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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S MERCHANDISE EXPORTS showed a minor decline in February from the corresponding month last year. There was further expansion in the value of shipments to the United States and a marked rise to India and Pakistan, but the value of goods exported to the United Kingdom and European countries again moved lower.

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INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT showed a further seasonal contraction between January 1 and February 1, but was well above the level of a year ago.

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WHOLESALE PRICES SHOWED A FURTHER SLIGHT DECLINE IN FEBRUARY, according to the general index. The decline in the index was 1.2 points from January, but was 10.8 points above the February index last year.

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SALES AND PURCHASES OF SECURITIES BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES in January amounted to \$36,400,000, slightly more than the average monthly value of transactions during the year 1948.

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BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS IN THE FORM OF CHEQUES CASHED against individual accounts continued at a high level in February.

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THE UPWARD TREND IN THE OUTPUT OF MINERAL PRODUCTS in Canada was continued in January, lead being the only one of the 16 leading items for which figures are available on a monthly basis to show a decline from January last year.

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CANADIAN PRODUCTION OF CRUDE PETROLEUM and natural gasoline rose to an all-time monthly high figure of 1,356,500 barrels in January.

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LANDINGS AND LANDED VALUE OF THE PRODUCTS OF CANADA'S SEA FISHERIES both showed substantial increases in February over the corresponding month last year.

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DOMESTIC DISAPPEARANCE OF CREAMERY BUTTER was lower in February, amounting to 17,250,000 pounds, down $16\frac{1}{2}$ per cent from the same month last year.

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MOTOR VEHICLE SALES FINANCED during February again showed increases both in number and financed value over a year earlier.

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PRODUCERS' SALES OF RADIO RECEIVING SETS in January were almost five per cent in advance of the corresponding month last year.

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS DOWN
SLIGHTLY IN FEBRUARY

The value of Canada's domestic merchandise exports showed a minor decline in February from the corresponding month of last year. There was further expansion in the value of shipments to the United States and a marked rise to India and Pakistan, but the value of goods exported to the United Kingdom and European countries again moved downward.

Figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics place the value of the month's exports at \$205,000,000, a shade under last year's corresponding total of \$208,300,000. Exports to the United States were valued at \$106,709,000 as compared with \$94,816,000, and to the United Kingdom at \$44,124,000 as compared with \$51,660,000.

Exports to India and Pakistan aggregated \$6,480,000 as compared with \$1,835,000 in February last year, to Latin American countries \$8,709,000 compared with \$9,527,000, and to European countries as a group \$17,331,000 compared with \$25,916,000.

Shipments to Newfoundland in February were valued at \$2,404,000 as compared with \$2,510,000, Union of South Africa \$2,812,000 compared with \$3,216,000, Australia \$2,366,000 (\$2,720,000 in February, 1948), France \$2,508,000 (\$4,186,000), Germany \$2,474,000 (\$653,000), and Switzerland \$4,241,000 (\$1,841,000).

There were substantial increases in the value of exports of wheat, seeds, cattle, pulpwood, wood pulp, newsprint, farm implements and machinery, nickel and zinc. Marked declines were shown in the exports of other grains, wheat flour, fish, bacon and hams, other meats, eggs, planks and boards, other unmanufactured wood, and aluminum and copper products.

The value of wheat exported in February was \$24,130,000 compared with \$13,808,000, other grains \$2,288,000 compared with \$4,052,000, wheat flour \$6,791,000 (\$8,153,000 in February, 1948), seeds \$5,231,000 (\$3,097,000), cattle \$2,238,000 (\$1,139,000), fish and fishery products \$5,299,000 (\$9,687,000), bacon and hams \$1,616,000 (\$6,428,000), other meats \$2,330,000 (\$4,953,000), and shell and processed eggs \$2,061,000 (\$4,747,000).

Planks and boards were exported to the value of \$10,198,000 compared with \$15,441,000, pulpwood \$3,277,000 compared with \$2,678,000, other unmanufactured wood \$2,873,000 (\$6,408,000), wood pulp \$15,405,000 (\$14,752,000), newsprint paper \$30,361,000 (\$24,933,000), farm machinery and implements \$8,115,000 (\$5,403,000).

Exports of aluminum and products were valued at \$5,106,000 compared with \$8,803,000, copper and products \$4,594,000 compared with \$6,970,000, nickel \$7,986,000 (\$5,223,000), and zinc and products \$3,712,000 (\$1,364,000). (1)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS AT FEBRUARY 1

Following the usual seasonal pattern, industrial employment showed a further substantial contraction between January 1 and February 1, but was well above the level of a year ago. Curtailment as compared with a month earlier was reported in all provinces. There was little change in manufacturing as a whole, but substantial decreases were recorded in logging, construction and trade.

The advance index number of employment compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, on the base 1926=100, stood at 191.3 -- highest in the record for midwinter -- compared with 196.0 at January 1, and 189.3 a year earlier.

Despite the falling-off in employment from the beginning of January, the weekly salaries and wages disbursed by the reporting establishments at February 1 were 1.5 per cent greater than a month earlier. As compared with a year ago the gain of 11.8 per cent. The advance figure of weekly earnings in the eight major industrial groups at the beginning of February was \$42.77 as compared with \$41.10 at January 1, and \$38.63 at February 1, 1948.

The advance index of employment in manufacturing was 202.7, unchanged from the January 1 figure, but two points higher than last year's February index of 200.7. Weekly earnings of persons employed by the larger manufacturing establishments averaged \$44.11 -- highest in the record -- as compared with \$42.28 at January 1, and \$39.38 at February 1 last year. (2)

SALES AND PURCHASES OF SECURITIES BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

Sales and purchases of securities between Canada and other countries in January amounted to \$36,400,000, slightly more than the average monthly value of transactions during the year 1948. A sales balance of \$400,000 replaced the purchase balance of \$600,000 which occurred in December. The net movement of funds from international transactions in outstanding securities has been consistently outward during the past two years, resulting in monthly sales balances on only four occasions.

Sales to residents of the United States were higher in January than in the preceding month, while purchases were lower. As a result, the purchase balance of \$1,200,000 in December was replaced by a sales balance of \$500,000 in January. The sales balance in the month was due to transactions in Canadian bonds, sales of provincial issues being \$1,000,000 greater than purchases, whereas in stock transactions, sales were slightly smaller than purchases.

Transactions with the United Kingdom amounted to \$400,000 -- the lowest monthly total in six years. Sales barely exceeded \$100,000, resulting in a purchase balance of \$200,000. The aggregate volume of transactions with other countries during the month was \$800,000, sales and purchases being approximately equal. (3)

CHEQUES CASHED IN CLEARING CENTRES

Business transactions in the form of cheques cashed against individual accounts continued at a high level in February. The all-Canada total for the month was \$5,976,338,000 as compared with \$5,551,137,000 in the corresponding month last year, a rise of 7.7 per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

All five economic areas except the Maritimes had higher totals, the greatest percentage gain being shown in the Prairie Provinces. Figures follow by areas, those for February, 1948 being in brackets: Maritime Provinces, \$136,441,000 (\$146,602,000); Quebec, \$1,892,827,000 (\$1,693,059,000); Ontario, \$2,428,780,000 (\$2,411,897,000); Prairie Provinces, \$967,423,000 (\$808,428,000); British Columbia, \$550,867,000 (\$491,151,000). (4)

1949 EDITION OF HANDBOOK "CANADA"
RELEASED FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

Publication is announced of the 1949 edition of the Official Handbook CANADA. Initiated 19 years ago to supplement the field of the CANADA YEAR BOOK, it is especially designed for ready use by business men, teachers, students, lecturers, and all those interested in the progress of Canada. This convenient pocket-sized annual contains up-to-date official information on all phases of the country's economic organization.

Containing over 280 pages of text, more than 150 illustrations, including eight pages of coloured reproduction, 100 statistical tables, as well as diagrams, charts and lithographed maps, this nineteenth edition is attractive and readable. The frontispiece marks the decision of Newfoundland to enter the Canadian Confederation.

Special articles in this edition deal with "Canadian Petroleum Production and Outlook", "Citizenship and Canadian Unity", and "Canada's Interest in the Alaskan Fur Seal". The chapter material covers population and vital statistics, education, science and culture, public health and welfare services, veterans affairs, national income, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, furs, mines and minerals, water power, manufactures, transportation and communication, domestic trade, prices and price control, cost-of-living, foreign trade, international payments, construction, labour, banking and insurance, climatic data, and national parks of Canada.

Price of the handbook is 25 cents. Application for copies should be sent to the King's Printer, Ottawa, accompanied by postal script or money order. (5)

FURTHER SLIGHT DECLINE
IN WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

A further slight decline was shown in wholesale prices in Canada during February, according to the general wholesale index released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The decline in the index in the month was 1.2 points from January, but was 10.8 points above the February index last year.

The index for the month, on the base 1926=100, stood at 158.1 as against 159.3 in January and 147.3 in February a year earlier. As compared with the preceding month, decreases were recorded for all indexes with the exception of iron products and non-ferrous metals. Non-metallic minerals remained unchanged.

Sub-group indexes were as follows in February, those for January being in brackets: vegetable products, 137.0 (138.4); animal products, 168.4 (173.0); textile products, 162.4 (162.7); wood products, 191.1 (191.3); iron products, 171.0 (170.6); non-ferrous metals, 166.2 (166.0); non-metallic minerals, 138.0 (138.0); chemical products, 128.6 (130.4). (6)

DIVORCES IN CANADA
DECLINES IN 1948

Fewer divorces were granted in Canada last year than in 1947, lower totals being shown for all provinces except Prince Edward Island. The decline was the first interruption in a steady upward climb dating from 1940. Despite the decrease, the total for 1948 was almost three times as large as that for 1940.

According to preliminary figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, there were 6,881 divorces in 1948, down 16 per cent from the preceding year's total of 8,199, but a rise of no less than 290 per cent over 1940. The decline from 1947 lowered the rate per 100,000 population from 65.3 to 53.5. In 1940 the rate was 20.8.

Ontario led the provinces in 1948 with a total of 3,107 divorces -- 45 per cent of the all-Canada total -- as compared with 3,509 in 1947. British Columbia was again second with 1,683, down from 1,826 in 1947. Alberta had 651 compared with 881; Manitoba, 477 compared with 665; Saskatchewan, 333 (509); Quebec, 292 (348); New Brunswick, 211 (236); Nova Scotia, 78 (207); Prince Edward Island, 49 (18).

British Columbia, although second to Ontario in the number of divorces granted, exceeded the rest of Canada by a wide margin in the rate of divorce per 100,000 population, with a figure of 155.5, which was down from 174.9 in 1947. Alberta was next with a rate of 77.0 (107.2 in 1947); Ontario, 72.3 (83.8); Manitoba, 63.0 (89.5); Prince Edward Island, 52.7 (19.1); New Brunswick, 41.9 (48.1); Saskatchewan, 39.0 (60.5); Nova Scotia, 12.3 (33.3); and Quebec, 7.7 (9.4).

Following are annual totals of divorces in Canada between 1939 and 1947: 1940, 2,369; 1941, 2,461; 1942, 3,089; 1943, 3,263; 1944, 3,788; 1945, 5,076; and 1946, 7,683.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>March 24, 1949</u>	<u>March 17, 1949</u>	<u>February 24, 1949</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks)	106.6	105.5	105.2
82 Industrials	100.4	99.4	99.4
16 Utilities	114.1	113.1	111.6
8 Banks	131.8	130.2	130.4
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	83.4	81.4	83.2
25 Golds	67.4	66.5	67.0
5 Base Metals	114.8	110.4	115.0

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
TWO PER CENT HIGHER

Department store sales showed an increase of two per cent during the week ending March 26 as compared with the same week last year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Alberta had the largest gain of 13 per cent, followed by the Maritimes with six per cent, Manitoba five per cent, British Columbia three per cent, and Ontario two per cent. Sales in Saskatchewan were unchanged, while Quebec showed a decline of eight per cent.

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on March 17 amounted to 137,713,000 bushels, showing a decline of 2,582,000 from the preceding week's figure, but 42,879,000 bushels in advance of the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending March 17 amounted to 1,879,000 bushels as against 1,078,000 a year earlier. Export clearances during the week totalled 2,987,000 bushels compared with 1,009,000.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending March 17, totals for last year being in brackets: oats, 1,094,000 (521,000) bushels; barley, 835,000 (191,000); rye, 137,000 (2,000); flaxseed, 108,000 (16,000). (7)

CREAMERY BUTTER SUPPLIES IN FEBRUARY

The domestic disappearance of creamery butter in Canada was lower in February, amounting to 17,250,000 pounds, down $16\frac{1}{2}$ per cent from the same month last year. In January, the latest month for which complete data are available, the domestic disappearance of all butter, including dairy and and whey, amounted to 25,000,000 pounds, a decline of 1,000,000 pounds from January last year.

On a per capita basis, the domestic disappearance of creamery butter fell to 1.32 pounds from 1.60 in the corresponding month last year, lowering the two-month cumulative figure to 2.92 pounds from 3.24 a year earlier.

The total supply of creamery butter in February, represented by stocks at the beginning plus butter produced during the month, was 40,000,000 pounds, $25\frac{3}{4}$ per cent below that of January, and $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent less than in February, 1948. (8)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER
IN NINE CITIES OF CANADA

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on March 25 amounted to 6,603,000 pounds, 31 per cent greater than last year's corresponding total of 5,033,000 pounds, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings were higher in six of the nine cities, declines being shown in Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver.

Stocks on March 25 were as follows by cities, totals for the comparable date last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 739 (242) pounds; Montreal, 1,742 (1,403); Toronto, 1,637 (732); Winnipeg, 862 (747); Regina, 128 (97); Saskatoon, 171 (93); Edmonton, 284 (300); Calgary, 225 (318); Vancouver, 115 (1,101).

CATCH OF SEA FISH
INCREASED IN FEBRUARY

Landings and landed value of the products of Canada's sea fisheries both showed substantial increases in February over the corresponding month last year. The catch of all species in the month totalled 130,538,000 pounds compared with 99,364,000, and the value \$2,340,000 compared with \$1,760,000.

On the Atlantic there were lighter catches of cod and sardines, but increased landings of haddock and smelts. The herring catch on the Pacific was sharply larger in the month

Operations in the 1948-49 winter herring fishery in British Columbia have recently concluded. Landings at 378,500,000 pounds were the largest ever recorded for this fishery. About 365,000,000 pounds, or 95 per cent of the total catch, has been utilized for reduction purposes -- producing 31,600 tons of herring meal and 2,568,000 gallons of herring oil. Minor quantities have been used for canning, bait and other purposes. (9)

MOTOR VEHICLE FINANCING
CONTINUED UPWARD IN FEBRUARY

Continuing the upward trend recorded in January and the last months of 1948, motor vehicle sales financed during February in Canada again showed increases both in number of vehicles and financed value over a year earlier.

Number of vehicles financed in the month, both new and used, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, totalled 10,567 as compared with 8,700 in February last year, an increase of 21 per cent. Financed value was \$10,402,316 as against \$8,064,368, an increase of 29 per cent. The February figures also show increases over January this year when the number of vehicles financed was 9,292 and the financed value \$9,278,742.

New vehicles financed in February numbered 3,612, a rise of 13 per cent over 3,203 a year earlier, while their financed value was \$5,462,738 as against \$4,587,230, an increase of 19 per cent. Passenger cars accounted for 2,067 of the month's new vehicles and their financed value amounted to \$2,918,886, these figures representing increases of 14 and 28 per cent over the February, 1948 figures of 1,813 units and \$2,278,638. New commercial vehicles financed showed a small advance at 1,545 compared with 1,390 units and financed value of \$2,543,852 compared with \$2,308,592, an increase of 11 and 10 per cent.

Used vehicle financing during February increase 27 per cent in number and 42 per cent in amount of financing. There were 5,544 used passenger cars financed for \$3,671,506 and 1,411 commercial vehicles for \$1,268,072, making a total of 6,955 units financed for \$4,939,578. Totals for February last year were 5,497 units with a financed value of \$3,477,138. (10)

OUTPUT OF CRUDE PETROLEUM
UP SHARPLY IN JANUARY

Continuing the advances of recent months, Canadian production of crude petroleum and natural gasoline rose to an all-time monthly high figure in January. The rise in the month was due for the most part to sharply increased production in the Leduc and Redwater fields of Alberta. Production from the Turner Valley was lower.

According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the month's output from all Canadian sources was 1,356,500 barrels, nine per cent higher than in the preceding month and 77 per cent above January last year. Output in November last year -- the previous monthly peak -- was 1,265,000 barrels.

Alberta accounted for 1,280,000 barrels in January as compared with 687,400 a year ago. Leduc's output rose sharply to 707,400 barrels from 122,300, Redwater to 68,400 barrels from nil, and Lloydminster to 46,500 barrels from 35,500. Crude output from Turner Valley fell to 355,800 barrels from 425,100.

The month's output from wells in Saskatchewan amounted to 51,700 barrels compared with 73,800 a year ago, Ontario 16,700 barrels compared with 12,800, New Brunswick 1,700 barrels compared with 1,600, and the Northwest Territories 6,300 barrels compared with 2,000.

During the month, 7,865,078 M cubic feet of natural gas were produced as compared with 7,091,990 M in the preceding month and 6,096,765 M in the corresponding month last year. Output in Alberta totalled 6,892,669 M cubic feet compared with 4,914,299; Saskatchewan, 22,370 M (33,480 M); Ontario, 907,944 M (1,101,073 M); and New Brunswick, 42,095 M (47,913 M). (11)

PRODUCTION OF LEADING
MINERALS IN JANUARY

The upward trend in the output of mineral products in Canada was continued in January, lead being the only one of the 16 leading items for which figures are available on a monthly basis to show a decline from January last year.

According to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, output for January was as follows by items, totals for January last year being in brackets: asbestos, 48,872 (46,633) tons; cement, 622,621 (500,317) barrels; clay products, \$1,267,525 (\$982,187); coal, 1,853,131 (1,396,363) tons; copper, 41,611,545 (40,894,-610) pounds; gold, 308,989 (273,366) fine ounces; gypsum, 152,011 (138,534) tons.

Lead production amounted to 21,592,887 pounds (22,134,925 pounds in January, 1948); lime, 84,134 (77,412) tons; natural gas, 7,865,078 (6,096,765) M cubic feet; nickel, 22,358,071 (21,548,839) pounds; petroleum, 1,356,483 (777,583) barrels; salt, 61,041 (53,931) tons; silver, 975,434 (958,225) fine ounces; zinc, 43,895,475 (34,332,614) pounds. (12)

PRODUCTION OF SILVER,
LEAD AND ZINC

Production of primary silver and zinc moved to higher levels in January, while the output of primary lead declined, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Primary silver production in January amounted to 975,434 fine ounces as compared with 958,225 in the corresponding month a year ago. Output of primary lead decreased slightly, amounting to 10,796 tons in January as against 11,067 a year earlier. Primary zinc output increased to 21,948 tons from 17,166 in the same month in 1948. (13)

GOLD PRODUCTION HIGHER IN JANUARY

Gold production in Canada was maintained at a comparatively high level in January, output for the month, as reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, amounting to 308,989 fine ounces as compared with 273,366 in the corresponding month last year, an increase of 13 per cent. The monthly average for 1948 was 294,000 fine ounces. There were advances over a year earlier in all producing provinces, except British Columbia. The largest increase as in earlier months were in Ontario and Quebec.

January production by provinces, with figures for the same month last year in brackets, was as follows: Ontario, 186,523 (170,827) fine ounces; Quebec, 68,843 (55,108); British Columbia, 24,431 (27,457); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 18,288 (14,229); Northwest Territories, 10,873 (5,726); Yukon, 22 (19). (14)

PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC SALES
OF ASPHALT FLOOR TILES LOWER

Production and domestic sales of asphalt floor tiles both were lower in February than in the corresponding month last year. According to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the month's output was down to 1,143,436 square feet from 1,647,372, and the sales to 1,157,815 square feet from 1,376,661. (15)

PRODUCTION OF COKE IN JANUARY HIGHER

Production of coke in Canada rose to a high level in January, reaching the highest monthly figure since March, 1944. The total was 352,000 tons as compared with 323,000 in the corresponding month last year, and 356,000 tons in March, 1944. The monthly average for the year 1948 was 328,000 tons.

Producers' stocks of oven and retort coke, excluding breeze, at the end of January totalled 152,000 tons, of which 40,000 tons were located in the eastern provinces, 109,000 tons in Ontario and 3,000 tons in the western provinces. Stocks of breeze amounted to 116,000 tons, the eastern provinces accounting for 11,000 tons, Ontario for 100,000 tons, and the western provinces for 5,000 tons. (16)

SALES OF MANUFACTURED AND NATURAL GAS IN JANUARY

Sales of manufactured and natural gas by distributing companies were higher in January than in the same month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Manufactured gas sold in the month amounted to 2,534,619 M cubic feet as compared with 2,478,692 M a year earlier, an increase of two per cent. Sales of natural gas increased 21 per cent, totalling 6,401,676 M cubic feet as against 5,271,201 M a year ago. (17)

RADIO SALES HIGHER IN JANUARY

Producers' sales of radio receiving sets in January were almost five per cent in advance of the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Sales were higher in Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta, counterbalancing declines in the remaining provinces. In January, sales amounted to 40,794 units as compared with 39,046 a year earlier.

Provincial totals for January are as follows, those for the same month last year being in brackets: Maritimes, 2,087 (2,656) units; Quebec, 8,039 (7,798); Ontario, 21,640 (19,216); Manitoba, 2,331 (2,766); Saskatchewan, 1,611 (1,534); Alberta, 2,018 (1,830); British Columbia, 3,068 (3,246). (18)

OUTPUT OF IRON AND STEEL AND THEIR PRODUCTS IN 1947

Gross factory value of products turned out by manufacturers of iron and steel and their products in 1947 was nearly 32 per cent higher than in the preceding year, the aggregate standing at \$1,854,916,000 as compared with \$1,405,543,000, according to final figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Among the main industries in this classification, sharpest increases were shown in automobiles, and pig iron, ferro-alloys, steel and rolled products, the former increasing from \$193,440,000 to \$340,918,000, and the latter from \$153,083,000 to \$218,276,000. Machinery rose from \$145,638,000 to \$200,895,000, automobile parts from \$93,429,000 to \$131,535,000, sheet metal products from \$115,700,000 to \$129,495,000, shipbuilding from \$91,851,000 to \$110,131,000, iron castings from \$82,278,000 to \$102,516,000, and farm implements from \$63,239,000 to \$89,423,000.

Production of hardware, cutlery and tools increased from \$73,060,000 to \$79,537,000, wire and wire goods from \$40,134,000 to \$54,564,000, bridge and structural steel from \$40,123,000 to \$52,559,000, heating and cooking apparatus from \$35,980,000 to \$44,901,000, aircraft from \$36,211,000 to \$44,304,000, miscellaneous iron and steel from \$28,369,000 to \$36,050,000, boilers, tank and plate work from \$26,711,000 to \$35,776,000, machine shops from \$20,453,000 to \$22,663,000, and bicycles from \$3,686,000 to \$4,090,000.

Railway rolling stock and parts showed the only decline, falling from \$162,160,000 to \$159,283,000. (19)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended March 19 declined to 72,991 cars from 74,194 cars for the previous week and 76,239 cars for the corresponding week last year. The large decreases from last year's loadings were coal which dropped from 6,052 to 5,101 cars, pulpwood from 6,634 to 5,126 cars, live stock from 2,116 to 1,554 cars, lumber from 3,663 to 3,212 cars, miscellaneous freight from 5,320 to 4,803 cars, and l.c.l. merchandise from 18,852 to 18,025 cars. Grain increased from 5,171 to 6,986 cars, gasoline and oils from 3,315 to 4,165 cars, and iron and steel products from 1,593 to 2,092 cars. (20)

REVENUE FREIGHT UP IN 1948
BUT DOWN DURING DECEMBER

Cumulative totals of revenue freight carried by Canadian railways during 1948 reached 154,732,409 tons compared with 152,705,372 tons in 1947, a gain of 2,027,037 tons, or 1.3 per cent, according to the monthly traffic report for December issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The volume originated in 1948 was the second highest on record, second only to the 1944 total of 154,845,277 tons.

Revenue freight carried during December, in contrast with the year's advance, declined to 12,345,498 tons as compared with 13,013,397 tons in the same month of 1947, a drop of 5.4 per cent. Loadings at Canadian stations receded from 9,300,226 to 9,079,612 tons, while receipts from foreign connections were down more sharply from 3,713,171 to 3,265,886 tons. Foreign freight destined to Canadian points was 1,735,940 tons compared with 1,955,242 tons, the principal decline being in bituminous coal imports.

Loadings of agricultural products in Canada during the month showed improvement over the previous December, totalling 2,153,527 tons against 2,115,674 tons. Canadian lime products also showed a gain of 3,022,535 tons against 2,787,527 tons. Crude petroleum was more than double the previous December at 74,980 compared with 33,962 tons. Loadings of forest products, however, dropped considerably from 1,442,305 to 1,099,341 tons. The manufactures and miscellaneous group total receded from 2,741,507 tons to 2,632,598. L.C.L. freight declined 32,140 tons to 237,568. (21)

BRASS AND COPPER PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

Gross factory value of products turned out by 161 brass founderies and other plants in Canada engaged chiefly in the manufacture of commodities other than electrical equipment from brass, bronze and copper amounted to \$96,550,000, an increase of 34 per cent over the preceding year's total of \$72,057,000.

These establishments employed 10,417 persons during 1947 and their salaries and wages aggregated \$21,227,616 as compared with 10,252 employees earning \$18,425,724 in the preceding year. Factories located in Ontario accounted for 65 per cent of the total production and plants in Quebec for 30 per cent.

Copper sheets, wire rods, tubing, etc., were produced by these plants to the value of \$36,814,000 as compared with \$19,101,000 in the preceding year. Copper castings were valued at \$8,168,000 compared with \$7,162,000; valves, \$5,038,943 (\$4,180,018 in 1946); and wire clothing of brass, bronze and monel, \$3,299,610 (\$2,957,297). (22).

WHITE METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

Factory value of products turned out by 47 establishments comprising the white metal products industry in 1947 was \$37,435,000, showing an increase of 43 per cent over the preceding year. These firms were engaged chiefly in the manufacture of white metal alloys, the refining of scrap for the recovery of white metal, and the manufacture of products in which the white metals and their alloys are the principal materials.

Employment was afforded a monthly average of 3,097 persons as compared with 3,414 in the preceding year, and their salary and wage payments aggregated \$6,024,000 compared with \$5,600,000.

Production included 27,463 tons of refined metals recovered from scrap valued at \$7,255,763; 5,071 tons of solders at \$3,101,829; 3,881 tons of type and type metal at \$1,376,819; 3,159 tons of babbitt metal at \$1,866,487; die castings at \$3,361,711; 3,426 tons of lead pipe at \$1,095,699; 3,544 tons of lead sheet at \$1,036,540; and other lines, such as metal foil, slide fasteners, moulded shot, collapsible tubes, plastic bottle caps, toys, etc. (23)

REPORTS ISSUED DURING THE WEEK -- (The numbers in this list correspond with those at the end of news items, indicating the report on which an item is based).

1. Domestic Exports, February (10 cents).
2. Advance Statement on Employment and Weekly Earnings, February 1 (10 cents).
3. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, January (10 cents).
4. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, February (10 cents).
5. Canada Handbook, 1949 (25 cents).
6. Prices and Price Indexes, February (10 cents).
7. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
8. Monthly Dairy Review of Canada, February (10 cents).
9. Canadian Fisheries Statistics, February (10 cents).
10. Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, February (10 cents).
11. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, January (10 cents).
12. Production of Leading Minerals, January (10 cents).
13. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, January (10 cents).
14. Gold Production, January (10 cents).
15. Asphalt Floor Tiles, February (10 cents).
16. Coal and Coke Statistics, January (10 cents).
17. Sales of Manufactured and Natural Gas, January (10 cents).
18. Radio Receiving Sets, January (10 cents).
19. Iron and Steel and Their Products, Final Summary Statistics, 1947 (10 cents).
20. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
21. Traffic Report of Railways, December (10 cents).
22. Brass and Copper Products Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
23. White Metal Products Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
24. Petroleum Products Industry, 1947 (50 cents).
25. Clay and Clay Products Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
26. Monthly Report on Shipments and Inventories of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, January (25 cents).
27. Statistical Supplement to the Dairy Review of Canada, 1948 (25 cents).
28. Monthly Poultry Estimates, February (10 cents).

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