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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADIAN LABOUR INCOME for March is estimated at \$605,000,000, unchanged from the preceding month, but \$61,000,000 or 11 per cent higher than in the same month last year.

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AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES OF HOURLY-RATED PERSONNEL employed by leading Canadian manufacturers at April 1 amounted to \$42.08 as compared with \$41.97 at the beginning of March and \$37.02 at April 1 last year.

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COMMERCIAL FAILURES IN CANADA showed a further increase in the first quarter of this year to extend the upward trend of the last three years.

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HIGHWAY TRAFFIC BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES was about 14 per cent heavier in April than in the same month last year.

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PRODUCTION OF COAL IN CANADA in May was about three per cent lower than in the corresponding month last year. Imports were slightly lower.

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FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS averaged fractionally higher in April than in May, halting the downward trend recorded in the previous three months.

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STOCKS OF CANADIAN WHEAT IN STORE or in transit in North America at midnight on June 2 amounted to 89,319,000 bushels, down 6,311,000 from the preceding week's total, but 36,223,000 higher than on the corresponding date last year.

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PRODUCTION OF MARGARINE IN CANADA during the first five months of this year amounted to 25,739,000 pounds. Output in May was 6,857,000 pounds, April 7,149,000, March 7,349,000, February 3,354,000, and January 1,030,000 pounds.

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RAILWAY CARLOADINGS IN CANADA for the week ending June 4 advanced to 74,000 cars compared with the revised total of 66,200 in the preceding holiday week, but were down nearly five per cent from the 77,700 cars a year ago.

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CANADIAN AIR CARRIERS reported total revenues of \$2,387,600 in January, a gain of 24 per cent over the \$1,919,300 received in the corresponding month last year.

CROP CONDITIONS ACROSS CANADA
SHOW WIDE VARIATION

Scattered rains only fell over the Prairie Provinces during the past week and mean temperatures varied from 3.4 degrees above normal in Manitoba to 7.5 degrees above normal in Saskatchewan. These weather conditions made for good growth in those areas which benefited from the rains received in the latter part of May and early June, but in many sections, particularly in western, south-western and south-central Saskatchewan and in central and north-central Alberta, rain is urgently needed to halt deterioration.

In Manitoba the situation is relatively favourable, except for areas around Winnipeg and Teulon where moisture is required. In eastern and northern Saskatchewan and in southern Alberta and the Peace River area prospects remain favourable and the general appearance of the crops is good. However, with moisture reserves relatively low, continued satisfactory progress even in these areas will depend upon the receipt of further timely rains.

Grasshoppers are hatching in many areas but widespread poison spray campaigns are evidently proving quite effective. Despite this, there is still potential danger of serious grasshopper damage, particularly in some parts of central Saskatchewan where heavy losses have already been reported from some localities. Recovery from earlier frosts has been quite good, although some coarse grain fields required reseeding in northern areas and some stands were thinned. Early vegetables and corn in the Winnipeg area were damaged by frost a week ago but sugar beets escaped injury.

Growing conditions in British Columbia, especially in the Peace River and central-interior sections, have been good but more moisture is needed over much of the province. Haying is becoming general, and in the northern Okanagan area the alfalfa crop is yielding two tons to the acre. In the same district coarse grains are developing rapidly and fall wheat stands are excellent. Picking of strawberries is now general and the raspberry harvest will begin about the end of the month.

Prolonged drought, accompanied by unseasonable extremes in temperature, has seriously reduced crop prospects in Ontario. Heavy precipitation is urgently needed in central and south-western Ontario where conditions are most serious. Eastern and northern Ontario have generally escaped the effects of the drought and crop prospects in these areas are still considered quite satisfactory. Extremes in temperature, ranging in the past week from freezing to around 90 degrees, have also caused considerable damage.

Tobacco, soy beans, corn and tomatoes have been particularly hard hit by late frosts, necessitating considerable replanting of these crops. The dry, cool weather and frosty nights have retarded growth of practically all field crops. In the greater part of Ontario the drought is the most severe on record and immediate, prolonged rains are needed to ensure even a partial recovery in the most seriously affected areas. Last night's showers provided the first relief that some areas have had for several weeks.

Weather conditions in the province of Quebec vary all the way from extremely dry in western districts, especially around Montreal, to extremely wet in the area from Lake St. John to Gaspé and Baie de Chaleur. Seeding has been completed in the dry areas and the grains appear at present to be in fairly good condition in most districts, although rain is urgently needed to promote further development and stimulate the growth of hay and pastures. In the extremely wet regions seeding is from 60 per cent to 90 per cent complete. Although the abundant rainfall has resulted in an excellent growth of hay and pasture, a period of drier weather is needed so that seeding operations may be completed.

Dry weather has prevailed in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia during the past two weeks but moisture supplies in New Brunswick are satisfactory. Growth of grains has been retarded by the cool weather but pastures and hay meadows, except in the Annapolis Valley, are making good growth. The tree fruit crops in Nova Scotia, with the exception of pears, are promising. (1)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on June 2 amounted to 89,319,000 bushels, down 6,311,000 from the preceding week's total, but 36,223,000 higher than on the corresponding date last year.

Farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 1,742,000 bushels of wheat during the week as compared with 2,821,000 in the same week last year. Clearances of wheat for export totalled 5,194,000 bushels compared with 3,210,000.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending June 2, totals for the same week last year being in brackets: oats, 992,000 (1,151,000) bushels; barley, 659,000 (652,000); rye, 221,000 (16,000); flaxseed, 115,000 (51,000). (2)

FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
FRACTIONALLY HIGHER IN APRIL

Farm prices of agricultural products, as measured by the indexes compiled monthly by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, averaged fractionally higher in April than in May, halting the downward trend recorded in the previous three months. At the April level, the average for all Canada was about 3.5 per cent higher than a year earlier, but below the year's average for 1948.

For April, the index, on the base 1935-39=100, is estimated by the Bureau at 251.3 as compared with a revised estimate of 251.2 for March and 242.7 for April last year. Average for 1948 was 252.6 and the peak reached was 264.2 in August last year.

As compared with March, higher prices for grains and livestock offset lower prices for dairy products, potatoes and vegetables, while as compared with April a year ago higher prices for livestock, fruits, tobacco, poultry and eggs more than offset declines in the prices of coarse grains, dairy products, potatoes, vegetables and furs.

Regionally, the Bureau's index numbers indicate considerable variation in the movement of farm prices. As compared with the preceding month there were increases in provincial indexes for Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and declines in the remaining provinces except British Columbia, where the index was unchanged. Indexes for each of the Maritime Provinces were also lower than a year earlier, while those for all of the other provinces were higher, although that for Quebec showed only a minor increase. (3)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS
OF MARGARINE IN CANADA

6,857,000 pounds, April 7,149,000, March 7,349,000, February 3,354,000, and January 1,030,000 pounds.

Production of margarine in Canada during the first five months of this year amounted to 25,739,000 pounds, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output in May was

Stocks of margarine held by manufacturers and in cold storages and other warehouses in Canada, excluding Newfoundland, at the beginning of June amounted to 1,309,000 pounds as compared with 1,034,000 at the beginning of May. Holdings were as follows by regions, totals for May being in brackets: Maritime Provinces, 53,000 (65,000) pounds, Ontario, 991,000 (752,000), Manitoba, 47,000 (91,000), Saskatchewan, 116,000 (77,000), Alberta, 14,000 (23,000), British Columbia, 88,000 (26,000).

BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCTION
GAINED DURING MAY

Continuing the gains of recent months, creamery butter production increased 1,593,000 pounds in May to 32,076,000 pounds from 30,483,000 in May last year. This raised the total for the cumulative period to 82,022,000 pounds as compared with 77,045,000 in the similar period of 1948, an increase of seven per cent.

Cheddar cheese production in April rose 45 per cent, amounting to 13,773,000 pounds compared with 9,522,000. In the January-May period, 21,227,000 pounds were produced as against 16,470,000 last year, an advance of 30 per cent.

Output of concentrated milk products in the month amounted to 46,577,000 pounds as against 45,486,000 in the corresponding month last year, up two per cent. Production for the year-to-date increased to 138,088,000 pounds from 123,602,000 in the like period of 1948, a rise of 12 per cent.

A gain of six per cent was recorded in ice cream production in the month, the total standing at 2,622,000 gallons as compared with 2,472,000 a year ago, bringing the output for the five months ended May to 8,037,000 gallons compared with 7,796,000, a gain of three per cent. (4)

STOCKS OF BUTTER, CHEESE
AND EGGS ON JUNE 1

Stocks of creamery butter in Canada on June 1 amounted to 23,648,000 pounds, an increase of more than 10,000,000 pounds over the May 1 figure of 13,484,000 pounds and double the stocks of 11,820,000 pounds on June 1 last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This year's June 1 figure compares with the five-year average of 18,205,000 pounds for this date. The "into-storage" movement during May was 10.2 million pounds this year as compared with 6.5 million last year.

Cheese stocks on June 1 totalled 29,225,000 pounds as compared with the revised total of 23,730,000 on May 1 and 27,432,000 pounds on June 1 last year. Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers rose to 29,163,000 pounds compared with 19,062,000 on May 1 and 9,671,000 pounds a year earlier, and skim milk powder stocks to 13,235,000 pounds against 9,953,000 and 6,817,000 pounds, respectively.

Stocks of shell eggs amounted on June 1 to 663,000 cases compared with 800,000 last year, and holdings of frozen eggs totalled 6,803,000 as against 10,822,000 pounds. Holdings of poultry meat declined to 5,436,000 pounds compared with 6,065,000 a month earlier and 13,005,000 pounds on June 1 last year. (5)

STOCKS OF FISH ON JUNE 1 Cold storage holdings of fish on June 1 amounted to 33,523,000 pounds, up from the May 1 figure of 22,317,000 pounds, and slightly above the 32,078,000 pounds held on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks on the latest date comprised 30,941,000 pounds frozen fresh and 2,582,000 pounds frozen smoked.

There was an increase over a year ago in the stocks of inland fish, but holdings of cod, haddock, salmon, sea herring, and other sea fish were lower. Totals follow by kinds, those for June 1 last year being in brackets: cod, 5,186,000 (5,328,000) pounds; haddock, 1,093,000 (1,334,000); salmon, 2,386,000 (2,942,000); sea herring, 7,181,000 (9,019,000); other sea fish, 10,217,000 (11,580,000); and inland fish, 5,945,000 (1,875,000). (6)

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES ON JUNE 1 Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, on June 1 were lower than on May 1, but higher than a year ago, while the stocks of vegetables, frozen and in brine, were down in both comparisons. Holdings of fruit amounted to 26,683,000 pounds as compared with 30,538,000 on May 1 and 22,476,000 on June 1 last year, and vegetables 6,400,000 pounds compared with 6,754,000 on May 1 and 6,852,000 a year earlier.

Storage stocks of Canadian vegetables were all increased over a year ago with the exception of cabbages. Potatoes were up from 51,528 tons to 110,269, onions from 835 tons to 1,997, beets from 19 tons to 502, carrots from 193 tons to 522, parsnips from 17 tons to 53, celery from nil to 3,759 crates, while cabbages decreased from 387 tons to 96.

There were 258 tons of imported potatoes on June 1 compared with 342 last year. Stocks of imported onions totalled 447 tons compared with 1,167, carrots 704 tons (90); cabbages 314 tons (761); and celery 15,095 crates (nil). (7)

STOCKS OF MEAT ON JUNE 1 Stocks of meat held by packers, wholesale butchers, and cold storage warehouses on June 1 were down both from May 1 and the corresponding month last year. Total stocks amounted to 72,541,000 pounds as compared with 80,298,000 on May 1 and 117,142,000 a year ago.

Holdings of frozen meat were down to 42,128,000 pounds from 48,243,000 on May 1 and 80,252,000 on the same date last year. Stocks of fresh meat declined slightly, totalling 13,311,000 pounds compared with 15,481,000 on May 1 and 14,851,000 a year earlier, while cured meat rose to 17,102,000 pounds from 16,574,000 on May 1, but were down from the June 1, 1948 total of 22,039,000 pounds.

Lard stocks at 3,751,000 pounds were lower than the 4,706,000 pounds held on May 1 and last year's figure of 4,045,000 pounds. (8)

STOCKS OF RAW AND REFINED SUGAR Refinery stocks of raw sugar were substantially lower on May 21 than on the same date last year, but the stocks of refined sugar were sharply higher.

Raw sugar stocks fell to 93,402,800 pounds from 123,319,300 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks of refined sugar were up from 116,011,700 pounds to 229,758,400.

During the four weeks ending May 21st, 90,813,000 pounds of refined were manufactured compared with 81,506,300 in the same period of 1948. Receipts of raw sugar during the period were 105,442,000 pounds compared with 119,085,400, and meltings and sales 95,944,000 pounds against 85,698,500. (9)

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES

Cost-of-living indexes for six of the eight regional cities recorded increases during April, while two moved slightly lower, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Firmer prices for foods were mainly responsible for the advances, although clothing, and homefurnishings and services registered minor gains at a few centres. Lower fuel prices and Montreal and Saskatoon were sufficient to reduce the component indexes for these two centres. At Toronto, however, a reduction in fuel costs failed to overcome an increase in foods.

The composite index for Winnipeg rose 0.9 points between April 1 and May 2 to 154.7; Edmonton, 0.8 to 155.1; Vancouver, 0.6 to 161.1; Toronto, 0.2 to 155.0; Saint John, 0.1 to 156.0; and Halifax, 0.1 to 152.4. Montreal's index fell 0.2 points to 161.7, and Saskatoon's, 0.1 to 161.7. In the same period the Dominion index gained 0.2 to 158.2.

The following table compares the latest city and Dominion cost-of-living indexes:

	<u>May 1, 1948</u>	<u>April 1, 1949</u>	<u>May 2, 1949</u>
	(August, 1939=100)		
Halifax	148.3	152.3	152.4
Saint John	151.5	155.9	156.0
Montreal	157.4	161.9	161.7
Toronto	150.5	154.8	155.0
Winnipeg	147.6	153.8	154.7
Saskatoon	156.5	161.8	161.7
Edmonton	148.1	154.3	155.1
Vancouver	153.5	160.5	161.1
Dominion	152.1	158.0	158.2

The city indexes show changes in living costs for each city and compare the extent of the rise or fall between cities. They do not, however, compare actual levels of living costs.

MAN-HOURS AND HOURLY EARNINGS

Average weekly wages of hourly-rated personnel employed by leading Canadian manufacturers at April 1 amounted to \$42.08 as compared with \$41.97 at the beginning of March and \$37.02 at April 1 last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Average hourly earnings rose to 98.1 cents, a gain of half a cent over March, and an increase of 9.1 cents over April last year.

There was a slight decrease of 0.1 hours in the average working time reported in manufacturing generally during the week of April 1 as compared with the same period at the beginning of March, bringing the latest figure to 42.9 hours. At April 1 last year the average was 41.6 hours.

As compared with March 1 the working week was shorter in lumber products, tobacco, pulp and paper products, rubber, textile products, and a number of other industries, while in animal products, beverages, non-ferrous metal products and non-metallic mineral products, there were increases as compared with a month earlier. (10)

CANADIAN LABOUR INCOME IN MARCH Canadian labour income for March is estimated at \$605,000,000, unchanged from the preceding month, but \$61,000,000 or 11 per cent higher than in the same month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Slight advances were recorded in the secondary industries, manufacturing, construction, transportation, trade and the services, but these were counterbalanced by losses which occurred in the primary industries, forestry, fishing and mining. The index of employment in nine leading non-agricultural industries decreased from 188.1 on March 1 to 186.6 on April 1, while average weekly earnings for the same industries showed an increase from \$43.15 on March 1 to \$43.22 on April 1.

Total labour income for the first quarter of this year is estimated at \$1,818,000,000, an advance of \$180,000,000 over the similar period a year earlier. Somewhat higher levels of employment and considerably higher levels of average weekly earnings were responsible for this increase. Over the three-month period average weekly earnings were 10 per cent higher in 1949 than last year, while the index of employment in the nine leading non-agricultural industries averaged less than one per cent higher. (11)

COMMERCIAL FAILURES HIGHER IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1949 Commercial failures in Canada showed a further increase in the first quarter of this year to extent the upward trend of the last three years. Liabilities of defaulting firms also moved up. The majority of the failures occurred in Quebec, the increase over the first quarter of 1948 amounting to about 30 per cent. The gain in Ontario was comparatively slight.

According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, commercial failures in the first quarter of 1949 totalled 270 as compared with 203 in the same period of 1948, 120 in 1947, 54 in 1946, and 371 in the first quarter of 1939. First quarter liabilities amounted to \$4,196,000 compared with \$3,406,000 in the same period of 1948, \$1,432,000 in 1947, \$1,467,000 in 1946, and \$3,592,000 in the first three months of 1939.

Trading concerns failing in the first quarter of this year numbered 93 against 67 in the same period of 1948. The decrease in manufactures was from 39 to 57, while service firms of different descriptions were 21 per cent greater at 51. The miscellaneous group, including construction and transport, showed failures of 48 compared with 50. (12)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>June 9, 1949</u>	<u>June 2, 1949</u>	<u>May 12, 1949</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks)	99.3	100.5	105.7
82 Industrials	92.0	93.7	99.3
16 Utilities	109.3	109.5	114.0
8 Banks	132.0	130.2	132.2
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	77.3	77.8	82.6
25 Golds	65.5	65.7	69.8
5 Base Metals	99.6	100.7	107.0

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC AT
CANADIAN BORDER POINTS

Highway traffic between Canada and the United States was 14 per cent heavier in April than in the same month of 1948, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The advance was principally due to Canadian traffic returning from the United States which increased by 40 per cent. United States traffic entering Canada advanced only five per cent.

The comparison between traffic in the two years is influenced by the fact that Easter occurred in April this year but in March last. For that reason a more valid comparison can be made by considering the aggregate volume of traffic for the two months of March and April. Data for the two months show an increase of 10 per cent in total traffic across the border, United States vehicles increasing by two per cent and Canadian vehicles by 32 per cent.

The aggregate number of border crossings in April was 613,800, consisting of 415,400 foreign entries and 198,400 Canadian vehicles returning. Of the foreign inflow, 83,500 vehicles entered on traveller's vehicle permits, 315,600 were non-permit or local entries, and 16,300 were commercial vehicles. The Canadian traffic comprised 23,100 units remaining abroad for more than 24 hours, 160,400 staying for shorter periods and 14,900 commercial vehicles.

Cumulative totals for the four months place highway border crossings at 1,891,000 as compared with 1,722,300 in the similar period a year ago, showing an advance of 10 per cent. As in April, a large part of the rise was due to increased volume of returning Canadian traffic, up from 469,800 a year ago to 625,800. In the same period, United States entries rose from 1,252,500 a year earlier to 1,315,200. (13)

COAL OUTPUT DOWN SLIGHTLY IN
MAY; UP IN FIVE-MONTH PERIOD

Production of coal in Canada in May was about three per cent lower than in the corresponding month last year, a decrease in Alberta counterbalancing gains in all other producing provinces. Despite the fall in the month, output for the five months ending May rose eight per cent over the similar period of 1948. Imports were down .04 per cent in the month and one per cent in the cumulative period.

Preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics place the all-Canada output at 1,326,700 tons in May as compared with 1,362,393 a year earlier. During the five-month period, production rose to 7,765,300 tons as against 7,177,830 in the same period last year. Imports during the month totalled 3,347,099 tons compared with 3,348,579 in May last year, bringing total imports for the year-to-date to 7,724,959 tons against 7,794,524 in 1948.

Mines in Nova Scotia produced 557,000 tons in the month as compared with 538,001 year ago, and in Alberta, 506,000 tons compared with 587,771. Total for British Columbia and the Yukon was 158,500 tons compared with 143,951, Saskatchewan (62,200) (50,695), and New Brunswick 43,000 (41,975). (14)

ASBESTOS SHIPMENTS
DOWN IN APRIL

Continuing the downtrend of previous months, shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines during April declined sharply both in the month and in the first four months of this year. The decrease in both periods was due to the labour dispute.

The month's shipments totalled 16,002 tons as compared with 61,590 in the same month last year, bringing total shipments for the cumulative period to 102,792 tons compared with 220,874 in the similar period of 1948.

Exports in April amounted to 14,229 tons compared with 59,478 in the like 1948 period. During the four months ending April, 103,246 tons were exported as against 209,309 a year ago. (15)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS
OF SALT IN APRIL

Reversing the downward trend of previous months, Canadian production and shipments of salt in April advanced over the preceding month but were down from the same month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The month's output amounted to 57,300 tons as compared with 53,800 in March and 58,900 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the total for the first four months of this year to 228,900 tons against 226,500 in the similar period a year ago.

Shipments in April amounted to 53,400 tons compared with 50,800 in March and 57,900 a year earlier. In the cumulative period, 220,900 tons were shipped as against 222,400 in the like 1948 period. (16)

CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION OF RUBBER

Consumption of rubber showed a decline of 11 per cent in April, the total for the month standing at 13,054,000 pounds compared with 14,554,000 in the preceding month. Synthetic rubber consumption rose to 3,948,000 pounds from 3,916,000, while natural fell to 6,888,000 pounds from 8,109,000, and reclaim to 2,218,000 pounds from 2,529,000.

In terms of end-product use, the consumption of all rubber in the production of tires and tubes, including tire repair material, decreased by 923,000 pounds, in rubber footwear by 289,000 pounds, in wire and cable by 70,000 pounds, and in other products by 221,000 pounds.

Domestic production of synthetic rubber was lower in April, amounting to 7,562,000 pounds as compared with 9,289,000 in March, and reclaim declined to 569,000 pounds from 670,000.

Month-end stocks of natural rubber advanced to 16,128,000 pounds from the March total of 15,752,000, synthetic to 9,530,000 pounds from 8,989,000, and reclaim to 4,003,000 pounds from 3,815,000. (17)

PRIMARY IRON AND
STEEL IN MARCH

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 262,513 net tons in March compared with 216,862 net tons in February. The March total included 10,532 tons of semi-finished shapes, 14,788 tons of structurals, 19,668 tons of plates, 27,332 tons of rails, 6,867 tons of tie plates and track material, 64,572 tons of hot rolled bars, 20,757 tons of pipes and tubes, 26,241 tons of wire rods, 26,990 tons of black sheets, 9,961 tons of galvanized sheets, 10,147 tons of castings, 4,332 tons of miscellaneous hot rolled products, and 20,326 tons of all other products. The amount of producers' interchange was 106,199 tons in March and 76,465 tons in February. (18)

RADIO RECEIVING SETS
HIGHER IN MARCH

Number of radio receiving sets sold by producers in March increased 36 per cent over the corresponding month last year, while in the three months ending March, sales were up 21 per cent. Sales were lower during the month in Quebec and British Columbia, while in the cumulative period Manitoba and British Columbia were down.

Sales in March amounted to 55,283 units with a value of \$4,050,501 compared with 40,551 units sold for \$3,978,361 in the same month last year. During the first quarter, 140,345 units were sold for \$10,687,413 against 115,430 for \$10,929,203 in 1948.

Provincial totals for the month were as follows, those for March last year being in brackets: Maritimes, 3,470 (3,114) units; Quebec, 8,203 (8,701); Ontario, 33,583 (19,795); Manitoba, 2,299 (1,840); Saskatchewan, 1,830 (1,133); Alberta, 3,138 (2,571); and British Columbia, 2,760 (3,397). (19)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
INCREASED 11 PER CENT IN MAY

Department store sales rose 11 per cent in May over the corresponding month last year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Increases were recorded in all regions, the Maritimes leading with a gain of 16 per cent, followed by Alberta with an increase of 13 per cent, Ontario 12 per cent, Quebec and Manitoba each 10 per cent, British Columbia eight per cent, and Saskatchewan five per cent.

During the week ending June 4, all-Canada sales increased seven per cent over the corresponding period last year. Largest gain of 18 per cent was shown in the Maritime Provinces, followed by British Columbia with a rise of 16 per cent, Alberta 13 per cent, Manitoba seven per cent, Saskatchewan five per cent, and Quebec and Ontario each three per cent.

RAILWAY FREIGHT TRAFFIC IN FEBRUARY

Revenue freight carried by Canadian railways during February declined slightly to 10,990,657 tons compared with 11,113,742 tons in January and 11,288,311 tons in February last year. Since the latter month had an extra day, however, the daily average tonnage was higher in February this year than last, amounting to 392,523 as against 389,252 tons.

Loadings at Canadian stations advanced to 8,185,958 tons in February as compared with 8,060,175 tons a year earlier, but receipts from foreign connections declined to 2,804,699 tons as against 3,228,136 tons. Imports to Canadian points dropped from 1,686,823 tons to 1,404,481 and the intransit movement across Canada between American points declined 141,095 tons to 1,400,218 tons.

Loadings in Canada increased over February last year only in the mine products division, which rose from 2,109,422 tons to 2,647,004 tons. Animals and animal products dropped from 144,422 to 94,249 tons; agricultural products were down nearly 140,000 tons to 1,448,230 tons; forest products declined from 1,764,134 to 1,630,754 tons; and the tonnage of manufactures and miscellaneous was off slightly on a daily average basis.

Tonnage loaded improved over February last year in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. In Alberta there was a noteworthy gain from 797,615 to 999,919 tons, due to greatly increased coal and petroleum shipments, the latter rising from 32,136 to 97,147 tons. Forest products were down in all provinces except in Nova Scotia and Quebec, and manufactures and miscellaneous in all provinces except New Brunswick and Alberta. The recession in loadings of animals and animal products was country-wide. (20)

CANADIAN RAILWAY CARLOADINGS Railway carloadings in Canada for the week ending June 4 advanced to 73,967 cars compared with the revised total of 66,157 cars in the preceding holiday week, but were down nearly five per cent from 77,695 cars in the corresponding week last year. Loadings in the eastern division dropped to 50,665 cars compared with 54,936 cars a year earlier, and in the western division increased to 23,302 compared with 22,759 cars.

Gains were shown in the week over 1948 in grain, up from 4,739 to 4,850 cars, and in fresh vegetables, building products, logs, piling and cordwood, gasoline and oils, sugar, automobiles and parts, and implements. Lumber showed an increase of 167 cars at 3,898 cars, and l.c.l. merchandise from 18,154 to 18,587 cars. Declines were shown in live stock, down 176 cars to 1,605, butter, cheese and eggs, animal products, coal, other mine products, iron and steel, pulpwood down from 6,060 to 3,384 cars, woodpulp and paper down 631 cars, and in miscellaneous manufacturers. (21)

CIVIL AVIATION IN JANUARY Bolstered by improved passenger and mail earnings, Canadian air carriers reported total revenues of \$2,387,-613 in January, a gain of 24 per cent over the \$1,919,308 received in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Expenses increased to a greater extent, totalling \$2,888,256 for the month, up 21 per cent, contrasting with the advance of \$468,305 in receipts. Net operating revenues showed a deficit of just over half a million dollars as against \$461,359 in January, 1948. An operating debit in January appears to conform to the seasonal pattern in post-war experience. Scheduled carriers had revenues of \$2,074,534 and expenses of \$2,513,340 in January.

Scheduled passenger revenues for all Canadian carriers rose from \$965,845 to \$1,298,585, up 35 per cent over the preceding January, while the number of revenue passengers on scheduled services advanced from 40,918 to 52,137. In addition, foreign carriers transported 12,234 revenue passengers during January compared with 9,554 one year earlier. Mail earnings were \$586,979 as against \$474,381 with a much larger volume of first class mail lifted. Ton miles of mail more than doubled at 294,964 compared with 137,860 ton miles and the weight transported by Canadian carriers rose from 536,318 pounds to 955,670.

All expense items were heavier this January due to advances in the cost of wages, materials and supplies. Aircraft operation and maintenance required \$1,675,-978 compared with \$1,380,106 and ground expenses jumped from \$631,455 to \$805,249. (22)

UNMANUFACTURED TOBACCO STOCKS AND CONSUMPTION IN FIRST QUARTER Stocks of unmanufactured tobacco at the end of March amounted to 171,201,500 pounds, sharply up from 120,842,000 pounds at the end of last December, and nearly 12 per cent above the 152,883,700 pounds held at March 31 last year, according to the quarterly report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Stocks of Canadian tobacco rose to 167,731,300 pounds at March 31 this year as compared with 149,683,200 on the same date in 1948, accounting for most of the total increase. Imported tobacco amounted to 3,470,200 against 3,200,500 pounds.

Of the stocks of Canadian tobacco, flue-cured Bright Virginia totalled 136,359,-000 pounds, burley 18,397,000, cigar leaf 7,889,000, and dark air or fire-cured 2,262,000 pounds.

During the quarter, 11,183,000 pounds of unmanufactured Canadian and imported tobacco were taken for the production of cigarettes, 6,714,000 for pipe tobacco and snuff, and 1,090,500 pounds for cigars. (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. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
2. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
3. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, April (10 cents).
4. Dairy Factory Production, May (10 cents).
5. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, June 1 (10 cents).
6. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, June 1 (10 cents).
7. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, June 1 (10 cents).
8. Stocks of Meat, Lard and Tallow, June 1 (10 cents).
9. Sugar Situation in Canada, April 23 to May 21, 1949 (10 cents).
10. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings, April 1 (10 cents).
11. Monthly Estimates of Canadian Labour Income, March (10 cents).
12. Commercial Failures in First Quarter, 1949 (25 cents).
13. Highway Traffic at Canadian Border Points, April (10 cents).
14. Coal Production, May (10 cents).
15. Asbestos, April (10 cents).
16. Salt, April (10 cents).
17. Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, April (25 cents).
18. Primary Iron and Steel, March (10 cents).
19. Radio Receiving Sets, March (10 cents).
20. Traffic Report of Railways of Canada, February (10 cents).
21. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
22. Civil Aviation, January (10 cents).
23. Quarterly Report on the Stocks and Consumption of Unmanufactured Tobacco, March (10 cents).
24. Salt Industry in 1948 (25 cents).
25. The Glass Industry in Canada, 1947 (25 cents).
26. Sporting Goods Industry in Canada, 1947 (15 cents).
27. Awning, Tent and Sail Industry in Canada, 1947 (15 cents).
28. Ingot Makers' Report on Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal and Secondary Non-Ferrous Ingot, March (10 cents).
29. Quarterly Report on Processed Foods, March (25 cents).
30. Trade of Canada: Exports for April and Four Months Ended April (25 cents).
31. Broom, Brush and Mop Industry, 1947 (15 cents).
32. Rubber Industry in Canada, 1947 (25 cents).
33. Population of Newfoundland by Ethnic Origin and Sex, 1945 (10 cents).
34. Iron Castings Industry, 1947 (25 cents).
35. Hardware, Tools and Cutlery Industry, 1947 (25 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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