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Memorandum

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## STEEL WIRE AND SPECIFIED WIRE PRODUCTS

Shipments of steel wire by Canadian producers amounted to 13,028 tons in May, 1955, compared with 9,556 tons in the corresponding month of 1954. This month's total included 8,367 tons of plain wire, 3,270 tons of galvanized wire, 171 tons of other coated wire, 1,161 tons of barbed wire and 59 tons of cold rolled flat wire.

Producers' shipments of wire fencing in the current month were higher than in May of last year, the amounts being 2,872 tons and 2,754 tons respectively, and the shipments of steel wire nails were up to 8,204 tons from 7,037 tons in May, 1954.

Table 1 - Production and Shipments of Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products

Item	May, 1954		May, 1955	
	Tonnage made	Tonnage shipped	Tonnage made	Tonnage shipped
(Tons of 2,000 pounds)				
<b>Steel wire -</b>				
Plain .....	21,571	5,596	26,496	8,367
Galvanized .....	5,526	2,414	6,472	3,270
Other coated .....	140	90	219	171
Barbed .....	830	1,356	1,138	1,161
Cold rolled flat wire of all sizes, qualities and finishes .....	210	100	100	59
<b>Wire fencing -</b>				
Woven wire farm fencing .....	1,481	2,083	1,409	2,031
Woven wire lawn fencing .....	174	245	187	286
Woven wire chain link fabric (including tonnage used in industrial fencing) ...	335	426	425	555
<b>Wire rope -</b>				
Steel wire rope .....	1,190	1,531	1,743	1,905
Stranded wire, 5/32" diameter and less ..	96*	87*	73	68
Other stranded wire (including multiple strand wire) .....	749*	651*	519	939
<b>Nails, tacks and staples -</b>				
Wire nails, iron and steel .....	6,978	7,037	7,440	8,204
Cut nails, iron and steel .....	58	48	83	77
Nails, aluminum .....	6	5	4	3
Wire staples, steel .....	296	370	178	281
Tacks of steel, brass and copper .....	75	97	73	75

\* Revised.

Prepared in the Metal and Chemical Products Section, Industry and Merchandising Division.

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Steel Wire, etc.

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Table 2 - Production and Shipments of Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, Five Months Ended May, 1954 and 1955

Item	Five months ended May, 1954		Five months ended May, 1955	
	Tonnage made	Tonnage shipped	Tonnage made	Tonnage shipped
	(Tons of 2,000 pounds)			
<u>Steel wire -</u>				
Plain .....	104,787	23,596	120,387	37,497
Galvanized .....	26,237	11,437	29,717	13,474
Other coated .....	794	628	954	748
Barbed .....	3,718	5,232	5,225	6,329
Cold rolled flat wire of all sizes, qualities and finishes .....	1,122	605	837	469
<u>Wire fencing -</u>				
Woven wire farm fencing .....	6,225	7,582	6,398	7,775
Woven wire lawn fencing .....	860	916	832	905
Woven wire chain link fabric (including tonnage used in industrial fencing) ...	1,476	1,148	1,742	1,537
<u>Wire rope -</u>				
Steel wire rope .....	6,547	7,440	8,262	8,757
Stranded wire, 5/32" diameter and less ..	512	450	468	449
Other stranded wire (including multiple strand wire) .....	3,246	2,912	2,377	2,479
<u>Nails, tacks and staples -</u>				
Wire nails, iron and steel .....	30,401	29,355	32,308	35,823
Cut nails, iron and steel .....	293	278	331	348
Nails, aluminum .....	31	28	33	27
Wire staples, steel .....	927	1,081	702	947
Tacks of steel, brass and copper .....	396	437	405	386

Table 3 - Imports of Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products

Item	April, 1955		Four months ended April, 1955	
	Pounds	\$	Pounds	\$
Barbed wire fencing .....	513,900	34,934	2,034,000	136,114
Wire of steel, drawn flat or cold rolled flat after drawing, not more than .25 inch in width and less than .1875 inch in thickness, coated or not, n.o.p. ....	74,500	13,288	176,400	32,165
Wire of iron or steel, coated with zinc, n.o.p. ....	153,700	23,196	957,300	110,587
Wire, steel, single or several coated, n.o.p., or covered with any material ....	64,000	19,672	224,100	69,582
Wire, steel, twisted, braided or stranded, including wire rope or cable, coated or not, n.o.p. ....	814,800	131,538	3,294,100	537,250
Wire for upholstery springs .....	43,000	3,558	325,400	26,800

Table 3 - Imports of Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products (Concluded)

Item	April, 1955		Four months ended April, 1955	
	Pounds	\$	Pounds	\$
Wire for corset steels or dress stays ....	21,200	7,524	57,500	24,635
Wire of steel, valued at not less than $2\frac{3}{4}$ cents per pound, for the manufacture of wire rope .....	2,891,400	313,467	8,936,600	963,612
Wire of steel, single, not covered, in coils, for fishing operations, n.o.p. ..	-	35,058	-	109,237
Wire for the manufacture of machine card clothing .....	300	59	5,300	1,582
Wire of iron or steel, n.o.p. ....	837,300	117,832	3,417,200	530,486
Woven or welded wire fencing, from wire not more than .144 inch and not less than .080 inch in diameter .....	-	19,546	-	90,251
Woven or welded wire fencing, coated or not, n.o.p. ....	-	11,781	-	59,618
Wire of rust or acid resisting steel, twisted or stranded, for commercial fishing operations .....	-	922	-	13,379
Cut nails .....	108,600	17,066	203,800	37,858
Tacks of all kinds .....	2,793	860	13,825	4,048
Wire nails over 1" and wire roofing nails of all sizes .....	1,557,700	108,035	3,699,200	257,282
Nails and brads .....	31,817	9,526	105,349	29,931

NOTE: "n.o.p." means "not otherwise provided for" in the statistical classification.

Data on imports during May are not yet available.

Table 4 - Exports of Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products

Item	May, 1955		Five months ended May, 1955	
	Pounds	\$	Pounds	\$
Barbed wire .....	-	-	-	-
Other wire of iron and steel .....	-	404	-	30,804
Woven wire fencing .....	-	120	-	727
Wire nails .....	99,500	10,359	289,200	29,750
Tacks .....	29,100	5,994	134,100	28,155
Nails and brads, other .....	46,600	4,846	132,400	17,103



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