

D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA

AUG 15 1949

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Vol. XVUI - No. 30

Saturday, August 13, 1949

--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION DURING MAY continued its upward movement to reach a new high of 137.0, an increase of 0.9 per cent over the revised April figure of 136.1, and comparing with 132.0 in May last year.

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TOTAL DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN CANADA during the first half of this year were 10 per cent higher than last year, aggregating \$382,744,000 as compared with \$348,735,000 for the first six months of 1948.

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CHEQUES CASHED IN CANADA during the first half of this year reached a record volume of \$41,200,000,000, up 8.3 per cent from \$38,000,000,000 in the first half of 1948.

. . .

BOTH FACTORY SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN-MADE MOTOR VEHICLES and sales of new motor vehicles reached new postwar levels for the period during the first half of this year.

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LANDINGS IN THE SEA FISHERIES OF CANADA, excluding Newfoundland, amounted to 118,579,000 pounds in June, only 2.8 per cent below the total for June last year.

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CANADIAN GOLD PRODUCTION DURING MAY totalled 332,442 fine ounces as compared with 326,903 in April and 287,065 in May last year.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ended July 30 totalled 73,532 cars compared with 74,526 in the preceding week and 75,968 in the corresponding week last year.

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CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS filed in local offices across Canada in June amounted to 53,100, down from the May figure of 63,700, but up from the June, 1948, total of 39,600.

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CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION IN CANADA fell 8.4 per cent in July to 38,506,000 pounds from 42,015,000 in the corresponding month last year.

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PRODUCTION OF MARGERINE IN CANADA during the first seven months of this year amounted to 37,857,000 pounds. Output in July totalled 5,372,000 pounds compared with 6,734,000 in June, May 6,869,000, April 7,149,000, March 7,349,000, February 3,354,000, and January 1,030,000 pounds.

HALF-YEAR DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
SHOW 10 PER CENT GAIN

With dollar sales in June repeating the gains of earlier months over last year, total department store sales in Canada during the first half of this year were 10 per cent higher than last year. All provinces shared in the half-year gain, largest increases being in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces, and sales were higher in all departments except food and kindred products.

According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, January-June sales aggregated \$382,744,000 as compared with \$348,735,000 for the first six months of 1948. June sales amounted to \$67,230,000 as compared with \$63,254,000 for June last year, a lower-than-average increase of six per cent.

By regions, gains in the half-year ranged from nearly 19 per cent for Alberta to six per cent for Quebec. The Maritime Provinces were second in degree of increase with over 14 per cent; followed by Saskatchewan, just under 14 per cent; Manitoba, 12 per cent; British Columbia, nine per cent; and Ontario, nearly eight per cent.

Dollar volume of sales by regions for the half-year, with comparative totals for 1948 in brackets (thousands omitted), were: Maritime Provinces, \$28,393 (\$24,810); Quebec, \$61,613 (\$58,013); Ontario, \$144,621 (\$134,207); Manitoba, \$55,372 (\$49,276); Saskatchewan, \$19,623 (\$17,275); Alberta, \$24,754 (\$20,880); British Columbia, \$48,368 (\$44,274).

By departments, largest increases in the half-year over 1948 were in women's and children's apparel, 16.2 per cent, and household appliances and electrical supplies, 15.8 per cent. Radios, musical instruments and supplies were up 11.9 per cent; furniture, 11.7 per cent; footwear, 10.7 per cent; men's and boys' clothing, 10.4 per cent; piece goods, 9.7 per cent; home furnishings, 6.9 per cent; hardware and kitchen utensils, 6.5 per cent; drugs, toilet articles and preparations, 5.5 per cent; stationery, books and magazines, five per cent; and smallwares, 4.4 per cent. Food and kindred products declined 9.2 per cent in the half-year, while all other departments increased 13 per cent.

During June the most substantial increases in sales over a year earlier were in household appliances and electrical supplies, radios and musical instruments, and women's and children's apparel, which ranged down from 20 to 12 per cent. Shoes and other footwear increased 8.2 per cent and men's and boys' clothing 6.6 per cent, while drugs and toilet articles, piece goods, furniture, home furnishings, and hardware and kitchen utensils showed smaller gains. Sales of food dropped off 12.4 per cent.

Inventories at June 1 were 12 per cent larger than those at the same date in 1948. The largest increases were in household appliances, 40 per cent; women's apparel, 24; piece goods, 20; and footwear, 15 per cent. Food department stocks showed a marked reduction of 21 per cent. (1)

CHEQUES CASHED IN HALF-YEAR
REACH RECORD VOLUME

With a June gain of 11.5 per cent topping off increases in the previous five months, cheques cashed in Canada during the first half of this year reached a record volume of \$41,200,000,000, up 8.3 per cent from \$38,000,000,000 in the first half of 1948, according to the monthly report by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The half-year gain was country-wide, transactions in each of the five economic areas also rising to now high levels.

Thirty of the 33 clearing centres for which returns are available showed increases in the six months. Largest actual and proportionate gain was shown by those in the Prairie Provinces, where aggregate transactions of the 10 centres climbed to \$7,426,100,000 from \$6,190,000,000 in 1948, a rise of 20 per cent. The Maritimes and Newfoundland were second in degree of gain, with a rise of 13 per cent, followed by British Columbia with an increase of nine per cent. Ontario and Quebec, largest in volume, had gains of approximately six and five per cent respectively.

Half-year total for Ontario was \$17,200,000,000 compared with \$16,238,400,000 last year, each centre being higher. For Quebec, the total was \$11,814,000,000 as against \$11,293,000,000, Montreal accounting for most of the gain. British Columbia's total, with increases in Vancouver and Victoria, advanced to \$3,692,400,000 compared with \$3,385,000,000, and the Maritimes and Newfoundland aggregate to \$1,040,400,000 from \$921,049,000.

Cheques cashed during June moved up sharply to \$7,216,255,000 from \$6,474,545,000 in June last year and were also above this year's May total of \$6,914,881,000. Twenty-nine of the 33 clearing centres were higher in the month. By regions, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia had an increase of approximately 13 per cent each. Ontario advanced 10 per cent, Quebec 8.6 per cent, while the three Maritime Provinces - omitting Newfoundland for which 1948 figures are not available - rose 22 per cent.

Totals for June by provinces, with 1948 figures in brackets (thousands omitted), were as follows: Maritimes and Newfoundland, \$217,847 (\$147,089 -- not including Newfoundland); Quebec, \$2,084,451 (\$1,918,858); Ontario, \$2,979,998 (\$2,703,483); Prairie Provinces, \$1,281,280 (\$1,129,456); British Columbia, \$652,679 (\$575,660). (2)

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IN
MAY REACHED NEW PEAK

Industrial production during May continued its upward movement to reach a new high, with the Bureau's general index of production standing at 187.0, an increase of 0.9 over the revised April figure of 186.1, according to the current issue of the Canadian Statistical Review. The May standing compares with 182.0 for May last year.

Although increases did not occur in all industries, the Review observes, the sub-indexes show substantial increases in such items as the production of pig iron, which rose from 264.8 in April to 290.4 in May, an increase of 9.7 per cent, and also in the production of non-durable manufactures, where the figure rose from 178.2 to 190.6, an increase of approximately seven per cent. Offsetting these increases to some extent were declines in the sub-indexes for durable manufactures, which fell slightly to 221.9 from the April figure of 225.5, and for production of sugar, which dropped from 190.6 in April to 167.8 in May, a shrinkage of 12 per cent.

Pointing out that wholesale prices of industrial materials for June continued to decline as has been the trend since the first of the year, the Review says that this downward movement is probably due, in part at least, to the high volume of production which has prevailed in recent months. The June figure was 5.8 points below that for last year's corresponding month, when the index stood at 153.4. (3)

CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT
INSURANCE BENEFITS IN JUNE

Claims for unemployment insurance benefit filed in local offices across Canada in June amounted to 53,100, down from the May figure of 63,700, but up from the June, 1948, total of 39,600, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. At the end of the month there were 80,400 ordinary claims on the live unemployment register compared with 95,800 at the end of May and 56,500 at June 30 last year.

A total of 111,800 persons received one or more benefit payments during June amounting to \$4,113,300 for 1,355,800 days of compensated unemployment compared with 150,700 persons paid \$5,511,100 for 2,474,100 compensated days in May and 75,300 persons paid \$2,599,700 for 1,350,700 compensated days in June, 1948.

The average duration of the unemployment compensated was 16.6 days in June, 16.4 days in May and 17.8 days in June last year. The average amount of benefit paid per beneficiary was \$36.79 in June, \$36.56 in May and \$34.31 in the same month last year. The average amount of benefit paid per compensated day of unemployment was \$2.22 in June, \$2.23 in May and \$1.92 in June last year. (4)

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR EIGHT
REGIONAL CITIES HIGHER AT JUNE 2

Cost-of-living indexes for the eight regional cities all moved higher between June 1 and July 2 this year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The advances were comparable to that of the Dominion index averaging 1.7 points for the eight cities, and ranging from 2.6 points for Edmonton to 1.0 points for Saskatoon. The Dominion index gained 1.6 points in the same period.

Substantial seasonal increases in foods were mainly responsible for the changes, while the rent indexes were slightly higher reflecting results of a June quantity survey. There was little change in homefurnishings and services at most centres, while clothing, fuel and light and miscellaneous items changed narrowly.

The composite city index for Edmonton rose 2.6 points between June 1 and July 2 to 158.4; Halifax, 2.2 to 155.6; Toronto, 1.7 to 157.8; Winnipeg, 1.6 to 157.0; Vancouver, 1.6 to 163.6; Saint John, 1.3 to 158.5; Montreal, 1.3 to 165.9; and Saskatoon, 1.0 to 163.5.

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

	<u>July 2, 1948</u>	<u>June 1, 1949</u>	<u>July 2, 1949</u>
	(August 1939=100)		
Halifax	151.1	153.4	155.6
Saint John	155.3	157.2	158.5
Montreal	161.6	164.6	165.9
Toronto	153.6	156.1	157.8
Winnipeg	150.5	155.4	157.0
Saskatoon	158.4	162.5	163.5
Edmonton	151.2	155.8	158.4
Vancouver	159.2	162.0	163.6
Dominion	155.7	159.2	160.8

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.

SHIPMENTS AND SALES OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES
AT NEW POSTWAR PEAKS IN HALF-YEAR

Both factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles and sales of new motor vehicles reached new high postwar levels

for the period during the first half of this year.

With June figures setting a new record for a month, factory shipments by Canadian manufacturers during the six months aggregated 140,115 units compared with 129,182 units in the corresponding period last year and with 126,215 units in 1947, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. June shipments totalled 30,096 units compared with 26,708 in May, 23,362 in June last year, and the previous month's peak of 27,305 units last December.

Of the half-year's total shipments, 125,252 units were for sale in Canada and the remainder for export, while 27,183 of the June shipments -- a slightly higher proportion -- were for sale in Canada and 2,913 for export.

Passenger cars accounted for 87,470 of the total units shipped in the half-year, 79,966 being for sale in Canada and 7,504 for export. Of the June shipments, 20,008 were passenger cars and 18,698 of these were for domestic sale and 1,310 were shipped for sale abroad. Commercial vehicles shipped in the half-year totalled 52,645 units, of which 45,296 were for sale in Canada and 7,349 for export; while 8,485 out of 10,088 units shipped in June were for domestic sale and 1,603 for export.

Sales of new automobiles during the first half of this year rose to 132,780 vehicles sold for \$280,133,731 as compared with 107,534 units retailed for \$212,011,081 in the corresponding period last year, an increase of 24 per cent in number and 32 per cent in value. Most of this increase was in sales of passenger cars, which showed a gain of 33 per cent in number and 44 per cent in dollar volume with 88,469 sold for \$184,462,951 as against 66,502 sold for \$127,834,859 in the January-June period of 1948.

In the truck field, increases in the half-year were more moderate, 43,922 units being sold for \$88,186,811 as against 40,651 retailed for \$77,590,526, making gains of eight per cent in number and 14 per cent in value. Buses sold numbered 389 as against 381 last year, the retailed value showing a sharper increase at \$7,483,969 as compared with \$6,585,696.

During June a total of 26,738 vehicles were sold for \$55,539,165, an advance of 24 per cent in number and 28 per cent in value over the 21,626 vehicles sold for \$43,430,979 in June last year. The month's sales, however, were slightly below April and May this year both in number and value. Passenger car sales were particularly active in June, 18,968 units being sold as compared with 12,855 a year earlier. Truck and bus sales fell below last year's June figures, totalling 7,770 as compared with 8,771 units. (5 and 6)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS
OF MARGARINE IN CANADA

Production of margarine in Canada during the first seven months of this year amounted to 37,857,000 pounds, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output in July totalled 5,372,000 pounds compared with 6,734,000 in June, May 6,869,000, April 7,149,000, March 7,349,000, February 3,354,000, and January 1,030,000 pounds.

Stocks of margarine held in Canada, excluding Newfoundland, at August 1 amounted to 1,972,000 pounds compared with the revised total of 2,059,000 at the beginning of July. Holdings were as follows by regions, totals for July 1 being in brackets (figures in thousands): Maritime Provinces, 234 (124) pounds; Ontario, 968 (1,356); Manitoba, 349 (185); Saskatchewan, 115 (180); Alberta, 103 (59); British Columbia, 203 (155).

STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Stocks of creamery butter were somewhat higher on August 1, amounting to 56,668,000 pounds as compared with 41,986,000 on July 1 and 45,065,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Cheese stocks totalled 29,717,000 pounds as compared with 32,112,000 on July 1 and 51,477,000 a year earlier.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on August 1 totalled 54,032,000 pounds as against 46,997,000 at the beginning of July and 22,784,000 on the same date last year, while the holdings of skim milk powder were 12,221,000 pounds compared with 10,891,000 on July 1 and 10,247,000 a year earlier.

August 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, amounted to 822,000 cases compared with 863,000 on July 1 and 1,063,000 on August 1 last year. Holdings of poultry meat totalled 7,081,000 pounds against 6,480,000 on July 1 and 9,515,000 a year ago. (7)

CREAMERY BUTTER OUTPUT
DECLINED IN JULY

Creamery butter production in Canada fell 8.4 per cent in July to 38,506,000 pounds from 42,015,000 in the corresponding month last year. The cumulative total for the first seven months of this year was down slightly more than one per cent, amounting to 161,792,000 pounds as against 163,881,000 in the similar period of 1948.

Cheddar cheese production in the month rose 8.2 per cent, totalling 18,033,000 pounds compared with 16,666,000 in July last year, bringing output for the cumulative period to 59,593,000 pounds against 51,230,000, an advance of 16.3 per cent. Output of concentrated milk products in July amounted to 41,713,000 pounds compared with 52,656,000 in the corresponding month last year, down 20.8 per cent. Production for the year-to-date aggregated 229,645,000 pounds against 233,005,000, down 1.4 per cent. (8)

STOCKS OF MEAT, LARD,
AND TALLOW ON AUGUST 1

Stocks of meat held by packers, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses were lower on August 1 than a year earlier. Total stocks amounted to 58,465,000 pounds as compared with 65,847,000 on July 1 and 89,929,000 on the corresponding date last year.

Holdings of frozen meat were down to 28,247,000 pounds from 37,668,000 on July 1 and 54,934,000 on August 1 last year. Stocks of fresh meat advanced to 14,828,000 pounds compared with 12,003,000 on July 1 and 14,389,000 a year ago, while cured meat declined to 15,390,000 pounds from 16,176,000 on July 1 and 20,606,000 a year earlier.

Lard stocks at 3,262,000 pounds were lower than the 4,235,000 held on July 1 and 3,878,000 one year earlier. Stocks of tallow amounted to 1,046,000 pounds compared with 1,254,000 on July 1 and 1,993,000 on the corresponding date last year. (9)

SMALLER WORLD WHEAT CROP IN
PROSPECT DESPITE LARGER ACREAGE

Prospects are for a somewhat smaller world wheat crop this year in spite of increased acreages in major producing countries, states the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in the July issue of its monthly review of the wheat situation.

In the United States the acreage of all wheat for harvest in 1949, estimated at 75,500,000 acres, is five per cent above the 71,900,000 acres harvested in 1948, and exceeds the previous record of 74,400,000 acres harvested in 1947 by 1.5 per cent. The total planted acreage of all wheat in the United States this year is estimated at 83,200,000 acres, six per cent above the previous record of 78,200,000 planted for the 1947 crop. In Canada the 1949 wheat acreage is estimated at 27,500,000 acres, second only to the record 28,700,000 planted in 1940, and 17 per cent above the ten-year (1939-1948) average of 23,500,000 acres.

With seeding in Australia and Argentina nearing completion, indications are that there will be some increase in wheat acreage in the southern hemisphere. Preliminary figures place Australia's wheat acreage at 13,300,000 compared with 13,000,000 in 1948 and 13,900,000 in 1947. Trade sources indicate that plantings in Argentina will fall short of the goal of 17,300,000 acres.

The major exception to the general trend in increased wheat acreages appears to be in Europe. Despite definite plans on the part of many governments to encourage increases, actual plantings have fallen short of officially projected targets in several countries with the result that European wheat acreage, excluding that of Russia is likely to differ little from last year.

Indications are that this year's output of breadgrains in Europe, excluding the Soviet Union, will be about five per cent below the 1948 level and more than 10 per cent below the 1935-39 average. On the basis of conditions at July 1, the United States wheat crop was estimated at 1,189,000,000 bushels, eight per cent less than the 1,283,000,000 produced last year but about 20 per cent more than the average of 992,000,000 bushels. Although the combined carry-over and prospective new-crop supplies were insufficient to necessitate the introduction of marketing quotas, the United States Department of Agriculture has announced national wheat acreage allotments of 68,900,000 acres for the 1950 crop, a reduction of 17 per cent from this year's seeded acreage.

The first official estimate of Canada's 1949 wheat crop will not be available until August 16. Despite the near-record acreage, however, present indications are that the outturn will be below last year's 393,300,000 bushels. The condition figure at June 30 for all wheat was only 72 per cent of the long-time average yield of 16 bushels per acre. Although there has been some improvement in moisture conditions during July, deficiencies in preseasonal precipitation continued to affect crop developments adversely, especially in those areas where rainfall is normally low. (10)

CROP CONDITIONS IN CANADA Extremely high temperatures during the past week, averaging from eight to 10 degrees above normal, have hastened ripening of grain crops in the Prairie Provinces. Harvesting is now under way in the southern parts of all three provinces and will become general within a week or 10 days except in central Alberta where conditions are variable due to a high proportion of second growth.

Yields are expected to be good in Manitoba, eastern and northern Saskatchewan, south-western Alberta and the Peace River District. Elsewhere prospects vary from fair to poor and in many areas only enough for seed is anticipated.

Exceptionally hot weather during the latter part of last week in Manitoba caused rapid maturing of crops. Some premature ripening of late-sown grains is taking place. Harvesting is under way in southern Manitoba and will be general in central and northern areas by the end of this week. Wheat yields on the whole are satisfactory but coarse grain yields will be somewhat disappointing. Only slight hail damage was reported during the week and damage from rust is negligible.

In Saskatchewan extremely high temperatures during the past week is hastening ripening of crops and some grain cutting has taken place in all districts. While the amount of grain cut in each district varies considerably, harvesting operations will be general within 10 days to two weeks. Wheat cutting is more advanced in the Regina-Moose Jaw-Weyburn areas, where 15 to 20 per cent is cut. Prospects in eastern and northern districts continue very favourable, whereas fair to good conditions prevail in the Regina-Weyburn, central and west-central districts. In south-central, south-western and portions of the central crop districts, the outlook is poor and in many areas only enough for seed is expected. Due to the critical feed shortage in the south-western part of the province approximately 50 per cent of the wheat and coarse grains will be cut for fodder.

In Alberta, hot weather has produced rapid growth in most northern and central areas, where moisture is plentiful. South of Calgary heat has caused some shrivelling of kernels and a good general rainfall is badly needed to ensure proper filling of late-sown crops. Cutting is general in southern Alberta and some grain has been marketed. Grades are reported good but yields are expected to be low, especially in the south-eastern corner. Elsewhere in the province harvesting will be under way within the next one to three weeks. Sawfly damage has increased in many areas of the province but grasshopper damage is not expected to be serious. Alberta suffered from scattered hailstorms during the past week but the only storm of consequence affected the Eckville, Benalta district, where damage is said to be in the neighbourhood of 50 to 100 per cent.

Harvesting of fall wheat and fall rye in southern Ontario is now completed and, except for late-seeded fields in the eastern counties, cutting of spring grains is nearing completion. In northern Ontario cutting of spring grains is expected to commence this week. Grain harvesting operations throughout the southern part of the province have been facilitated by generally excellent weather. Returns indicate that the yield of fall wheat and fall rye will exceed earlier anticipations, with fall wheat yields approaching those of last year in some sections. Although spring grains showed improvement in the drought area following rains in early July, yields are expected to be well below last year's outturn.

Pastures showed some improvement in central Ontario about mid-July but are in need of soaking rains to maintain this improvement. Throughout most of eastern Ontario pastures suffered from dry weather during the latter part of July and are in generally poor condition. Hay crops were light but the feed shortage will be relieved in many parts of the province by a heavy crop of fodder corn. Special crops such as soy beans, dry beans, sugar beets and tobacco have developed extremely well and show good yield prospects.

Present prospects are that agricultural production in Quebec this year will be slightly below average. Rain is needed in many areas to improve field crop conditions. The harvesting of a variable crop of hay is being completed with the provincial yield about 20 per cent below the 1948 level. Pastures are drying up and milk production is beginning to decline. Grain crops are being harvested in the southern districts and yields are reported to be below average. In some areas the grain crops were cut green to supplement dry pastures or to avoid destruction by grasshoppers and army worms. Truck crops, fodder and grain corn, flax and flue-cured tobacco appear to be progressing favourably. Blueberry picking is in full swing with average yields reported.

Rain is needed generally throughout the Maritime Provinces, particularly in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia and the southern half of New Brunswick. Haying is about completed in most sections except on the dykelands. Grain and hay crops are better than average in Prince Edward Island but potatoes on light soils are in need of rain. The hay crop in Nova Scotia is heavier than that of last season but dry weather has caused premature ripening of grains in the Annapolis Valley. Prospects are for a potato crop equal to that of 1948 and the tree fruit crops continue to be promising, but rain is required to maintain the present outlook. In New Brunswick, the northern sections report good crops of hay, grain and potatoes, while southern sections have suffered considerably from continued dry weather. Early potatoes are now being harvested and late varieties are expected to be average or better.

Recent rains have improved crop prospects in British Columbia. Cereal crops have benefited materially but the wet weather has caused difficulty in curing the hay crop. Harvesting of winter grains is now in progress and excellent yields are reported. A few stands of oats have also been cut. Harvesting of dry peas is under way and good yields are anticipated. (11)

SECURITY PRICE INDICES

August 4, 1949 July 28, 1949 July 7, 1949

(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

(106 Common Stocks)	106.8	105.6	102.2
82 Industrials	100.2	98.5	95.6
16 Utilities	116.7	116.7	111.3
3 Banks	132.3	132.6	129.7

Mining Stock Price Index

(30 Stocks)	89.6	86.0	84.1
25 Golds	75.4	71.3	70.2
5 Base Metals	116.7	114.2	110.6

SEA-FISH LANDINGS LOWER IN
JUNE AND FIRST HALF OF 1949

Landings in the sea-fisheries of Canada, excluding Newfoundland, amounted to 118,579,000 pounds in June, only 2.8 per cent below the total for June last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. However, the cumulative catch for the first half of 1949 -- 469,403,000 pounds -- is still about 14 per cent lower than for the same period of last year, decreases being registered for almost all the major species on both coasts.

Landings for the month in British Columbia were 11,431,000 pounds, a decline of 22.3 per cent from the June, 1948 figure. Over the six-month period there was a large increase in the landings of clams. In the Pacific Coast fisheries, June is usually a comparatively quiet month, owing to the lull between the end of the halibut and the commencement proper of the salmon season.

On the Atlantic Coast the June catch amounted to 107,148,000, just 0.1 per cent below the June, 1948, landings. However, the cumulative total was 10.3 per cent lower than for the same period of last year. Herring and sardines continue to show the large decreases, clams and quahaugs, and hake the largest increases.

Although the season is still fairly young, there are indications that larger quantities of Atlantic cod, pollock and hake are being salted and dried than was the case a year ago. Almost half of the increased landings of Pacific clams is being canned. (12)

MAY OUTPUT OF IRON AND STEEL

Canadian production of pig iron during May continued the gains of earlier months over 1948, amounting to 202,148 tons as compared with 193,305 tons a year earlier, and bringing the cumulative total for the first five months of this year to 940,816 tons compared with 847,930 tons in the corresponding period of 1948. The month's output slightly exceeded the previous high production figure of 202,130 tons in March this year.

Output of ferro-alloys in May also increased over a year earlier but was below the preceding four months, amounting to 20,652 tons compared with 18,436 tons in May last year and 24,427 tons in April, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total for the five months was 111,180 tons as against 76,151 tons in the like 1948 period.

May production of steel ingots and castings, according to a revision of figures reported earlier, totalled 283,808 tons compared with 269,968 in April and 289,567 tons in May last year. Production in the cumulative period was 1,396,215 tons as against 1,336,230 in 1948.

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 231,920 net tons in May compared with 248,165 tons in April. The amount of producers' interchange was 85,685 tons in May and 96,260 in April. In the five months ending May, shipments aggregated 1,193,000 net tons exclusive of producers' interchange which totalled 454,370 tons. (13)

GOLD PRODUCTION IN MAY
CONTINUED GAINS OVER 1948

Continuing the gains of preceding months this year over 1948, Canadian gold production during May totalled 332,442 fine ounces as compared with 287,065 fine ounces in May last year. The month's output, which had a value of \$11,635,470, was also above the April output of 326,903 fine ounces but below this year's peak of 342,677 fine ounces in March. Total gold production for the five months ending May was 1,619,440 fine ounces, a gain of 16 per cent over the output of 1,395,815 fine ounces in the corresponding 1948 period.

May production was larger than a year earlier in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and the Northwest Territories, but slightly lower in British Columbia. The month's output for these areas, with figures for May last year in brackets, was as follows: Quebec, 78,384 (64,001) fine ounces; Ontario, 193,695 (175,970); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 16,641 (15,010); British Columbia, 24,469 (25,114); Northwest Territories, 18,268 (6,974) fine ounces. (14)

SALES OF CLAY PRODUCTS IN APRIL

Producers' sales of products made from Canadian clays showed a slight decline of four per cent in April as compared with the same month last year. During the first four months of this year, sales advanced almost 15 per cent over the similar period last year.

According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, sales in April amounted to \$1,229,827 as compared with \$1,331,433 in the preceding month and \$1,278,316 a year ago. In the cumulative period, sales aggregated \$4,990,397 as against \$4,358,582 in 1948.

Sales for the month were as follows, totals for April last year being in brackets: building brick, \$681,187 (\$699,112); structural tile, \$164,304 (\$158,739); drain tile, \$59,739 (\$28,331); sewer pipe, \$167,932 (\$182,402); fireclay blocks and shapes, \$22,783 (\$16,754); pottery, \$52,994 (\$121,942); other clay products, \$80,888 (\$71,036). (15)

RADIO RECEIVING SETS
HIGHER IN APRIL

Number of radio receiving sets sold by producers in April showed a sharp rise of 62 per cent over the corresponding month last year, while in the four months ending April, sales were up 30 per cent. Number of sets sold was higher during the month in all provinces except British Columbia, while in the cumulative period Manitoba and British Columbia were down.

Sales in April amounted to 50,432 units with a value of \$3,777,363 as compared with 31,157 units sold for \$3,021,599 in the same month last year. During the first four months of this year, 190,777 units were sold for \$14,464,776 against 146,587 for \$13,950,802 in the similar period last year.

Provincial totals for the month were as follows, those for April, 1948 being in brackets: Maritimes, 3,207 (1,671) units; Quebec, 8,300 (7,665); Ontario, 29,061 (13,367); Manitoba, 2,269 (2,074); Saskatchewan, 1,748 (1,156); Alberta, 2,919 (1,969); and British Columbia, 2,928 (3,255). (16)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ended July 30 totalled 73,532 cars compared with 74,526 in the preceding week and 75,968 in the corresponding week last year. Loadings in the eastern division amounted to 47,095 cars against 50,843 a year earlier, while in the western region the total was 26,437 cars compared with 25,125. Cumulative totals for the first 30 weeks were 2,169,911 cars compared with 2,242,993 in 1948 and 2,204,397 in the same period of 1947. (17)

RELEASED 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).

Reports and Bulletins

1. Department Store Sales and Inventories, June (10 cents).
2. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, June (10 cents).
3. Canadian Statistical Review, July (35 cents).
4. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, June (10 cents).
5. Sales of New Motor Vehicles, June (10 cents).
6. Motor Vehicle Shipments, June (10 cents).
7. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, August 1 (10 cents).
8. Dairy Factory Production, July (10 cents).
9. Stocks of Meat, Lard and Tallow, August 1 (10 cents).
10. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation, July (25 cents).
11. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
12. Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, June (10 cents).
13. Primary Iron and Steel, May (25 cents).
14. Gold Production, May (10 cents).
15. Products Made from Canadian Clays, April (10 cents).
16. Radio Receiving Sets, April (10 cents).
17. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
18. Iron and Steel and Their Products, 1948 (10 cents).
19. Coal and Coke Statistics, May (25 cents).
20. Trade of Canada: Imports Entered for Consumption, May (25 cents).
21. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, March (25 cents).
22. Transit Report, April (10 cents).
23. Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal and Secondary Non-Ferrous Ingot, April (15 cents).
24. Fruit Report No. 4 (\$1.00 for series of seven).

Memoranda

1. The Manufacturing Industries of Canada, 1947 (10 cents).
 2. Long-Time Average Yields Per Acre of Field Crops, 1908-1948 (10 cents).
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