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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT at the beginning of September showed a slight advance over the August level and a small decline as compared with the same date last year.

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AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES of hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading manufacturing establishments at August 1 stood at \$41.44 as compared with \$41.42 at July 1 and \$39.03 at August 1, 1948.

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SALES VOLUME OF CANADA'S RETAIL STORES was down three per cent in August from July but, at \$645,000,000, was 7.5 per cent higher than a year ago.

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COST OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS moved up slightly between April and August to reach a new peak. The increase since April, largely seasonal in nature, was due to higher farm wage rates and increased farm living costs.

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VALUE OF INVENTORIES held by manufacturing industries appears to have declined during August, the preliminary index standing at 129.5 per cent of the average 1947 value as against 132.4 at the end of July. This is four per cent below the high reached in February, but two per cent above the level of August, 1948.

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PRODUCTION OF STEEL INGOTS in September was lower than in the corresponding month last year for the third successive month. Gains in earlier months of the year, however, resulted in a slight rise in the cumulative total for the first nine months.

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CANADA'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS in September were valued at \$228,400,000, down nine per cent from the August total of \$251,700,000 and 19 per cent below the exceptionally high value of \$283,000,000 in September last year. September exports a year ago rose to an unusually high level due mainly to the removal of export controls on shipments of cattle and meat to the United States and to sales of ships.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES during the week ending October 15 decreased six per cent as compared with the corresponding week last year.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS for the week ending October 15 totalled 77,619 cars as against 84,000 in the corresponding week last year, showing a decrease of 7.6 per cent.

CANADA'S EXPORT TRADE
DOWN IN SEPTEMBER

Canada's domestic exports in September were valued at \$228,400,000, down nine per cent from the August total of \$251,700,000 and 19 per cent below the exceptionally high value of \$283,000,000 in September last year, according to trade returns released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. September exports a year ago rose to an unusually high level due mainly to the removal of export controls on shipments of cattle and meat to the United States and to sales of ships.

Although contrasting with this marked upward trend a year ago, the drop last month was in keeping with the movement in 1947 and 1946. While some of the declines in exports in September from earlier months this year arise from irregular factors affecting supply and shipments, others appear directly to reflect reduced demands.

As a result of the decline of \$54,600,000 from September a year ago, the cumulative total for the nine months ending September this year fell slightly below last year's corresponding period, amounting to \$2,146,000,000 compared with \$2,158,200,000.

Shipments to the United States were down \$48,300,000 in September from a year earlier, accounting for most of the month's total decline, while total exports to other foreign countries were also \$8,300,000 lower. Overall exports to Commonwealth countries, on the other hand, showed a small increase of approximately \$1,900,000, which was mainly the result of an advance of \$9,000,000 in sales to the United Kingdom that more than offset decreases in exports to the British West Indies and Commonwealth countries in Africa. In the nine-month period, the aggregate for Commonwealth countries was higher than last year, most regions sharing in the advance, while the aggregate for foreign countries was moderately lower owing to declines for the United States and European countries.

Outstanding features of the month's trade from the commodity angle were large decreases from September last year in the animals and animal products, and the wood and paper groups. Due largely to sharply reduced exports of cattle, bacon and hams, and other meats, the value of exports in the former group fell nearly one-half from \$57,300,000 to \$29,300,000, while smaller shipments of planks and boards, wood pulp and newsprint were largely responsible for a decline in the latter group from \$94,546,000 to \$68,226,000. The agricultural and vegetable products group, with wheat continuing its gains of earlier months over last year, rose about \$7,000,000, and the non-ferrous metals group maintained its previous advances with a moderate increase of nearly \$4,000,000. Gains in these two groups, however, were offset by decreases for the remaining five.

September exports to the United States were valued at \$113,700,000, down nearly 30 per cent as compared with the near-record high monthly value of \$162,000,000 for September last year but only slightly below the August value of \$115,400,000. Total for the nine months ending September was slightly below 1948 at \$1,024,300,000 compared with \$1,040,900,000.

Shipments to the United Kingdom rose in the month to \$56,948,000 compared with \$47,928,000 a year ago, raising the nine-month aggregate to \$526,000,000 as against \$516,200,000 in 1948. The September value, however, was below that for each of the previous five months.

Exports to the British West Indies declined in September to \$3,505,000 compared with \$4,714,000 last year and for the nine months totalled \$34,300,000 against \$44,900,000. Total sales to Commonwealth countries in Africa also declined in September to \$4,942,000 from \$7,472,000, but the aggregate for the January-September period was above 1948 at \$69,757,000 compared with \$64,414,000, shipments to the Union of South Africa -- including large deliveries of wheat and railway cars -- increasing to \$63,393,000 from \$56,430,000.

There were gains both in the month and nine months in exports to Commonwealth countries in Asia, the September total moving up from \$4,700,000 to nearly \$7,000,000 and the aggregate for the nine months being more than doubled in value at \$83,900,000 compared with \$36,400,000. The major gains in the month were in shipments to India, Pakistan and Hong Kong; in the nine months there were large increases for India and Pakistan, wheat and locomotives making up a large part of the total to India. Exports to Australia increased in September to \$2,602,000 from \$2,139,000 and in the nine months to \$25,765,000 from \$24,476,000, and to New Zealand were up slightly in September at \$1,385,000 but lower in the cumulative period at \$10,323,000 compared with \$12,724,000.

Exports to Latin America fell off last month to \$8,708,000 from \$10,946,000 a year ago, bringing the nine-month total to \$92,354,000 compared with \$88,086,000. Among the larger customers, shipments in the nine months increased to Cuba, Panama, Peru and Venezuela and declined to Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico.

Exports to European countries dropped sharply in September to \$17,847,000 compared with \$27,643,000 a year earlier, widening the decline in the cumulative total, which amounted to \$172,129,000 for the nine months against \$222,508,000 last year. There were further marked decreases in the month to France, the Netherlands and Italy, the nine-month total to France falling to \$31,690,000 from \$57,334,000 in 1948; the Netherlands, to \$9,699,000 from \$35,111,000; and Italy, to \$8,399,000 from \$21,914,000. Gains were recorded in September in exports to Belgium and Luxembourg, Norway and Switzerland, the January-September aggregate to Belgium and Luxembourg rising from \$23,283,000 to \$37,434,000; to Norway, from \$14,490,000 to \$16,538,000; and to Switzerland, from \$14,068,000 to \$20,916,000.

For the remaining foreign countries, the overall total rose in the month to \$7,810,000 compared with \$5,480,000 and in the cumulative period to \$76,590,000 compared with \$54,208,000. Exports to Turkey again showed a large gain from \$175,000 to \$2,168,000 in September, raising the nine-month total from \$985,000 to \$13,012,000.

Wheat exports in September were valued at \$28,910,000, substantially below the preceding five months of lake navigation but up from \$15,061,000 a year earlier, the total to date reaching the high figure of \$312,273,000 as against \$148,488,000 last year. Losses outweighed gains among other main items in the agricultural and vegetable products group, but the group total for the month rose to \$53,100,000 compared with \$45,900,000 last year and for the nine months to \$540,500,000 against \$405,100,000.

Newsprint shipments declined in September to \$32,681,000 from \$36,939,000 last year, but the nine-month total was up to \$310,180,000 compared with \$277,953,000. Planks and boards dropped to \$14,982,000 from \$21,278,000 in the month, and to \$108,611,000 from \$149,938,000 in the nine months; while wood pulp fell to \$11,535,000 from \$19,082,000 and the cumulative total to \$124,796,000 from \$158,633,000. Further offsetting the nine-month gain for newsprint were declines in pulpwood, other paper and other unmanufactured wood, the cumulative total for the wood and paper group decreasing to \$623,800,000 from \$709,000,000 in 1948.

In the non-ferrous metals group, aluminum, copper, lead, zinc and their products, and nickel advanced in the month, and all except aluminum were higher in the nine months, the group total for this period rising to \$325,200,000 compared with \$287,700,000. The iron and products group declined slightly in September to \$21,500,000 from \$22,000,000, lower values being recorded for ferro-alloys, rolling-mill products, farm and other machinery and higher for iron ore, locomotives, railway cars and automobiles. Farm machinery showed an outstanding gain in the nine months from \$54,036,000 to \$78,452,000. Iron ore, locomotives, railway cars and parts and passenger automobiles were also higher in this period, while ferro-alloys, rolling-mill products, machinery other than farm, freight automobiles and automobile parts were lower, the cumulative total for the group, however, advancing to \$222,600,000 as compared with \$195,600,000.

Cattle shipments fell steeply in September to \$4,580,000 from \$19,258,000 a year ago when removal of the embargo resulted in a heavy movement, the nine-month total declining moderately to \$36,054,000 from \$39,741,000. Bacon and hams, down sharply in the month, fell in the nine months to \$10,941,000 as against \$62,630,000 and other meats to \$26,211,000 against \$37,064,000. Furs and products, cheese, other milk products, and eggs were also lower in the month, while fish and fishery products were up, but all except cheese were lower in the nine months. The cumulative total for the animals and animal products group declined to \$219,200,000 compared with \$308,900,000 last year.

Exports in the non-metallic minerals group fell off in September to \$6,500,000 from \$10,100,000, coal and petroleum being sharply lower and asbestos higher, the nine-month total dropping to \$49,200,000 from \$66,500,000. The chemicals group declined in the month to \$5,600,000 from \$7,000,000 and in the nine months to \$53,000,000 from \$61,600,000. Shipments in the fibres and textiles group fell in September to \$1,600,000 from \$3,800,000 and in the nine months to \$20,800,000 from \$35,500,000, marked declines being recorded in the month and nine months for cotton products, wool and products and artificial silk and products. The miscellaneous group moved down in the month to \$6,400,000 from nearly \$10,000,000, but the cumulative total remained higher at \$91,900,000 against \$88,300,000, aircraft and parts rising from \$9,500,000 to \$17,200,000 and ships and vessels declining from \$42,800,000 to \$36,600,000. (1)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS AT SEPTEMBER 1

Industrial employment at the beginning of September showed a slight advance over the August level and a small decline as compared with the same date last year, according to preliminary figures. The rise over August reflects a customary seasonal improvement which was most important in the manufacturing division. There was an increase of 1.2 per cent in the amounts paid in salaries and wages as compared with a month earlier and a gain of 5.7 per cent over September last year.

The general index number of employment, based on the 1926 average as 100, stood at 201.0 at September 1 as compared with 199.7 a month earlier and 201.8 at September 1, 1948. Average weekly earnings amounted to \$43.27 as against \$43.05 at August 1 and \$40.86 a year earlier.

The preliminary index number of employment in manufacturing rose to 208.8, an increase of 1.2 per cent over the August 1 figure of 206.4, but it was lower than that of 209.5 recorded for September 1, 1948. The average weekly salaries and wages in manufacturing establishments amounted to \$44.26 at September 1 as compared with \$44.04 a month earlier and \$41.46 at September 1, 1948. (2)

VALUE OF RETAIL SALES
UP 7.5 PER CENT IN AUGUST

Sales volume of Canada's retail stores was down three per cent in August from July but, at \$645,000,000, was 7.5 per cent higher than a year ago. The margin of gain over last year has been stabilized at between five and eight per cent for the greater part of this year. In the first eight months of 1949, sales reached a total of \$4,859,000,000, seven per cent greater than the 1948 total of \$4,536,000,000 for the same period.

The overall provincial picture was little changed in August from what it had been in the first seven months of the year. Saskatchewan and Alberta were the only provinces showing marked variation in trend. Saskatchewan had an increase of 29 per cent in total retail trade over August last year, while its gain in the January-to-August period was 15 per cent. Alberta's increase of 10 per cent in August was lower than the cumulative gain of 17 per cent for the eight-month period.

Apparel merchants reported a reduction in sales volume from August last year, as did coal and wood dealers. Otherwise the trades for which separate estimates are obtained recorded advances over August last year. This was a situation which contrasted with that in July when many trades reported sales declines compared with the same month of 1948.

Motor vehicle dealers were again to the fore when sales gained 29 per cent over August, 1948. Only two other trades reported sales gains exceeding the national average. Garages and filling stations, and appliance and radio stores showed increases of 13 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively.

In the apparel trades, decreases were fairly general for all sections of the country, although there was a notable exception in the case of women's wear stores in Saskatchewan where a sales advance of 20 per cent was recorded. (3)

MAN-HOURS AND HOURLY EARNINGS Average weekly wages of hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading manufacturing establishments at August 1 stood at \$41.44 as compared with \$41.42 at July 1 and \$39.03 at August 1, 1948. In the heavy manufactured goods industries, the average weekly wages at \$44.77, were 47 cents below the figure for one month earlier; the decline was mainly due to shorter working time, particularly in the iron and steel group. The average weekly wages in the non-durable goods division rose by 37 cents, bringing the latest figure to \$37.99, the increase resulting from longer working hours.

The average hourly earnings declined one-fifth of a cent from the all-time maximum figure of 99.1 cents recorded at June 1 and July 1 this year. Wage-rates showed further increases in the primary iron and steel and certain other industries. Shorter working hours in the relatively highly-paid durable goods industries, together with lower production bonuses during the vacation period, the employment of larger numbers of relatively unskilled seasonal workers and other factors, however, offset the effect of these increases, producing the first decline in the average hourly earnings indicated since March 1, 1946.

The average hours of work during the week ending August 1 was 41.9 as compared with 41.8 hours in the week of July 1 and 42.1 hours a year earlier. In the durable manufactured goods group the average working week was 42.0 hours against 42.4 at July 1 and 42.0 a year ago, and in the non-durable manufactured goods group it was 41.7 hours compared with 42.1 at July 1 and 42.1 last year. (4)

INVENTORIES HELD BY
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

The value of inventories held by manufacturing industries appears to have declined during August, the preliminary index standing at 129.5 per cent of the average 1947 value as against 132.4 at the end of July. This is four per cent below the high reached in February, but two per cent above the level of August, 1948.

Inventory values in the consumers' goods industries dropped four points in August. The index, at 124.6, is four per cent below the high reached in February and March, and four per cent above the level of August, 1948. Capital goods inventory values also fell four points during August, and, at 104.3, the index is 24 per cent below both the high reached last November and the August, 1948 level.

Value of stocks in the producers' goods industries rose one point to reach a new high for this group at 147.5, which is 11 per cent above last year's level. Inventories in the construction goods industries appear to have risen by less than a point to reach a new high at 180.4, 17 per cent above August, 1948. Figures for sawmills, the largest component of this group, are, however, not yet available.

In the consumers' goods group, inventories of non-durable goods industries fell six points. The food industries, largest component of the non-durable group, also fell six points, with large seasonal declines in the slaughtering and meat packing, dairy products, and sugar refining industries which were balanced to some extent by seasonal increases in the fruit and vegetable preparations and fish curing and packing industries. Stocks in four of these industries were below last year's level, bringing the total food index eight points below August, 1948.

In the semi-durable consumers' goods group, there was a two-point drop in inventory values during August, due to small declines in the clothing, leather footwear, textiles, and rubber goods industries. The total semi-durable index is nine points above last year's level. Durable consumers' goods remained at the same level as in July, the largest individual industry changes being a seven-point rise in the automobile industry and an 11-point fall in the aluminum products industry. The index of durable consumers' goods is one point above the level of August, 1948.

In the producers' goods industries, the iron and steel group showed a six-point drop in inventory values in August. In this group, the sheet metal products industry declined 13 points, the iron castings and forgings and primary iron and steel industry dropped eight and one points, respectively, and the wire and wire goods industry rose five points. The non-ferrous metals industries dropped one point. The fertilizers industry and the coke and gas industries showed large seasonal increases. The majority of other industries in the producers' goods group, all of which are comparatively small industries, showed slight declines in inventory values. (5)

PRODUCTION OF LEATHER FOOTWEAR
ADVANCED DURING AUGUST

Production of leather footwear moved higher in August, amounting to 3,177,000 pairs as compared with 2,639,000 in the corresponding month last year. During the first eight months of this year, 24,167,000 pairs were produced as against 20,898,000 in the like period of 1948. (6)

COST OF GOODS AND SERVICES
ROSE SLIGHTLY FOR FARMERS

Cost of commodities and services used by Canadian farmers, as measured by indexes compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, moved up slightly between April and August to reach a new peak. The increase since April, largely seasonal in nature, was due to higher farm wage rates and increased farm living costs. Trends showed little variation between eastern and western Canada.

The Bureau's composite price index of commodities and services used by farmers, inclusive of living costs, rose from 191.1 for April to 192.3 for August, the latter figure comparing with 190.1 for August last year. Exclusive of living costs, the composite index advanced from 202.9 for April to 204.2, slightly above the previous peak of 203.7 a year earlier.

Reflecting increases for foods, clothing, household equipment and miscellaneous items for both eastern and western Canada, the index of farm family living costs rose from 173.3 for April to 174.5 for August. The latest index was five points above the index for August, 1948. Fuel costs moved lower in the four months, while health maintenance remained unchanged.

Showing the customary seasonal trend, the index number of farm wage rates rose from 379.6 to 388.1 between April and August, but was still below the August, 1948 figure of 398.4. Indexes for farm equipment and materials declined slightly from 180.4 to 180.2, the latter level comparing with 176.7 in August last year. Among its components, price indexes were higher in August than in April for farm machinery, gasoline, oil and grease, and feed, lower for building materials, seed and hardware, and unchanged for fertilizer and binder twine. (3)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on October 13 amounted to 178,387,200 bushels as compared with 174,853,900 on October 6 and 176,334,800 on the corresponding date last year.

Farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 9,783,000 bushels of wheat during the week ending October 13 compared with 11,245,600 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 179,415,300 bushels as against 177,672,300 in the like period of the preceding crop year.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending October 13, totals for the same week last year being in brackets: oats, 3,725,200 (3,532,700) bushels; barley, 2,104,900 (2,745,500); rye, 263,300 (312,600); flaxseed, 123,400 (1,001,800).

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending October 13 amounted to 3,523,300 bushels compared with 2,635,800 in the same week last year, and in the cumulative period, 38,383,700 bushels against 24,530,400. (9)

UPTURN IN MILK PRODUCTION
INDICATED IN SEPTEMBER

Milk supplies are apparently again on the increase, in contrast with the downward trend in milk production reported in the three months June to August. This is indicated in the milk equivalent of factory production in September, which showed a gain of nearly five per cent over that of September, 1948.

This favourable turn in dairy production may be attributed to the heavy rainfall and excellent pasture conditions on farms during last month. In the three preceding months the total production was down three per cent from last year and the quantity utilized in factory production was five per cent less than that of June-August, 1948.

The Bureau's estimate of total milk production of Canada in August is 1,733,470,000 pounds, the cumulative production for the eight-month period amounting to 11,660,461,000 pounds or a gain of 58,000,000 pounds over that of 1948. In August the deliveries to dairy factories dropped 4.5 per cent from the same month last year, due principally to the decline in creamery butter production. Fluid sales, estimated at 324,834,000 pounds, showed a gain of 13,000,000 pounds, partly offsetting the August decline in factory deliveries.

Farm cash income from dairy products in August dropped to \$36,263,000, a reduction of approximately \$6,500,000 from last year. The average price received by farmers was \$2.51 per hundred pounds of milk as compared with \$2.83 per hundred in August, 1948.

The August production of butter (including creamery, dairy and whey butter) amounted to 38,532,000 pounds, a reduction of 3,750,000 pounds below that of August last year. The January-August output was approximately 235,000,000 pounds as compared with 243,000,000 in the eight-month period of 1948. This reduction was offset by stock holdings of nearly 67,250,000 pounds on September 1, an increase of 15,750,000 pounds over a year earlier.

The domestic disappearance of butter in August (including creamery, dairy and whey butter) amounted to 28,000,000 pounds, a decline of 8,000,000 pounds or 22.5 per cent from a year earlier. It amounted to 2.15 pounds per capita as against 2.81 pounds a year ago, this reduction being attributable principally to the use of butter substitutes. On the other hand, Canadians appear to be consuming more cheese, the domestic disappearance of cheese amounting to 38,000,000 pounds in the first eight months of 1949 as against somewhat less than 35,000,000 pounds in the corresponding 1948 period. (9)

STOCKS OF RAW AND REFINED SUGAR

Refinery stocks of raw and refined sugar were higher at the end of August than on the corresponding date last year. Stocks of raw sugar amounted to 120,289,800 pounds compared with 116,884,600, and refined stocks totalled 103,965,200 pounds against 45,529,200.

The amount of refined sugar manufactured during the four weeks ended August 31 was 97,077,100 pounds as compared with 139,382,900 in the similar period last year. Receipts of raw sugar during the period totalled 93,884,000 pounds compared with 108,991,900, and meltings and sales, 102,371,200 pounds against 148,649,800. (10)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER
IN NINE CITIES OF CANADA

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on October 21 amounted to 54,035,256 pounds as compared with 32,867,128 on the corresponding date last year.

Holdings were higher in each of the nine centres except Quebec and Vancouver.

Stocks were as follows by cities, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: Quebec, 3,793,516 (4,852,970) pounds; Montreal, 20,616,690 (11,524,830); Toronto, 10,954,441 (4,071,713); Winnipeg, 10,706,360 (5,174,625); Regina, 1,171,897 (436,403); Saskatoon, 378,170 (190,048); Edmonton, 3,663,492 (2,513,405); Calgary, 1,443,900 (1,392,197); Vancouver, 1,336,790 (2,710,937).

PRODUCTION OF EGGS IN SEPTEMBER

Production of eggs in Canada in September was estimated at 24,889,000 dozen as compared with 25,210,000 in the same month last year, a decrease of 1.3 per cent. Cumulative output for the first nine months of this year totalled 290,828,000 dozen compared with 311,763,000 in the similar period last year. Eggs per 100 layers totalled 1,010 as against 1,035 a year earlier. (11)

FEWER CATTLE, HORSES AND
SHEEP ON CANADIAN FARMS

There were fewer cattle, horses, and sheep on Canadian farms on June 1 this year than last, according to estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Cattle numbers were down to 9,081,300 from 9,475,900, sheep to 2,075,400 from 2,246,800 and horses to 1,796,200 from 1,904,300. The number of hogs, reported in the Bureau's release of October 9, was 5,162,900 compared with 4,463,100.

A decrease in cattle occurred in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan showing the greatest percentage decline. While the overall decrease in the number of cattle in Canada amounted to about 4.2 per cent, milk cow numbers decreased only 2.2 per cent. There were fewer horses in all provinces than at June 1, 1948, and sheep numbers declined in all provinces except Prince Edward Island.

These data do not include Newfoundland, for which the latest official figures are those of the census of October 1, 1945. At that time there were 14,455 milk cows and heifers, 8,849 other cattle, 14,749 horses and ponies, and 85,802 sheep in Newfoundland. (12)

PRODUCTION OF SHORN WOOL
DOWN SEVEN PER CENT IN 1949

Canadian production of shorn wool in 1949 -- Newfoundland excluded -- continued the downtrend shown since 1945, being estimated at 7,759,000 pounds as compared with 8,423,000 in the preceding year, a decrease of seven per cent. The clip was reduced in all provinces and reflects the further decline in numbers of sheep on farms. The average fleece weight for all Canada was 7.4 pounds per fleece as compared with 7.2 pounds in 1948. Production was lower than last year in all provinces. (13)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES DOWN
SIX PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales during the week ending October 15 decreased six per cent as compared with the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures. All regions of the country shared in the decline except Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Sales in Quebec showed a sharp decrease of 18 per cent, followed by the Maritimes and Ontario each down nine per cent, and Manitoba three per cent. In British Columbia, sales were eight per cent higher, Alberta six per cent, and Saskatchewan five per cent.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

Oct. 20, 1949 Oct. 13, 1949 Sept. 22, 1949
(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

(106 Common Stocks)	114.4	114.3	110.0
82 Industrials	108.1	107.9	103.1
16 Utilities	121.5	122.6	120.8
8 Banks	140.7	138.7	135.8

Mining Stock Price Index

(30 Stocks)	90.6	91.0	91.4
25 Golds	74.3	74.2	76.0
5 Base Metals	122.5	123.8	121.1

RADIO RECEIVING SETS HIGHER
IN JULY AND FIRST SEVEN MONTHS

Continuing the gains of previous months this year, number of radio receiving sets sold by producers showed a sharp rise in July. Sales in the month amounted to 42,800 units with a value of \$2,847,000 as compared with 20,300 units sold for \$1,290,600 in the same month last year. During the first seven months of this year, 347,000 units were sold for \$24,710,200 as against 225,700 for \$20,109,500 in the similar period of 1948.

Provincial totals for the month were as follows, those for July last year being in brackets: Newfoundland, 310 (-) units; Maritimes, 2,289 (976); Quebec, 8,152 (3,688); Ontario, 21,456 (11,045); Manitoba, 2,880 (1,223); Saskatchewan, 1,681 (822); Alberta, 2,681 (1,075); British Columbia, 3,307 (1,505). (14)

PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC REFRIGERATORS
AND WASHING MACHINES IN JULY

Production of domestic type electric refrigerators showed a further gain in July over the same month last year, while the output of washing machines were slightly lower. Cumulative totals for the first seven months of this year were well ahead of the same period of 1948.

The month's output of electric refrigerators amounted to 14,109 units as compared with 9,451 a year earlier, raising the seven-month total to 98,885 units from 77,856. There were 18,705 washing machines turned out in July as against 19,676, and in the seven months, 202,825 as against 176,410 a year ago. (15)

OUTPUT OF STEEL INGOTS
LOWER IN SEPTEMBER

Production of steel ingots in September was lower than in the corresponding month last year for the third successive month. Gains in earlier months of the year, however, resulted in a slight rise in the cumulative total for the first nine months over the similar period of 1948. The month's production amounted to 232,900 tons as compared with 241,400 in the preceding month and 248,600 in September last year. In the nine months the total was 2,325,300 tons as against 2,278,100 tons a year ago.

On a daily basis, production in September was 7,763 tons as against 7,788 in August and 8,288 in September, 1948. The daily average for the nine months was 8,517 tons as compared with 8,314 a year ago. (16)

PRODUCTION OF COPPER AND NICKEL IN AUGUST Canadian production of new primary copper was maintained at a high level in August, total for the month rising to 22,800 tons as compared with 21,500 in July and 18,100 in the same month last year. During the first eight months of this year, 172,900 tons were produced as against 159,700 in the similar period last year.

Output of nickel in August fell to the lowest monthly total since February, 1947, amounting to 8,900 tons compared with 9,600 in the preceding month and 9,000 a year ago. In the cumulative period, production decreased slightly to 85,500 tons from 85,700 in the same months last year. Output for February, 1947 was 8,600 tons. (17)

PRODUCTION OF COKE IN AUGUST Production of coke in Canada in August amounted to 307,000 tons as compared with 296,000 in the preceding month and 339,000 in the same month last year. Output for the first eight months of this year was 2,630,000 tons as against 2,586,000 in the similar period of 1948.

Producers' stocks of oven and retort coke, excluding breeze, at the end of August amounted to 275,000 tons, of which 103,000 tons were located in the eastern provinces, 166,000 tons in Ontario and 6,000 tons in the western provinces. Stocks of breeze totalled 116,000 tons, the eastern provinces accounting for 21,000 tons, Ontario for 89,000 tons, and the western provinces for 7,000 tons. (18)

PRODUCTION OF REFINED PETROLEUM UP SHARPLY IN MAY Canadian output of refined petroleum products showed a marked increase of almost 22 per cent in May over the corresponding month last year, exceeding the monthly average increase in the first five months of the year by a considerable margin. The month's production amounted to 8,713,000 barrels as compared with 7,162,200 in May last year, the five-month total standing at 32,427,800 barrels as against 29,111,600 in the like period of 1948.

During the month, 9,543,000 barrels of crude petroleum were received at refineries as compared with 7,916,000 a year earlier, raising the cumulative total for the five-month period to 36,293,000 barrels from 31,587,000. Inventories of crude at the end of the month amounted to 6,461,000 barrels as compared with 4,086,000 on the corresponding date last year. (19)

BIRTHS AND DEATHS HIGHER; MARRIAGES LOWER IN JULY There were more births and deaths but fewer marriages in Canada in July than in the same month last year. Births in the month numbered 30,415 as compared with 29,317. Lower totals were recorded for six provinces, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia showing increases. During the first seven months of this year, births advanced one per cent, totalling 200,314 as against 198,304 in the similar period of 1948.

Marriages during July numbered 14,782 compared with 15,179 a year ago, totals for all areas being lower except the Prairie Provinces. In the cumulative period, marriages amounted to 59,492 against 64,857 in the same months last year, a decrease of eight per cent.

Deaths in the month numbered 9,917 as against 9,091. The number was lower than last year in five provinces, and higher in four, the exceptions being Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia. During the seven-month period, deaths fell 0.7 per cent, amounting to 70,500 compared with 71,000 in 1948. (20)

PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER
UP FIVE PER CENT IN JULY

Production of sawn lumber east of the Rockies in July is estimated at 218,531,000 feet board measure, up five per cent over the 208,841,000 produced in July last year.

During the first seven months of this year, output advanced 13 per cent, amounting to 1,043,116,000 feet board measure as against 922,872,000 in the similar period of 1948. All regions of the country participated in the rise in the month with the exceptions of Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, while in the cumulative period, Saskatchewan and Alberta were lower. (21)

PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC SALES
OF ASPHALT FLOOR TILES

Production and domestic sales of asphalt floor tiles were at higher levels in September, the month's output amounting to 1,555,200 square feet as compared

with 1,528,500 in August and 1,504,600 in the same month last year. During the first nine months of this year, 11,979,600 square feet were produced as against 14,727,600 in the similar period of 1948. Domestic sales in September totalled 1,471,800 square feet compared with 1,470,800 in August and 1,429,200 a year ago. In the cumulative period, sales amounted to 12,474,400 square feet against 12,708,600 in the same months last year. (Mem. 1)

CIVIL AVIATION IN MAY

Revenues of Canadian air carriers rose in May to \$3,411,200 from \$2,710,100 in the corresponding month last year, or by 26 per cent. Revenues of all scheduled services improved, passenger receipts rising to \$2,178,000 from \$1,582,600, mail to \$582,700 from \$494,000, and freight and excess baggage to \$167,600 from \$135,900. Operating expenses also increased considerably to \$3,323,600 compared with \$2,622,700 in May, 1948, a rise of nearly \$701,000, practically equalling the betterment in revenues.

All expense accounts were heavier in the month. Aircraft operation and maintenance required \$2,004,500 in May against \$1,616,000, while ground account took \$823,700 compared with \$663,800 one year earlier. Net operating revenues at \$87,600 were little changed from the \$87,400 in May last year. Scheduled carriers reported earnings of \$3,020,100 against \$2,313,100 last year, and expenses at \$2,913,600 as compared with \$2,188,300. (22)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ending October 15 totalled 77,619 cars as against 84,000 in the corresponding week last year, showing a decrease of 7.6 per cent. From the first of the year to mid-October, 3,065,431 cars were loaded in Canada compared with 3,170,061 in the same period of 1948, the decline being confined to the eastern division. (23)

NEW RECORDS ESTABLISHED BY
PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRY IN 1948

The pulp and paper industry of Canada surpassed in 1948 the many records it had established the previous year, recording the ninth consecutive year of increase. The gross factory value of the products of the industry reached \$825,858,000 in 1948, showing an advance of 16.8 per cent over the preceding year's total of \$706,972,000, while the net value of products, at \$412,700,000, was 16.9 per cent higher.

The industry paid out \$151,663,000 in the form of salaries and wages to 51,924 employees compared with \$129,478,000 paid to 49,946 employees in the preceding year. Materials and supplies valued at \$349,244,000 were used as against \$295,444,000. The cost of purchased fuel was \$41,366,000 against \$31,834,000, and purchased electricity totalled \$22,477,000 against \$23,609,000. (24)

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. Summary of Domestic Exports, September (10 cents).
2. Advance Statement on Employment and Weekly Earnings, September 1 (10 cents).
3. Retail Trade, August (10 cents).
4. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings, August 1 (25 cents).
5. Inventories and Shipments by Manufacturing Industries, August (25 cents).
6. Production of Leather Footwear, August (10 cents).
7. Price Index Numbers of Commodities and Services Used by Farmers, August, 1949 (10 cents).
8. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
9. Monthly Dairy Review of Canada, September (25 cents).
10. Sugar Situation in Canada, Four Weeks Ended August 31 (10 cents).
11. Monthly Poultry Estimates, September (10 cents).
12. Live Stock Survey -- Cattle, Horses and Sheep -- June 1 (10 cents).
13. Shorn Wool Production, 1949 (10 cents).
14. Radio Receiving Sets, July (25 cents).
15. Domestic Washing Machines and Electric Refrigerators, July (10 cents).
16. Monthly Report on Steel Ingots, September (10 cents).
17. Copper and Nickel Production, August (10 cents).
18. Coal and Coke Statistics, August (25 cents).
19. Refined Petroleum Products in Canada, May (25 cents).
20. Births, Marriages and Deaths, July (10 cents).
21. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies,
22. Civil Aviation, May (10 cents).
23. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
24. Pulp and Paper Industry in Canada, 1948 (30 cents).
25. Primary Iron and Steel, July (25 cents).
26. Detailed Report on Imports Entered for Consumption, August (25 cents).
27. Peat Industry, 1948 (25 cents).
28. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings, September (10 cents).
29. Sugar Situation in Canada, July (10 cents).

Memoranda

1. Asphalt Floor Tiles, September (10 cents).
 2. Pack of Blueberries, 1949 (10 cents).
 3. Pack of Beans, Green or Wax, 1949 (10 cents).
 4. Drug Store Chains, 1948 (25 cents).
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