3%). Alberta, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and the Yukon and Northwest Territories followed in that order.

Lumber production was as follows by provinces (in thousands): British Columbia, 4,378,695 board feet (4,045,724 in 1953); Quebec, 1,099,036 (1,200,598); Ontario, 721,742 (823,721); Alberta, 366,027 (400,822); Nova Scotia, 273,583 (295,868); New Brunswick, 227,365 (335,078); Saskatchewan, 85,663 (81,596); Manitoba, 44,963 (55,527); Newfoundland, 30,716 (48,922); Prince Edward Island, 8,827 (10,504); Yukon and Northwest Territories, 7,238 (7,598). (32)

RELEASED THIS WEEK
1-Preliminary Population Totals, 1956 Census, Series No. 1, 10¢
2-Vital Statistics, July, 10¢
3-M: Advertising Agencies, 1955, 10¢
4-Retail Trade, June, 25¢
5-New Motor Vehicle Sales & Motor Vehicle Financing, June, 25¢
6-Report on the Poultry Survey of June 1, 10¢
7-M: Shorn Wool Production, 1956, 10¢
8-M: Cold Storage Holdings of Meat & Lard, August 1, 10¢
9-M: Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, August 1, 10¢
10-M: Monthly Production of Carbonated Beverages, July, 10¢
11-M: Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, July 31, 10¢
12-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, August 8, 10¢
13-Stocks of Grain at July 31, 10¢
14-The Wheat Review, July, 25¢
15-M: Value of Fruit Production, 1955, 10¢
17-M: Statistics of Hides, Skins & Leather, June, 10¢
18-M: Consumption, Production & Inventories of Rubber, June, 25¢
19-Quarterly Stocks & Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco, June, 25¢
20-Tobacco & Tobacco Products Industries, 1955, 25¢
21-Sash, Door & Planing Mills Industry, 1954, 25¢
22-M: Iron Castings & Cast Iron Pipes & Fittings, June, 10¢
23-M: Steel Wire & Specified Wire Products, June, 10¢
24-Hosiery & Knitted Goods Industries, 1954, 25¢
25-M: Type of Ownership - Manufacturing Industries of Canada, 1954, 25¢
26-Quarterly Stocks of Canned Fruits & Vegetables on Hand, June 30, 25¢
27-M: Central Electric Stations, June, 10¢
28-M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, August 7, 10¢
29-M: Urban Transit Statistics, May, 10¢
30-M: Passenger Bus Statistics (Intercity & Rural), April, 10¢
31-Civil Aviation, January, 15¢
32-Lumber Industry, 1954, 50¢
--Trade of Canada: Exports (detailed), June & 6 Months Ended June, 50¢
--Trade of Canada: Articles Exported to Each Country, Six Months Ended June, 50¢
--Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings with Average Weekly Wages, June, 25¢ —
--Quarterly Stocks of Canned Fruits & Vegetables on Hand, June 30, 25¢ —

M: Memorandum

Prepared in Press & Publicity Section, Information Services Division.
Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.,
Queen's Printer & Controller of Stationery, Ottawa, 1956
Metal Bottle Caps Factory shipments of metal bottle caps in 1954 were valued at $11,134,000, second only to the record $11,937,000 in 1953 and more than twice the 1945 value of $5,189,000.

13% Drop In Fruit Fruit crop value Crop Value In 1955 in 1955 was $39,-600,000, nearly 13% smaller than in 1954 and the lowest since 1951. Drop from 1954 was due to smaller receipts from the sale of apples.

Less Snuff Canadian factories engaged in the manufacture of tobacco and tobacco products shipped 838,300 pounds of snuff valued at $2,194,400 in 1955, down slightly from the 853,000 pounds worth $2,211,300 in 1954. All Canadian snuff is manufactured in Quebec factories.

Charges & Convictions Nearly 35,-Of Indictable Offences 300 persons were charged with indictable offences in Canada in 1954, convictions being obtained against 30,800 (87.4% of the total). 4,216 persons (12%) were acquitted and 52 persons were detained for insanity.

Floor Coverings More Axminster and Wilton carpets in rolls, including stair, were shipped from Canadian factories in 1954 than the previous year, but less Brussels, tapestry, etc. 1954 shipments of Axminster coverings amounted to 501,-301 square yards compared to 442,704 square yards; of Wilton to 563,018 against 390,806 and of Brussels, tapestry, etc. to 284,656 versus 408,-309 square yards in 1953.