

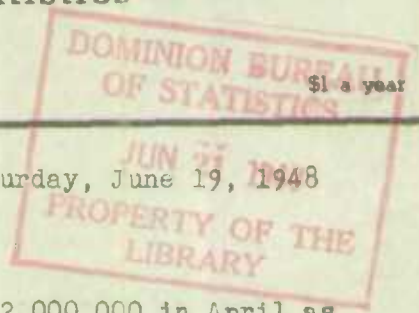


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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S AGGREGATE FOREIGN TRADE increased in value to \$442,000,000 in April as compared with \$419,000,000 in April last year, and for the four months ending April to \$1,707,000,000 compared with \$1,533,000,000 in 1947.

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IMPORTS INTO CANADA FOR CONSUMPTION were slightly higher in value in April this year than a year earlier, standing at \$226,700,000 compared with \$225,600,000, and for the four months rose to \$812,000,000 as against \$785,400,000.

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RETAIL SALES VOLUME in Canada showed a gain of 13 per cent in April over a year earlier, close to the average percentage rise of 12 per cent for the first four months of 1948.

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WHOLESALE SALES in Canada during April were six per cent higher in dollar volume than in April last year and eight per cent above this year's March volume.

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STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER in cold storage and in transit on June 1 amounted to 11,730,000 pounds, a seasonal rise of 6,451,000 pounds from May 1, but far below the total of 23,884,000 pounds on June 1, 1947.

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MEAT STOCKS held by packers, abattoirs, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses amounted to 116,470,000 pounds at the first of June as against 78,808,000 pounds a year earlier.

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CANADIAN LABOUR INCOME in Canada in March is estimated at \$533,000,000, down \$7,000,000 from the February figure, but up \$58,000,000 from March, 1947.

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INDEX OF FARM PRICES of agricultural products reached 234.0 on April 15, 36.4 points higher than in April, 1947.

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STEEL PRODUCTION during April amounted to 254,300 tons, showing a decline from the high point of 286,000 tons attained in the preceding month, but above last year's April production of 252,200 tons.

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PRODUCTION OF DOMESTIC WASHING MACHINES rose to a new high month's total of 27,833 units in April compared with 27,032 units in March and 16,975 in April last year.

FOREIGN TRADE OF CANADA IN APRIL Foreign trade of Canada in April was valued at \$442,000,000 as compared with \$428,000,000 in the preceding month and \$419,000,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Aggregate for the four months ending April was \$1,707,000,000 as against \$1,583,000,000 in the similar period of 1947, an increase of 7.8 per cent.

Merchandise imports in April increased in value to \$226,700,000 from the March total of \$197,100,000, showing a similar movement to that of the two preceding years when April figures, contrary to the pre-war trend, were substantially higher than those for March. The month's total was slightly above the April 1947 figure of \$225,600,000. During the four months ending April, imports totalled \$812,000,000 as compared with \$785,400,000 in the like period of 1947, a rise of 3.4 per cent.

Featured by further gains in sales to the United States, Canada's merchandise exports in April were valued at \$212,300,000 as compared with \$228,400,000 in March and \$190,900,000 in April last year. Total for the four months ending April was \$884,400,000 compared with \$788,000,000 a year ago, an increase of 12 per cent.

The balance of trade with all countries was unfavourable to Canada in April to the extent of \$11,600,000 as compared with a favourable balance of \$33,900,000 in March and an adverse balance of \$32,200,000 in April last year. In the first four months of this year, however, the favourable balance rose to \$83,400,000 as against \$12,200,000 in the like period of 1947.

The month's debit balance with the United States was \$48,000,000 as against \$24,200,000 in March and \$91,600,000 in April last year, and the four-month debit balance declined to \$155,900,000 compared with \$294,800,000 in the similar period of 1947.

As the result of larger dollar purchases of British goods, the favourable balance with the United Kingdom in April was reduced to \$19,800,000 as compared with \$37,700,000 in March and \$30,400,000 in April a year ago, with the four-month total standing at \$134,800,000 compared with \$135,100,000 in the same period of 1947.

Imports Lower from United States
Higher from United Kingdom in April

Chief features of Canada's import trade in April were a substantial decline in purchases from the United States as compared with the high levels of last year and a continuance of the upward trend in imports from the United Kingdom. On the commodity side, there were marked advances in the arrivals of farm and other machinery, crude petroleum and petroleum products, raw and unmanufactured wool, and sharp decreases in those of cotton, flax, hemp and jute products.

Imports from the United States were valued at \$159,500,000 as against \$181,600,000 in April last year, the decline of \$22,100,000 comparing with a drop of \$26,800,000 in March. Aggregate imports for the four months ending April were \$584,600,000 compared with \$622,000,000 in 1947, the substantial reductions in March and April and a small decline in February being partly offset by higher figures for January.

Shipments received from the United Kingdom advanced from \$21,600,000 in March to \$24,600,000 to reach the highest postwar month's figure. This compares with \$12,700,000 in April last year and the 1935-39 April average of \$8,400,000. Cumulative total for the January-April period rose to \$85,700,000 this year as against \$51,400,000 in 1947.

Aggregate imports from the Latin American countries also rose sharply in April to \$20,100,000 compared with \$13,000,000 last year, largest increases being in purchases from Cuba, Mexico, San Domingo and Venezuela while those from Argentina were sharply lower. Imports from European countries was almost unchanged from 1947, standing at \$4,280,000 as against \$4,242,000, while the aggregate for other foreign countries was moderately higher.

Among British countries other than the United Kingdom, imports from Australia increased to \$2,483,000 compared with \$679,000; and New Zealand, \$1,761,000 against \$824,000. Imports from India and Pakistan together fell off to \$476,000 compared with \$3,700,000 a year earlier, and from Ceylon to \$482,000 compared with \$1,104,000.

Among the commodity groups, imports of non-metallic minerals and products in April were sharply higher at \$45,400,000 compared with \$31,800,000 last year, crude petroleum increasing to \$16,900,000 compared with \$9,300,000 and petroleum products to \$7,200,000 compared with \$3,900,000 and moderate gains being shown for coal and coal products. The iron and iron products group increased to \$70,300,000 compared with \$66,700,000, farm implements and machinery jumping to \$15,000,000 from \$9,700,000 last year and household machinery, mining, metallurgical, business, printing and other non-farm machinery making smaller gains. Imports of passenger and freight automobiles declined to \$1,500,000 from about \$6,000,000, while automobile parts were slightly lower at \$8,600,000.

Imports in the non-ferrous metals group rose slightly to \$14,000,000 as against \$13,500,000, and those of chemicals and allied products to \$10,900,000 compared with \$10,500,000.

Lower figures were recorded in April for each of the remaining five groups. Imports of fibres and textiles declined to \$33,100,000 compared with \$39,900,000, cotton products falling to \$7,100,000 from \$15,000,000 and flax, hemp and jute products to \$789,000 from \$3,600,000 while raw and unmanufactured wool rose from \$1,600,000 to \$5,300,000 and wool products and raw cotton and linters moved moderately upward. Imports of agricultural and vegetable products eased off to \$29,200,000 compared with \$30,400,000, major decreases being in fruits, vegetables, grains and tea, while sugar was substantially higher. Animals and animal products declined to \$5,200,000 from \$8,100,000, mainly due to lower values for furs and fur products and raw hides and skins.

The wood, wood products and paper group was valued at \$7,900,000 compared with \$8,500,000 and the miscellaneous group at \$10,700,000 compared with \$10,200,000, declines being shown in nearly all main items of the latter group.

RETAIL TRADE UP 13 PER CENT IN APRIL A gain of 13 per cent in retail trade occurred in April compared with the corresponding month last year. This advance conformed closely to the average percentage rise in earlier months of the year, sales in the first four months of 1948 standing 12 per cent above those in the same period of last year. Unadjusted general index for 14 retail trades, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 254.5 for April, 244.2 for March, and 224.5 for April, 1947.

Department stores continued the series of marked increases of the past months when sales moved 20 per cent above April 1947 volume. Women's apparel shops ranked second with a gain of 19 per cent and were followed by food and men's clothing stores with increases of 15 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively. Only these four trades recorded gains exceeding the average rise in sales, each of the remaining 10 trades reporting increases of smaller proportions.

On the whole, gains for the individual trades in April were strikingly similar to their average gains for earlier months of the year with little indication of any recent shift in the pattern of consumer purchases. Recently, soft goods have been absorbing larger proportions of the sales dollar than durables, increases for food and apparel remaining well ahead of those for furniture, radio and electrical, hardware and jewellery.

British Columbia and Ontario continued to lead other regions in the extent of expansion in sales volume. British Columbia had a gain of 23 per cent for April and 17 per cent in cumulative results for the four-month period. Sales increased 15 per cent in April in Ontario and averaged 16 per cent higher in the January-April period. Gains thus far in 1948 have been moderate in the Maritime Provinces and Prairie Provinces, and results for individual trades show several declines.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FOOD TRADE Wholesale grocers' sales in April were 14 per cent higher in dollar volume than in the corresponding month last year and 12 per cent above the preceding month. An increase of 24 per cent over last year was reported for Quebec and British Columbia, 14 per cent for the Prairie Provinces, 10 per cent for Ontario, and five per cent for the Maritime Provinces. The April gain over 1947 for all Canada was considerably larger than recorded in the preceding months, comparing with a cumulative gain for the January-April period of five per cent. Further, April gains in all regions exceeded the increases in sales for the four months.

Stocks in the hands of wholesale grocers at the end of April were down two per cent in value compared with the same date a year ago and five per cent compared with March 31, 1948. Wholesale grocers' inventories at the beginning of April this year were valued only six per cent in excess of sales in that month as compared with a normal 35 per cent.

Sales of fruit and vegetable wholesalers in April advanced six per cent from March, but continued 11 per cent below the dollar volume of April, 1947, a decline in line with the trend in previous months this year. Sales in the Western Provinces were down 21 per cent, in the Maritimes and Quebec, seven per cent, while Ontario sales were two per cent lower.

April sales of 937 chain store units operating in the food retailing field were 30 per cent higher than sales of 929 stores reporting in April last year, gains being recorded in all sections of the country. Independent food stores averaged eight per cent higher than in the same month of last year, Ontario showing the largest increase at 12 per cent, followed by gains of nine per cent in the Maritime Provinces and eight per cent in Quebec. Smaller gains were recorded in western Canada, ranging from one per cent in Manitoba to six per cent in Saskatchewan.

CANADIAN LABOUR INCOME IN MARCH Labour income in Canada in March is estimated at \$533,000,000, down \$7,000,000 from the February figure, but up \$58,000,000 from March 1947. Although increases were registered in the wages, salaries and supplementary labour income earned in agriculture, mining, transportation and services, the gains were not sufficient to counterbalance the drop in the total payments of the logging, manufacturing and construction industries. During March there was a seasonal contraction of operations in the woods and a minor slump in employment, generally accompanied by slightly lower levels of average weekly earnings in these industries.

For the first quarter of 1948, the total labour income was \$194,000,000 greater than that in 1947. A larger working force and considerably higher levels of average weekly earnings, raised the 1948 quarterly total to \$1,607,000,000 as compared with \$1,413,000,000 in the same period last year. Over the three-month period average weekly earnings in the nine leading industries were about 13 per cent higher in 1948 than in 1947.

The quarterly Labour Survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shows estimates of 3,245,000 paid workers in the labour force on February 23, 1948 as compared with a similar total of 3,154,000 on March 1, 1947. The number of paid workers in agriculture showed the largest increase from 69,000 in March, 1947 to 107,000 in February, 1948. While the total of labour income in the first quarter of 1948 was about 13 per cent higher than in the same period of 1947 the average of the cost of living index was 17 per cent higher.

WORLD WHEAT CROPS PROSPECTS
GENERALLY FAVOURABLE

The outlook for the 1948 world wheat crop continues generally favourable, with encouraging conditions in the four major exporting countries and indications of substantially larger crops than last year in Europe and Asia, according to the monthly review of the world wheat situation by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

In the United States -- which will be the first of the four major exporting countries to harvest the new crop -- the May 1 forecast placed the winter wheat crop at 845 million bushels, down 15 million bushels from the April 1 estimate but nearly 23 per cent above the 10-year average of 689 million bushels, and late reports indicate that conditions were quite well maintained through the month of May.

No official estimates are available yet for the United States and the Canadian spring wheat crops, but reports to date are generally optimistic as to prospects. The season is extremely late in much of the Canadian West but excellent seeding and growing weather in recent weeks has done much to offset the effects of a cold, wet spring. Intended acreages of spring wheat are down somewhat from 1947 levels in both countries. In Australia and the Argentine harvest time is still many months away, but good progress has been made with seeding.

Further rains have fallen over much of Europe, and the general situation is reported to be very favourable. In Roumania the wheat acreage is estimated at 6,715,000 acres, somewhat above the goal announced last year and, barring drought or rust, the yield is expected to be about 14 bushels per acre compared with nine bushels last year, which would provide a wheat outturn of 94,681,000 bushels as against the official estimate of 52,320,000 bushels last year. Trade reports indicate that hot weather has followed beneficial rains in the Soviet Union, where the general crop outlook appears to be favourable. Realization of these good prospects on an acreage reported larger than last year should result in significant quantities of grain being available for export from Russia in the 1948-49 season. A recent private estimate places the probable French wheat crop at 292 million bushels, which is far above last year's unrevised estimate of 150 million bushels and compares with the 1935-39 average of 286.5 million. In Italy the winter wheat acreage is somewhat above the 1947 level and indications in mid-May, according to a trade source, were for a wheat crop of about 232 million bushels; last year's unrevised production estimate was 205 million and the 1935-39 outturn was 279 million. In Germany near normal yields are anticipated, and in Spain a good average crop of wheat and barley is expected.

Both India and China also expect significantly greater wheat crops in 1948 than were harvested in 1947.

CROP CONDITIONS IN CANADA Crop conditions over the greater part of the Prairie Provinces were quite well maintained during the second week of June, with timely showers benefiting many districts in Saskatchewan and southern Alberta. Recent heavy rains, however, in the Claresholm, Cardston area of south-western Alberta have delayed seeding to the point where it is estimated that total crop acreage in that district may be as much as 15 to 20 per cent below normal. Seeding is practically completed in Manitoba and Saskatchewan with a small percentage of coarse grains remaining to be sown in Alberta. Temperatures during the past week have ranged generally above normal.

Precipitation since April 1 in Alberta and Manitoba is still above normal but has dropped 22 per cent below normal in Saskatchewan. Sub-soil moisture reserves are deemed to be quite generally satisfactory over most of the Prairies as yet. With the exception of a few areas where moisture supplies are still excessive, general rains would now be welcome in all three provinces to replenish top-soil moisture supplies and to facilitate germination and growth of late seeded crops particularly. Insect infestations are not serious except in south-central, west-central and north-western regions of Saskatchewan where grasshopper damage is continuing and extensive control measures are under way. Serious wire worm damage is also reported from western Saskatchewan.

Serious floods in British Columbia have prevented correspondents from assessing the damage in the Fraser and Kootenay Valleys, although it is known to be severe. In the Okanagan Valley, however, conditions are still promising. Good crops of apricots, peaches and apples are looked for but pears, cherries and prunes are expected to be light crops in some orchards.

Beneficial rains and higher temperatures in the first two weeks of June have considerably improved the outlook for production of all field crops in Ontario. With conditions favourable to rapid growth spring grain crops generally look very promising. Increased acreages are indicated for soy beans, flax, spring grains and corn for husking, while reductions are expected in areas sown to buckwheat, sugar beet, corn for ensilage and root crops. Fruit and vegetable crops are making rapid progress after having been retarded by unfavourable weather conditions in May. Planting of the flue-cured tobacco is practically completed and good progress has been made with other varieties. Although seeding operations were completed in good time in northern Ontario, rain is badly needed in most northern districts for hay, pasture and grain crops.

Favourable weather in Quebec during the first two weeks in June helped most farmers to finish their seeding, but in the lower St. Lawrence area flood conditions have retarded seeding operations in some districts. The growth of grass is heavy and a good hay crop is in prospect. Grain crops are, in general, a few days earlier than a year ago. Crop prospects for apples and strawberries are above average.

Work on the land is being delayed by frequent rains throughout the Maritime Provinces. Seeding of cereals is not yet completed and from 20 to 50 per cent of the potato acreage is still to be planted. Hay meadows and pastures are very promising with clovers particularly good.

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on June 3 amounted to 53,096,000 bushels compared with 56,516,000 on May 27 and 77,248,000 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending June 3 totalled 2,821,000 bushels compared with 1,371,000 in the preceding week.

BUTTER STOCKS SEASONALLY HIGHER

Continuing the upward seasonal movement, stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on June 11 totalled 6,862,000 pounds compared with 3,649,000 on June 1. Following were the stocks by cities, totals for June 1 being in brackets: Quebec, 583,000 (282,000) pounds; Montreal, 2,777,000 (858,000); Toronto, 1,433,000 (1,083,000); Winnipeg, 862,000 (522,000); Regina, 142,000 (89,000); Saskatoon, 215,000 (141,000); Edmonton, 409,000 (371,000); Calgary, 245,000 (155,000); Vancouver, 196,000 (148,000).

STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS ON JUNE 1

Stocks of creamery butter in cold storage and in transit in June 1 amounted to 11,730,000 pounds, showing a seasonal increase of 6,451,000 pounds over the May 1 figure, but down 12,154,000 pounds from the June 1, 1947 total of 23,884,000 pounds. Cheese stocks on June 1 were 27,159,000 pounds compared with 22,091,000 on May 1 and 26,791,000 a year ago.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on June 1 amounted to 9,386,000 pounds, well above the May 1 figure of 5,130,000 pounds, but down sharply from the June 1, 1947, total of 26,595,000 pounds. Holdings of skim milk powder were 6,617,000 pounds as against 4,036,000 on May 1 and 5,313,000 a year ago.

Stocks of shell eggs on June 1 amounted to 23,916,000 dozen compared with 17,515,000 on May 1 and 23,447,000 on the same date last year, while the holdings of frozen egg meats were 10,843,000 pounds compared with 9,794,000 on May 1 and 9,739,000 last year. Holdings of poultry meat were 13,213,000 pounds compared with 16,704,000 on May 1 and 11,847,000 last year.

MEAT STOCKS ON JUNE 1

Stocks of meat held by packers, abattoirs, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses on June 1 amounted to 116,470,000 pounds compared with 120,386,000 on May 1 and 73,808,000 on the corresponding date last year. Lard stocks totalled 3,763,400 pounds compared with 3,434,500 on May 1 and 2,018,200 a year ago.

Stocks of pork on June 1 totalled 83,685,700 pounds compared with 57,318,800 a year ago, beef 24,173,500 pounds compared with 14,835,700, veal 5,561,200 pounds compared with 4,931,100, and mutton and lamb 3,049,200 pounds compared with 1,722,300.

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, amounted to 22,685,000 pounds on June 1 compared with 25,910,000 on May 1 and 18,140,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine totalled 6,728,000 pounds compared with 7,910,000 on May 1 and 4,016,000 on the same date last year.

FISH STOCKS INCREASED ON JUNE 1

Stocks of frozen fish were increased on June 1, the total amounting to 31,999,800 pounds compared with 19,652,300 on May 1 and 29,408,100 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. June 1 holdings were as follows, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: cod, 5,034,300 (6,713,300) pounds; haddock, 1,252,000 (1,097,000); salmon, 2,810,800 (2,068,000); sea herring and kippers, 7,333,700 (7,044,200); other sea fish, 11,050,400 (10,247,000); and inland fish, 1,509,000 (2,239,000).

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>June 10, 1948</u>	<u>June 3, 1948</u>	<u>May 13, 1948</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(100 Common Stocks)	120.2	119.8	114.6
75 Industrials	114.7	114.6	108.6
16 Utilities	132.6	130.4	127.3
8 Banks	128.0	128.5	128.0
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	82.1	82.9	82.1
25 Golds	63.6	65.4	65.4
5 Base Metals	119.0	117.5	115.2

WHOLESALE SALES IN APRIL
SHOW INCREASED GAIN

Wholesale sales in Canada during April were six per cent higher in dollar volume than in April last year and eight per cent above this year's March volume, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports on the basis of statements from wholesalers in nine lines of trade. Cumulative dollar sales for the four months ending April were four per cent greater than for the corresponding period last year. The general unadjusted index, on the base 1935-39 equals 100, rose to 284.4 for April as compared with 264.4 for March and 268.8 for April, 1947.

In the Prairie Provinces wholesale sales in April continued below last year's level by two per cent, but gains were recorded in all other regions. Sales were two per cent higher in the Maritime Provinces, 8.5 per cent both in Ontario and Quebec, and 13 per cent in British Columbia.

Both drug and grocery wholesalers reported a greater increase in April over 1947 than in the preceding months of 1948. Drug sales were up 16 per cent and grocers' sales 14 per cent, the latter gain comparing with an increase of five per cent in cumulative sales for the four months over the like period of 1947. Sales of tobacco and confectionery wholesalers gained 11 per cent in the month and hardware wholesalers seven per cent. Wholesalers of automotive equipment reported sales practically the same as in April last year.

Footwear wholesalers and fruit and vegetable dealers, whose sales have been below 1947 volumes for some months, again recorded lower sales of two and 11 per cent respectively. Clothing sales, which showed an increase in March for the first time this year, also declined five per cent. Sales in the wholesale dry goods trade decreased eight per cent from April 1947, while cumulative sales of dry goods wholesalers for the first four months were five per cent higher.

Wholesalers' stocks at the end of April were valued 10 per cent higher than at the same date last year and one per cent above the value at the end of March. Automotive equipment dealers had the largest increase over last year at 30 per cent. Hardware, dry goods, tobacco and confectionery, and drug wholesalers had inventories valued between 17 and 11 per cent higher.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES Department store sales increased 13 per cent in May over the same month last year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Advances were shown for all sections of the country, Saskatchewan and Alberta showing identical gains of 24 per cent and British Columbia a rise of 20 per cent. In the Maritimes the increase was 13 per cent, Quebec five per cent, Ontario 12 per cent and Manitoba 11 per cent.

OUTPUT OF CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS IN APRIL Central electric stations produced 3,733,137,000 kilowatt hours in April as compared with 3,764,129,000 in the preceding month and 3,727,377,000 in the corresponding month last year. During the first four months of this year, 14,750,420,000 kilowatt hours were produced compared with 15,124,754,000 in the like period of 1947.

Consumption of primary power in April -- production less exports and secondary power -- totalled 3,324,393,000 kilowatt hours compared with 3,472,249,000 in March and 3,001,561,000 in the same month of 1947. During the four months, January-April, the aggregate was 13,371,254,000 kilowatt hours compared with 12,108,827,000 in the same period last year.

PRODUCTION OF AUTOMOBILES IN 1947 Production of automobiles in Canada in 1947 amounted to 258,015 units compared with 171,528 in the preceding year and 132,645 in 1945, according to preliminary figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Despite the gain over immediately preceding years, unit output was lower than in the year 1941, when production for the armed forces was at a high level. Value of vehicle output in 1947 was \$298,518,669 compared with \$164,015,668 in 1946.

Reflecting the reconversion of this industry from wartime to peacetime production, 167,257 passenger cars were produced in 1947 against only 91,871 in 1946. Output of trucks and buses totalled 90,758 units, showing an increase over the 1946 output of 79,657 units, but a decline from the 130,777 in 1945, 158,038 in 1944 and 178,064 in 1943. Of the vehicles made in 1947, 191,395 units were made for sale in Canada and 66,620 units were intended for export.

OUTPUT OF WASHING MACHINES AT NEW HIGH IN APRIL Production of domestic washing machines rose to a new high month's total of 27,833 units in April. The month's output compares with 27,032 units in March and 16,975 in April last year. Aggregate production for the four months ended April was 103,285 units as against 60,209 in the similar period of 1947.

Output in April consisted of 24,684 electric machines compared with 14,495 a year earlier, 2,343 gasoline units as against 1,938, and 806 hand-operated units compared with 542 units. During the four months, January-April, there were 92,100 electric machines turned out as against 51,536 in the same period of 1947.

PRODUCTION OF COPPER AND NICKEL Production of new copper in all forms during April amounted to 20,915 tons as compared with 21,079 tons in the previous month and 19,974 tons in April last year. Output for the four months ending April totalled 81,553 tons, a 14.8 per cent increase over the 71,000 tons produced in the corresponding period of 1947. Nickel production in April increased to 13,195 tons compared with 10,479 tons in March and 10,021 tons in April, 1947. Production for the first four months of 1948 was 44,131 tons compared with 38,331 tons in the same period last year, a 15 per cent increase.

STEEL PRODUCTION IN APRIL Production of steel ingots and steel castings during April amounted to 264,300 tons, showing a decline from the high point of 286,000 tons attained in the preceding month, but above last year's April production of 252,200 tons, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output for the first four months of this year aggregated 1,046,700 tons as against 1,000,900 tons in the same period of 1947.

The April output of pig iron amounted to 170,800 tons compared with 172,700 in March and 160,700 in April last year. Four-month total was 654,600 tons as against 653,100 in the like period of 1947. Production of ferro-alloys totalled 14,500 tons compared with 14,300 in March and 13,000 in April last year, and for the January-April period was 57,700 tons compared with 46,200 in the same months of 1947.

PRODUCTION OF COAL AND COKE Canadian production of coal in March amounted to 1,644,900 tons, showing a sharp rise over the March 1947 total of 977,100 tons. Most of the coal mines in Alberta and British Columbia, which had been on strike since January 16, resumed operations during March. Production in March last year was greatly reduced as coal mines in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were idle as a result of strikes.

March output of coke amounted to 334,000 tons compared with 291,000 in the preceding month and 308,000 in the corresponding month last year. During the first three months of this year, 948,000 tons were produced compared with 935,000 in the same period of 1947.

SALES OF PRODUCTS MADE FROM CANADIAN CLAYS Reaching the highest monthly total since December last year, producers' sales of products made from Canadian clays amounted to \$1,143,084 in March compared with \$949,733 in February and \$1,006,678 in the corresponding month last year. During the first three months of this year, the value was \$3,073,546 as against \$2,745,399 in the similar period of 1947.

REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN MARCH Output of refined petroleum products in March totalled 5,251,500 barrels compared with 5,066,000 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the first quarter total to 16,109,500 barrels compared with 14,397,000 in the similar period of 1947. Refineries used 5,703,400 barrels of crude oil in March compared with 5,290,800 a year ago. Receipts of crude oil during the month totalled 5,910,600 barrels, including 5,115,500 of imported oil and 795,100 from Canadian sources of supply.

SHIPMENTS OF ASBESTOS IN APRIL Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines during April totalled 61,600 tons compared with 60,500 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the total for the first four months of this year to 220,900 tons compared with 203,900 in the similar period of 1947.

Exports of asbestos in April amounted to 59,500 tons compared with 61,200 in the same month last year. During the four months ended April, exports totalled 209,300 tons compared with 192,800 in the like period of 1947.

PRODUCTION OF PORTLAND CEMENT Canadian production of Portland cement was maintained at a high level in April, totalling 1,038,000 barrels compared with 1,105,000 in the preceding month and 933,000 in the corresponding month last year. During the first four months of this year, 4,156,000 barrels were produced compared with 3,395,000 in the like period of 1947. Stocks at plants and warehouses at the end of April were 1,398,000 barrels compared with 1,163,000 on the same date last year.

RADIO SALES IN MARCH Producers' sales of radio receiving sets declined sharply in March, totalling 40,551 units compared with 63,339 units in the corresponding month last year, but increased over the preceding month's total of 35,833 units. First quarter sales totalled 115,430 units as compared with 209,098 in 1947. Sales were lower in all provinces in March.

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS The index number of farm prices of agricultural products at 234.0 as of April 15, was 2.7 points above the index for the same date a month earlier and 36.4 points above that of April 1947. Compared with the preceding month, farm prices were higher for grains, livestock, dairy products, vegetables, potatoes, poultry and eggs. When compared with a year ago, gains were recorded for prices of every class of agricultural produce considered in the index except sugar beets, maple products and furs.

FARM WAGES HIGHEST RECORDED May wage rates for farm workers in Canada in 1948 were the highest recorded since the inception of the Bureau's farm wage survey in 1940. With board provided by the employers, the average farm wage rate per day for all Canada at May 15 was \$3.93 as compared with \$3.59 at the same date in 1947. When no board was provided, the daily rate was \$4.39 as against \$4.55 a year earlier. The average monthly wage rate with board for all Canada was \$33.26 as compared with \$77.01 a year ago. When workers provided their own board the average rate for men hired by the month rose from \$103.96 in May last year to \$113.07 in May 1948. Provincial wage rates, in each case, were led by British Columbia.

CAR LOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS Due to flood conditions in the western division, complete data on carloadings are not available for the week ended June 5, the preliminary figure standing at 77,680 cars compared with 69,433 in the preceding week and 79,188 in the corresponding week last year. Loadings in the eastern division totalled 54,936 cars, showing an increase of 5.8 per cent over the same week last year.

PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC SALES OF RIGID INSULATING BOARD Production and domestic sales of rigid insulating board both increased in May as compared with the same month last year, the former amounting to 18,414,978 square feet as against 17,013,051, and the latter, 12,473,615 square feet compared with 16,064,368 square feet. Production during the five months ended May totalled 86,375,302 square feet as against 78,498,729 in May 1947, and domestic sales, 73,627,534 square feet compared with 60,166,532 in the same months of 1947.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS IN 1946 A total of 1,505,000 patients received medical care in public hospitals for acute diseases in 1946, according to reports received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 595 of these institutions. This was an increase of slightly more than 11 per cent over 1945 when 1,352,000 patients were treated in 587 public hospitals. The total of patient days in 1946 was 16,818,000, giving an average stay of 11.2 days for all patients.

Resident patients on the rolls of these hospitals at the beginning of 1946 totalled 39,306. Adults and children admitted during the year numbered 1,254,807, while live births totalled 210,482, making a total of 1,465,289 admissions for the year, an increase over 1945 of 9.7 per cent.

The 595 hospitals for acute diseases had a capacity of 53,068 beds and cribs, 8,256 bassinets for newborn. General public hospitals had 46,409 or 87.4 per cent of the total number of beds and cribs, 7,501 or 90.8 per cent of the bassinets. The number of beds and cribs per thousand of the population was as follows by provinces: Prince Edward Island, 2.7; Nova Scotia, 4.2; New Brunswick, 4.0; Quebec, 3.9; Ontario, 3.7; Manitoba, 4.6; Saskatchewan, 5.0; Alberta, 6.4; British Columbia, 5.4; and Yukon and Northwest Territories, 1.4; and for all Canada, 4.3.

There were 290 hospitals -- 23 more than in 1945 -- with organized medical staffs. These hospitals had 10,912 staff doctors, an increase of 2,153 from the preceding year. The remaining 305 hospitals, which did not have organized staffs, reported a total of 1,291 doctors who attended patients during the year. Of the 290 hospitals with organized staffs, 232 reported organized services or departments. There were 507 hospitals having X-ray facilities, 229 of which were organized; 329 hospitals had clinical laboratories, 172 of which were organized; while 262 had physiotherapy departments, 142 of which were organized.

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS OF
WINNIPEG METROPOLITAN AREA

With a population of 307,494, the Winnipeg Metropolitan Area on June 1, 1946, had 75,231 occupied dwellings, almost two-thirds of which were single homes. Of the total dwellings, 56,289 were in Winnipeg City and 56 per cent of these were single homes. For the Metropolitan Area over 56 per cent of the total dwellings were occupied by owners as compared with 50 per cent in Winnipeg City.

Thirty-five per cent of all occupied dwellings in the Metropolitan Area were built before 1911 and about nine per cent in the period 1939-46. The highest proportion of the new dwellings was in the fringe areas outside of the city limits and in the outer areas of the city proper, particularly in the southwest section. Average rooms per dwelling for the Metropolitan Area as a whole was 4.8 and the average rooms per person 1.2.

The greatest amount of crowding appeared to be in the central areas of Winnipeg City, where the majority of dwellings were tenant-occupied apartments and flats. Almost all homes within Winnipeg and St. Boniface were equipped with running water as compared with 16 per cent in Brooklands Village. Similarly, a high proportion of homes in Winnipeg and St. Boniface reported exclusive use of a flush toilet than in the fringe areas.

These and other housing facts by social areas, relating to dwellings attributes, household facilities, household composition, values of homes, monthly rents, etc., are contained in a bulletin issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and compiled from information gathered at the 1946 Census of the Prairie Provinces.

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK

1. Wholesale Trade, April (10 cents).
2. Domestic Washing Machines, April (10 cents).
3. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, April (10 cents).
4. Copper and Nickel Production, April (10 cents).
5. Wire Fencing, April (10 cents).
6. Nails, Tacks and Staples, April (10 cents).
7. Metropolitan Area of Winnipeg; Housing Characteristics by Social Areas
Census of the Prairie Provinces, 1946 (10 cents).
8. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
9. Refined Petroleum Products, March (20 cents).
10. Farm Wage Rates, May 15, 1948 (10 cents).
11. Summary of Foreign Trade, April (10 cents).
12. Imports for Consumption, April (10 cents).
13. Retail Sales, April (10 cents).
14. Central Electric Stations, April (10 cents).
15. Cold Storage Holdings of Meat and Lard, June 1 (10 cents).
16. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products in Cold Storage, June 1 (10 cents).
17. Farm Population and Farm Workers, 1946. Weeks of Hired Labour and
Wages Paid, 1945 -- Alberta (10 cents).
18. Use of Electric Power in Manufacturing and Mining Industries, 1945
(25 cents).
19. Fertilizer Manufacturing Industry, 1946 (15 cents).
20. Summary of Monthly Transit Reports, 1947 (10 cents).
21. Coal and Coke Statistics, March (10 cents).
22. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, April (10 cents).
23. Products Made from Canadian Clays, March (10 cents).
24. Radio Receiving Sets, March (10 cents).
25. Primary Iron and Steel, March - Part II (10 cents).
26. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, June 1 (10 cents).
27. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation (10 cents).
28. Cement, April (10 cents).
29. Asbestos, April (10 cents).
30. Aluminum Products Industry, 1946 (15 cents).
31. Current Trends in Food Distribution, April (10 cents).
32. Preliminary Report on the Automobile Manufacturing Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
33. The Jewellery and Silverware Industry in Canada, 1946 (25 cents).
34. The Soaps, Washing Compounds and Cleaning Preparations Industry, 1946
(25 cents).
35. Summary of Monthly Railway Traffic Reports for 1947 (25 cents).
36. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, June 1 (10 cents).
37. Annual Report of Hospitals in Canada, 1946 (25 cents).
38. Monthly Estimates of Canadian Labour Income, March (10 cents).
39. Rigid Insulating Board Industry, May (10 cents).
40. Population, 14 Years of Age and Over, by Status, Occupation Groups,
Industry Groups, Earnings and Employment for Social Area of Calgary
and Edmonton, 1946 (10 cents).
41. Production of Iron and Steel, April (10 cents).
42. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
43. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).

Copies of these and other Bureau reports may be obtained on application to the Dominion Statistician, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

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