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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA HAD AN OVERALL FAVOURABLE TRADE BALANCE of \$37,400,000 in October, up from \$9,400,000 in September and the monthly average of \$10,300,000 in the first nine months of this year.

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CANADIAN IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION in October were valued at \$234,300,000, up moderately in Canadian dollar value from \$221,600,000 in September and also moderately below the value of \$243,400,000 for October last year.

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CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT in October numbered 77,091, up over the September figure of 59,080, and above the 43,620 in October last year.

. . .

AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES of hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading manufacturing establishments reached a record figure of \$42.40 at October 1 as compared with \$41.72 at the beginning of September and \$40.63 on the same date last year.

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OUTPUT OF ELECTRIC ENERGY by central electric stations in October reached a new peak for the month at 3,975,103,000 kilowatt hours, being up three per cent over October 1947, five per cent over the reduced output of October last year, and rising six per cent over September this year.

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NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS COMPLETED in the first nine months of this year was 62,998, up 25 per cent over the same period of 1948, while the number started fell nearly five per cent to 67,862 units.

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FIRM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS moved downward in October for the fourth successive month, the all-Canada index being estimated at 246.8 as compared with 249.7 in September and 260.1 in October last year.

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GROSS VALUE OF THE PRINCIPAL FIELD CROPS produced on Canadian farms is currently estimated at \$1,427,000,000, down 16 per cent from last year's record value of \$1,696,000,000. This is also below the 1947 value of \$1,531,000,000, but slightly above the value of \$1,424,417,000 in 1946. Anticipated participation payments on western wheat, oats and barley, however, will place this year's crop value at a higher level than the current estimate.

OCTOBER TRADE BALANCE UP FROM
SEPTEMBER, DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

Canada had an overall favourable trade balance of \$37,400,000 in October, up from \$9,400,000 in September and the monthly average of \$10,300,000 in the first nine months this year. This compares with the exceptional credit balance of \$66,000,000 for October last year and the debit balance of \$800,000 two years ago. For the 10 months ending October, the cumulative credit balance was \$130,500,000 as against \$327,600,000 for the corresponding 1948 period and \$134,200,000 for January-October, 1947.

Canadian imports and exports both moved upward in October from September levels. This upward movement is in keeping with the usual seasonal trend, however it may have been affected by devaluation of currencies. Exports in the month showed a greater gain over September than imports, the increased credit balance being the result. On the other hand, both imports and exports were below last year's October levels, exports in this case showing the greater decrease from the record high level reached in the latter months of last year.

In the month's trade with the United States, Canada had a debit balance of \$17,800,000, down from \$42,600,000 in September and the smallest for any month this year, but above last year's October debit of \$9,600,000. For the 10 months ending October, the debit balance with the United States aggregated \$449,500,000 as compared with \$275,200,000 last year and \$804,500,000 in 1947.

Continuing the downtrend recorded for the two preceding months, Canadian imports from the United Kingdom in October were lower in Canadian dollar value than a year earlier, while exports to the United Kingdom were higher. Canada's credit balance with the United Kingdom as a result increased to \$53,300,000 as against \$36,500,000 in October last year, but for the 10 months was only slightly higher than for the corresponding period in 1948 at \$341,700,000 as against \$333,600,000.

Canadian sales to all other countries -- Commonwealth and foreign -- exceeded purchases in October by \$1,900,000 as compared with \$39,100,000 a year ago, and in the 10 months by \$238,300,000 as against \$266,200,000. During the latter period the export surplus with the other Commonwealth countries was appreciably higher than in the previous year, while the surplus with other foreign countries receded.

Non-monetary gold rose in the month to \$13,200,000 compared with \$9,600,000 a year earlier, and for the 10 months totalled \$111,000,000 compared with \$97,100,000. (1)

IMPORT TRADE IN OCTOBER

Canadian imports for consumption in October were valued at \$234,300,000, up moderately in Canadian dollar value from \$221,600,000 in September and also moderately below the value of \$243,400,000 for October last year. The October total was the second this year to drop below the corresponding month last year, the first decline recorded being for September. The aggregate value of imports for the 10 months ended October was \$2,308,200,000 compared with \$2,166,800,000 for the like period last year.

Imports were higher in value in the month than a year earlier from the United States, the British West Indies and the Oceania group of Commonwealth countries, and were lower from the United Kingdom, Commonwealth countries in Africa and Asia, Latin America and European countries as a whole. These trends for the month were similar to those for the 10 months, except in the cases of the United Kingdom and continental Europe for which cumulative totals were appreciably higher.

Import values were higher in the month than in October last year for six of the nine main commodity groups as compared with seven of the nine in the 10 months, the iron and products group being down for the month although higher for the 10 months. Fibres and textiles and the non-metallic minerals group were lower both in the month and 10 months.

October purchases from the United States increased in Canadian dollar value to \$167,600,000 compared with \$158,000,000 in September and \$160,200,000 in October last year. But the volume would appear to have been slightly less than in September as the increase in value was less than the premium on the United States dollar cost. Total imports for the 10 months rose to \$1,638,200,000 as compared with \$1,482,900,000 last year.

Imports from the United Kingdom had a lower Canadian dollar value in October -- the second time this year -- declining to \$19,500,000 from \$29,700,000 a year ago, the aggregate for the year remaining above last year at \$260,200,000 as compared with \$246,500,000. But the volume of imports from the United Kingdom remained high in October and appears to have been only moderately lower than the high levels earlier in the year and considerably higher than in September. Much of the reduction in the Canadian dollar value from levels earlier in the year may be attributed to the reduced exchange value of the pound in terms of Canadian dollars.

Canada's purchases from the British West Indies, which have been rising for some months, increased in the month to \$7,858,000 from \$5,597,000 in October, 1948, bringing the total for the year to date to \$54,292,000 compared with \$37,188,000 last year. Imports from the Oceania group of Commonwealth countries rose slightly to \$5,597,000 from \$5,406,000, the 10-month total being moderately up at \$36,100,000 compared with \$34,700,000 and all of the former and most of the latter increase being due to increased imports from Australia.

In contrast with those gains, imports from Commonwealth countries in Africa declined in the month to \$1,328,000 from \$1,960,000 and in the 10 months to \$16,080,000 from \$26,112,000, and from those in Asia to \$4,497,000 from \$8,465,000 in the month and to \$51,373,000 from \$62,331,000. Reduced purchases from India and British Malaya accounted for most of the decrease in the aggregate for countries in Asia, and lower figures for the Gold Coast, Nigeria and British East Africa for the cumulative drop in the former.

Merchandise entered from Latin America was valued at \$17,700,000 as against \$20,500,000 in October last year, the cumulative total to date dropping to \$152,960,000 as compared with \$187,800,000 for the first 10 months of 1948. Largest decreases in the month were in imports from Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Venezuela, while substantial increases were recorded for Brazil, Colombia and Mexico. Goods received from European countries in the month had a value of \$6,760,000 compared with \$7,508,000, major decreases in Canadian dollar value being for France and the Netherlands and the major gain for Switzerland; for the 10 months the total was substantially higher at \$70,257,000 compared with \$50,828,000. From the remaining foreign countries, imports were at practically the same values in the month and 10 months as in 1948.

From the commodity angle, a feature of the month's trade was a decline to \$66,500,000 from \$69,800,000 in imports in the iron group, which has shown almost uninterrupted gains this year over 1948. Largest drop among major items in this group was for rolling-mill products, down from \$7,390,000 to \$4,144,000, practically equivalent to the total group decline. For the 10 months, total import value for the group was at the high level of \$770,100,000 compared with \$644,800,000. For several months the total value of this group has been well below the peak levels reached earlier in the year.

Reduced imports of coal, crude petroleum and petroleum products accounted for another drop in October in the non-metallic minerals group at \$47,600,000 from \$62,700,000 a year ago, widening the gap in the cumulative total to \$442,100,000 for the 10 months as against \$510,800,000. Fibres and textiles fell off in the month to \$23,500,000 compared with \$30,600,000, lowering the cumulative total below last year at \$283,100,000 as against \$289,800,000.

Largest October increase was shown by the agricultural and vegetable products group, which rose to \$38,000,000 from \$32,500,000, with fruits showing the largest gain. Total for the 10 months reached \$299,200,000 compared with \$279,100,000. The non-ferrous metals group advanced to \$17,200,000 in the month from \$14,700,000, electrical apparatus showing the chief gain; total for the 10 months rising to \$141,300,000 as against \$126,700,000. Imports in the chemicals group maintained the upward trend of previous months, increasing to \$12,200,000 as against \$10,800,000 and reaching \$105,800,000 in the 10 months compared with \$97,500,000.

With Canadian tourist purchases, miscellaneous consumer goods and scientific equipment among the major increases as in September, the miscellaneous group again increased in October to \$14,200,000 compared with \$9,700,000 a year ago, rising to \$132,900,000 in the 10 months compared with \$95,200,000. (2)

LITTLE CHANGE IN INDUSTRIAL
EMPLOYMENT; PAYROLLS HIGHER

Little change was shown in the general level of employment in the major industrial groups at the beginning of October as compared with the preceding month, the index number, on the base 1926=100, receding slightly to 202.0 as compared with 202.1. As compared with October 1 last year, the index was down 0.6 per cent.

The expenditures in weekly salaries and wages were higher by 0.7 per cent than the payrolls at September 1, and the average weekly earnings of the workers on the staffs of the reporting employers amounted to \$43.60 at October 1 -- the highest in the record of over nine years -- as compared with \$43.27 at September 1, and \$41.80 on October 1 last year.

On the whole, there were losses in employment in manufacturing, mining, communications, construction and maintenance, and hotels and restaurants, with increases in employment as compared with September 1 in logging, transportation and trade.

Geographically, industrial activity was generally at a higher level at October 1 than at September 1 in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Curtailment was reported by leading firms in Nova Scotia, Alberta and British Columbia, while little change on the whole was noted in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. (3)

MAN-HOURS AND HOURLY EARNINGS Average weekly wages of hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading manufacturing establishments reached a record figure of \$42.40 at October 1, as compared with \$41.72 at the beginning of September and \$40.68 on the same date last year. The average weekly wages in durable manufactured goods was \$46.35 as against \$45.31 at September 1, and \$44.43 a year earlier, while in the non-durable goods group the average was \$38.72 compared with \$38.15 at September 1, and \$36.98 at October 1, 1948.

On an hourly basis, earnings during the week ended October 1 showed a further rise to 99.3 cents -- a new high -- compared with 98.4 cents at September 1, and 94.6 cents a year ago. The average hourly rate in durable manufactured goods was up to 107.8 cents from 106.6 cents at September 1, and 102.6 cents at October 1 last year, and in the non-durable group the average rose to 91.1 cents from 90.4 cents at September 1, and 86.6 cents last year.

The average work-week was 42.7 hours as against 42.4 at September 1 and 43.0 last year. Employees in durable manufactured goods plants averaged 43.0 hours compared with 42.5 hours at September 1, and 43.3 hours at October 1 last year, while the average in non-durable goods was 42.5 hours as compared with 42.2 a month earlier, and 42.7 last year. (4)

CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS HIGHER IN OCTOBER Claims for unemployment insurance benefits in October numbered 77,091, up over the September figure of 59,080, and above the 43,620 in October last year. Initial and renewal claims, representing mainly new cases of recorded unemployment among insured persons, totalled 69,349 in October against 51,935 in September and 38,104 a year ago.

As compared with October last year, increased claims were recorded in all provinces. Quebec's total was up from 14,208 to 25,890, Ontario from 12,379 to 23,475, New Brunswick from 7,385 to 11,592, Nova Scotia from 3,558 to 4,306, New Brunswick from 1,840 to 3,697, Manitoba from 1,768 to 3,390, Alberta from 1,395 to 2,787, Saskatchewan from 936 to 1,698, and Prince Edward Island from 151 to 203.

In October, benefit payments amounted to \$3,845,541 for 1,675,017 compensated unemployed days as against \$3,671,773 for 1,611,461 days in September and \$1,763,559 for 878,430 days in October last year. (5)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>Dec. 8, 1949</u>	<u>Dec. 1, 1949</u>	<u>Nov. 10, 1949</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks)	118.4	117.4	118.3
82 Industrials	112.9	112.2	113.0
16 Utilities	123.1	120.7	121.9
8 Banks	140.8	140.6	141.6
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	92.8	92.1	95.0
25 Golds	73.5	74.4	76.4
5 Base Metals	130.9	127.1	131.5

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES
FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES

Six of the eight regional city cost-of-living indexes moved down during October, while two registered increases. Declines in Foods were mainly responsible for the decreases, although clothing prices were lower at most centres. Homefurnishings and services changed narrowly while the miscellaneous item indexes were steady. Fuel and light indexes were generally higher where United States coal was used, while easier prices for domestic coal lowered indexes at other centres. Rentals, which are based on quarterly surveys, remained unchanged for this month.

The composite city cost-of-living index for Saint John fell 1.1 points to 157.9 between October 1 and November 1, Montreal 1.1 to 164.3, Halifax 0.8 to 154.2, Toronto 0.7 to 157.2, Winnipeg 0.5 to 155.7, Vancouver 0.5 to 162.3, Saskatoon 0.4 to 162.8, and Edmonton 0.3 to 157.1. During the same period, the Dominion index declined 0.5 to 160.4.

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 the actual level of living costs. Indexes shown in the table do not yet include data covering Newfoundland.

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

	<u>November 1, 1948</u>	<u>October 1, 1949</u>	<u>November 1, 1949</u>
	(August 1939=100)		
Halifax	152.0	155.0	154.2
Saint John	156.2	159.0	157.9
Montreal	162.5	165.4	164.3
Toronto	155.2	157.9	157.2
Winnipeg	153.0	156.2	155.7
Saskatoon	162.3	162.4	162.8
Edmonton	154.2	156.8	157.1
Vancouver	161.1	162.8	162.3
Dominion	158.3	160.9	160.4

FARM PRICES IN OCTOBER BELOW
SEPTEMBER AND YEAR EARLIER

Farm prices of agricultural products moved downward in October for the fourth successive month, according to index numbers compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The month's decrease brought the index to the lowest level since April last year.

The Bureau's all-Canada index, on the base 1935-39=100, is tentatively estimated at 246.8 as compared with 249.7 in September and 260.1 for October last year. The index stood at 242.6 in April, 1948. The estimated level for October is also below the annual average of 252.6 for 1948 but substantially above the average of 212.5 for 1947.

As compared with October last year, prices were lower for grains, livestock, dairy products, poultry and eggs, and higher for potatoes. Compared with the preceding month, they were lower for livestock, potatoes, poultry and eggs and slightly higher for dairy products.

Indexes were lower in all provinces in October in comparison with September this year and October last year, with the exception of Nova Scotia. Indexes were as follows by provinces, those for October last year being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 195.5 (195.7); Nova Scotia, 209.7 (206.9); New Brunswick, 217.6 (222.1); Quebec, 257.0 (271.4); Ontario, 257.0 (274.5); Manitoba, 242.8 (259.1); Saskatchewan, 233.8 (242.5); Alberta, 251.0 (266.1); and British Columbia, 245.7 (252.0). (6)

GROSS VALUE OF 1949 FIELD CROPS
DOWN 16 PER CENT FROM 1948

Gross value of the principal field crops produced on Canadian farms is currently estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at \$1,427,000,000, down 16 per cent from last year's record value of \$1,696,000,000. This is also below the 1947 value of \$1,531,000,000, but slightly above the value of \$1,424,417,000 in 1946, the first post-war year. Anticipated participation payments on western wheat, oats and barley, however, will place this year's crop value at a higher level than the current estimate.

Reduction in the value of this year's field crops from the 1948 level is due to the joint effect of lower prices and reduced production of most crops. Only for fodder crops and field roots (turnips, mangels, etc.) are average farm prices for all Canada for the first four months of this crop year above the 1948-49 average, although in some provinces prices for certain other crops are higher than last year. Declines in prices and production of wheat, oats, barley, rye and flax were alone responsible for a total drop in value from 1948 of \$237,000,000. By individual grains the decreases are roughly: wheat, \$56,000,000; oats, \$53,000,000; barley, \$47,000,000; rye, \$21,000,000; and flaxseed, \$60,000,000. Participation payments on the first three grains may be expected to reduce these differences.

The 1949 wheat crop is valued at \$566,600,000 dollars, down nine per cent from last year. While the average price of 1949 wheat is four cents per bushel less than in 1948 (due largely to lower grades in the west and cheaper wheat in Ontario) most of the decreased value is attributable to the decrease of 25,900,000 bushels in production. The values of the oats, barley, rye and flaxseed crops are down considerably, reflecting both production and price declines, the former being the more important factor. The percentage reductions in rye and flaxseed production are particularly marked. Production of dry peas is down sharply with a corresponding drop in value. A slight increase in production of dry beans occurred but prices are lower and the farm value of the crop is down over half a million dollars. The price of soy beans has held up well and with increased production this year the value of this crop advanced nearly \$2,000,000. A larger 1949 crop of corn for husking was sufficient to offset a decline in price and total value of this crop increased slightly. With the 1949 potato crop a little smaller than in 1948 and farm prices averaging somewhat lower this season, the gross farm value of Canada's 1949 potato production is placed nearly \$5,000,000 below that of 1948.

Higher prices for hay and clover this year have been insufficient to compensate for sharply decreased production and value of these crops is down nearly \$25,000,000. Gross values of buckwheat, mixed grains, field roots, and grain hay are also lower. Reflecting higher prices, the farm value of the 1949 alfalfa crop is slightly in excess of that of 1948, while the value of fodder corn is up \$6,000,000 -- due to increases in both price and production. The sugar beet prices shown for 1949 indicate initial payments only (except for Ontario where an estimate of total price and value has been made) and significant upward revisions in the value of this crop will be required as soon as the extent of the final payments becomes known.

Over-all increases in gross value of 1949 field crop production relative to 1948 have been recorded in only two provinces, Prince Edward Island (up seven per cent) and British Columbia (up two per cent). Declines were registered in all other provinces, ranging from three per cent in Quebec to 30 per cent in Alberta.

The following table shows values of field crop production by provinces in 1949 and 1948 in thousand dollars, and value and percentage changes:

Province	Total Values		Increase (+) or Decrease (-)	
	1948	1949	Thousand Dollars	Per cent
Prince Edward Island	23,484	25,153	+ 1,669	+ 7
Nova Scotia	25,260	21,653	- 3,607	- 14
New Brunswick	37,921	33,538	- 4,383	- 12
Quebec	195,723	189,598	- 6,125	- 3
Ontario	378,269	340,990	- 37,279	- 10
Manitoba	223,736	172,142	- 51,594	- 23
Saskatchewan	438,552	370,527	- 68,025	- 16
Alberta	339,712	230,200	- 109,512	- 30
British Columbia	33,361	34,117	+ 756	+ 2
Canada	1,696,018	1,426,918	- 269,100	- 16

The following table shows a comparison of the gross value of field crop production from 1930 to date. Values up to 1948 included the effects of participation payments for wheat and equalization and adjustment payments for oats, barley and flax. Upward revisions will be made in the 1949 figures when the extent of such payments relative to this year's crop become known. (7)

Gross Value of Canadian Field Crop Production, 1930-1949

	Thousand Dollars		Thousand Dollars
1930	662,041	1940	704,299
1931	432,199	1941	704,761
1932	452,527	1942	1,221,942
1933	453,598	1943	1,189,229
1934	549,080	1944	1,386,892
1935	511,873	1945	1,270,947
1936	612,300	1946	1,424,417
1937	556,222	1947	1,531,046
1938	550,069	1948	1,696,018
1939	685,839	1949	1,426,918

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on December 1 amounted to 166,609,500 bushels compared with 169,979,200 on November 24 and 177,408,600 on the corresponding date last year.

Farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 4,421,000 bushels of wheat during the week ending December 1 as compared with 3,534,900 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 218,223,000 bushels as against 219,150,800 in the like period of the preceding crop year.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending December 1 totalled 4,805,500 bushels as compared with 3,553,000 in the same week last year, and in the cumulative period, 70,993,500 bushels compared with 48,040,400. (8)

FEED SITUATION IN CANADA New supplies of feed grains this year are substantially lower than last year, due to the reduced crops of oats, barley, and mixed grains, particularly in the western provinces which produce the greater part of these grains. At the same time there was a fair carry-over of feed grains both on farms and in commercial positions at the beginning of the present crop year and serious feed deficits are not expected to occur as a result of this year's small crop.

On an all-Canada basis the net supplies of feed grains available per grain-consuming animal unit (after allowing for estimated reports, carry-over stocks, seed and other uses) stand at 0.58 tons, about 16 per cent below the 1948-49 level of 0.69 tons. This decline reflects not only the relatively small coarse grain crop but also an increase in grain-consuming animal units, which are estimated at 16,297,000 as compared with 16,056,000 a year earlier.

With reduced crops of hay, clover and alfalfa, shortages of fodder may be anticipated in local areas. However, good stocks of fodder were carried over from 1948 in some parts of the country and these will alleviate the situation to some extent. Production of millfeeds in 1948-49 amounted to 693,000 tons, a reduction of 174,000 tons from the output of the preceding year. This decreased production is attributable to the reduced quantity of wheat milled for the requirements of the flour trade.

While production high protein feeds in 1949 has been only a little higher than in 1948, the importation of quantities of soy bean oil cake and meal has resulted in the net supply of high protein feeds available to Canadian feeders being up some 12 per cent from last year. Total supplies available this year are estimated at 373,000 tons as against 334,000 for 1948. (9)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN NINE CITIES OF CANADA Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on December 9 amounted to 45,131,000 pounds as compared with 27,002,000 on the corresponding date last year. Increased holdings were recorded for each of the nine centres with the exceptions of Quebec and Vancouver.

Stocks were as follows by cities on December 9, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 2,643 (3,391) pounds; Montreal, 15,802 (9,916); Toronto, 9,723 (4,813); Winnipeg, 9,718 (3,739); Regina, 927 (316); Saskatoon, 282 (234); Edmonton, 2,971 (1,877); Calgary, 1,419 (931); Vancouver, 1,646 (1,785).

STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS Stocks of creamery butter on December 1 amounted to 67,296,000 pounds as compared with 75,294,000 on November 1 and 46,715,000 on the corresponding date last year. Cheese stocks were higher in both comparisons, amounting to 47,171,000 pounds compared with 46,168,000 on November 1 and 37,537,000 a year ago.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on December 1 totalled 41,853,000 pounds as against 53,549,000 at the beginning of November and 18,121,000 on the same date last year, while the holdings of skim milk powder were 7,639,000 pounds compared with 12,893,000 on November 1 and 7,444,000 a year earlier.

November 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, amounted to 149,000 cases compared with 165,000 on November 1 and 270,000 on December 1 last year. Holdings of poultry meat increased to 22,424,000 pounds from 16,651,000 on November 1 and 17,058,000 a year ago. (10)

PRODUCTION OF BUTTER AND CHEESE IN NOVEMBER

Production of creamery butter in November decreased 3.2 per cent from last year's corresponding total. During the first 11 months of this year, there was a decline of 1.8 per cent in the all-Canada total. Output in November amounted to 15,904,000 pounds as compared with 16,434,000 in the same month last year, while in the 11 months 267,704,000 pounds were produced as against 272,486,000 in the similar period of 1948.

Cheddar cheese production rose sharply in November, amounting to 5,510,000 pounds compared with 2,611,000 a year ago, raising the cumulative total for the 11 months to 107,239,000 pounds from 85,105,000 in 1948, or by 26 per cent.

The month's output of concentrated milk products moved down 11.9 per cent, totalling 20,711,000 pounds compared with 23,504,000 a year earlier. In the cumulative period, production aggregated 353,758,000 pounds as against 377,010,000 in the like 1948 period, a decrease of 6.2 per cent. (11)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF MARGARINE

Production of margarine in November amounted to 7,199,000 pounds as compared with 6,779,000 in October and 6,896,000 in September. During the first 11 months of this year, 65,749,000 pounds were produced. Stocks of margarine at the beginning of December totalled 1,703,000 pounds as compared with the revised figure of 2,282,000 on November 1.

Holdings were as follows by regions, totals for November 1 being in brackets (thousands omitted): Maritimes, including Newfoundland, 111 (197) pounds; Ontario, 1,018 (1,061); Manitoba, 153 (341); Saskatchewan, 62 (119); Alberta, 162 (207); British Columbia, 192 (357). (Mem. 1)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF PROCESSED CHEESE

Production of processed cheese in November amounted to 3,660,000 pounds as compared with 2,860,000 in the preceding month. Stocks of this product held by manufacturers on December 1 totalled 995,000 pounds as compared with 874,000 on November 1.

STOCKS OF MEAT AND LARD ON DECEMBER 1

Stocks of meat, held by packers, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses amounted to 75,070,000 pounds on December 1 as compared with 66,929,000 on November 1 and 84,220,000 in the corresponding month last year.

Holdings of frozen meat totalled 33,468,000 pounds compared with 26,693,000 on November 1 and 46,255,000 a year ago. Stocks of fresh meat declined to 19,328,000 pounds from 20,854,000 at the beginning of November and 19,560,000 on December 1 last year, while cured meat increased to 22,274,000 pounds from 19,382,000 on November 1 and 18,405,000 a year earlier.

Lard stocks advanced to 2,754,000 pounds on December 1 from 2,016,000 on November 1 and 1,826,000 in the same month last year. (12)

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND
VEGETABLES ON DECEMBER 1

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, held in cold and common storage, were lower on December 1, amounting to 30,778,000 pounds as compared with 33,099,000 on November 1 and 38,270,000 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks of vegetables, frozen and in brine, declined to 12,198,000 pounds from 13,617,000 on November 1, but were above last year's total of 11,386,000.

Stocks of Canadian potatoes were up from 534,801 tons a year ago to 686,582, beets from 2,529 tons to 2,589, cabbages from 7,990 tons to 8,271, parsnips from 1,683 tons to 2,298, and celery from 197,735 crates to 351,015. Stocks of onions decreased from 22,779 tons to 16,778, and carrots from 17,580 tons to 13,566. (13)

DWELLINGS COMPLETED UP 25 PER CENT IN NINE
MONTHS OF THIS YEAR; STARTS DOWN FIVE PER CENT

The number of dwelling units completed in the first nine months of this year was up 25 per cent over the same period of 1948, while the number started fell off nearly five per cent, leaving the number under construction at the end of September slightly less than four per cent below the same date a year ago, according to the monthly estimate covering September by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Total number of units completed in the nine months is estimated at 62,998 as against 50,238 in the same period of 1948, an increase of 12,760. In September 7,563 units were completed, up nearly 900 over the 6,667 last year. Starts in September totalled 10,035, down moderately from 10,651 last year, and for the nine months were 3,254 below last year at 67,862 compared with 71,116.

At the end of September this year, the number of dwelling units under construction was estimated at 61,115, showing a small decline from last year's estimate of 63,656 for unfinished dwellings at the same time.

Completions were higher in the first nine months of this year in all provinces except British Columbia, Ontario leading with 22,596 as compared with 17,888, followed by Quebec with 16,536 compared with 13,805. The total for British Columbia was 7,658 compared with 7,870, Alberta 6,834 compared with 3,160, Manitoba 3,229 compared with 3,020, Saskatchewan 2,454 compared with 1,761, Nova Scotia 2,230 compared with 1,443, New Brunswick 1,252 compared with 1,148, and Prince Edward Island 209 compared with 143.

An average of 5.9 months was required to build a house completed in September this year as compared with last year's figure of 5.4 months. The percentage of dwelling units built for rental purposes showed no change between September this year than last, both being approximately 28 per cent. (14)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
UP THREE PER CENT IN MONTH

Department store sales advanced three per cent in November as compared with the same month last year, according to preliminary figures. All provinces shared in the month's rise with the exceptions of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Sales in the Maritime Provinces rose 12 per cent, Ontario 10 per cent, Quebec four per cent, and Manitoba one per cent, while in Saskatchewan and Alberta sales each declined eight per cent, and British Columbia four per cent.

During the week ending December 3, sales increased eight per cent over the corresponding week last year. All provinces participated in the rise. Sales in Saskatchewan advanced 15 per cent, Manitoba 12 per cent, Ontario and British Columbia each 10 per cent, the Maritime Provinces eight per cent, Saskatchewan five per cent, Alberta three per cent, and Quebec two per cent.

OUTPUT OF CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS HIGHER IN OCTOBER

All-Canada output of electric energy by central electric stations in October reached a new peak for the month, being up nearly three per cent over October 1947, five per cent over the reduced output of October last year and rising six per cent over September this year. Production for the first 10 months of this year was four per cent higher than in the similar period last year. All provinces shared in the rise in the month over last year except New Brunswick, while in the cumulative period all areas advanced.

The month's output amounted to 3,975,103,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 3,753,055,000 in September and 3,774,021,000 in October last year and 3,862,696,000 in October, 1947. During the 10 months ending October, 38,718,887,000 kilowatt hours were produced as against 37,239,846,000 in the same months last year.

Consumption of primary power increased in October to 3,627,605,000 kilowatt hours from 3,537,516,000 a year earlier, and in the cumulative period to 34,726,-278,000 kilowatt hours against 33,804,022,000 in 1948. Exports to the United States in October declined to 119,623,000 kilowatt hours from 126,217,000, bringing the total for the 10 months to 1,556,886,000 kilowatt hours against 1,478,552,000.

October production was as follows by provinces, totals for October last year being in brackets (figures in thousands): Prince Edward Island, 1,679 (1,461) kilowatt hours; Nova Scotia, 61,699 (59,074); New Brunswick, 52,426 (54,848); Quebec, 2,219,256 (2,116,015); Ontario, 973,024 (937,071); Manitoba, 185,732 (165,525); Saskatchewan, 71,443 (70,673); Alberta, 66,918 (63,275); British Columbia, 342,926 (306,079). (15)

PRODUCTION OF SILVER, LEAD AND ZINC IN SEPTEMBER

Canadian production of silver and lead both were at lower levels in September than in the corresponding month last year, while the output of zinc continued the gains over 1948. During the first nine months of this year, silver and zinc production was higher and lead lower.

The month's output of primary silver amounted to 1,144,200 fine ounces as compared with 1,195,800 in the preceding month and 1,360,200 in September last year. In the cumulative period, 12,260,800 fine ounces were produced as against 12,140,700 in the similar period last year.

Production of primary lead increased slightly to 12,800 tons compared with 12,700 in August, but was lower than last year's corresponding total of 15,300 tons. Output for the nine months ending September fell to 111,300 tons as against 121,300 in the same months last year.

Primary zinc production totalled 22,900 tons as compared with 26,000 in August and 19,800 in September last year, bringing output for the nine months to 212,500 tons against 172,900 in 1948. (16)

PRODUCTION OF COPPER AND NICKEL IN SEPTEMBER

Production of new primary copper was maintained at a high level in September, amounting to 22,112 tons as compared with 22,766 in the preceding month and 19,589 in the corresponding month last year. Nickel production, at 9,530 tons, was above the August total of 8,862 tons, but down from last year's September output of 9,891 tons.

During the first nine months of this year, 195,037 tons of new primary copper were produced as against 179,311 in the similar period of 1948, an increase of 8.7 per cent. Nickel production in the nine-month period amounted to 95,015 tons, slightly lower than last year's corresponding total of 95,570 tons. (17)

RECORD OUTPUT VALUE FOR PRIMARY IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY IN 1948

The value of products of Canada's primary iron and steel industry rose to a record figure of \$282,167,000 in 1948, up almost 31 per cent over the preceding year's total of \$216,276,000, and about 26 per cent above the wartime peak of \$232,106,000 in 1942.

The number of plants in operation during the year was 55, three less than in 1947. The employees totalled 29,367, up nine per cent, and the payments in salaries and wages aggregated \$77,358,000, showing an increase of 28 per cent. The cost of materials used advanced 27 per cent to \$132,779,000 from \$104,532,000, and the cost of fuel and electricity was up 27.8 per cent to \$24,111,000.

The value of products turned out by 26 plants located in Ontario was \$214,419,000, or 76 per cent of the all-Canada total; five plants in Nova Scotia accounted for 9.6 per cent or \$27,037,000; 12 plants in Quebec for 12.1 per cent or \$34,176,000, while the remaining \$6,535,000 or 2.3 per cent was accounted for by four plants in Manitoba, six in British Columbia and two in Alberta. (18)

REVENUES AND EXPENSES OF RAILWAYS IN SEPTEMBER

Operating revenues of Canadian railways in September amounted to \$79,455,000, a shade lower than last year's corresponding total of \$79,482,000. Freight earnings were down \$847,000 to \$62,552,000, while passenger revenues were \$5,620 lower at \$7,584,000. Mail receipts improved 4.3 per cent to \$749,000, and express continued to gain, up nearly \$448,000 to \$3,429,000.

Operating expenses rose in the month to \$70,831,000 from \$69,583,000 a year earlier. Maintenance of way and structures rose 1.2 per cent to \$15,015,000, but maintenance of equipment increased 2.1 per cent to \$15,656,000. Traffic expenses advanced \$169,000, and transportation charges were up 1.7 per cent to \$34,024,000. The operating income for the month was \$5,763,000 as compared with \$5,314,000 a year ago, an improvement of \$450,000.

Net tons of revenue freight carried in September totalled 13,838,000 tons, a decline of 10.4 per cent from the volume for the corresponding month last year. Ton miles recoded less sharply by 4.3 per cent as average length of haul increased from 348 to 372 miles. Revenue passengers numbered 2,565,000, off 8.2 per cent, but average journey dropped from 111 to 105 miles and revenue passenger mileage decreased 13 per cent.

Total pay roll for the month, covering 178,346 employees, was \$41,533,932 compared with \$43,370,812 -- including \$823,161 of backtime -- for 183,995 employees on the rolls in September last year. (19)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Loadings of railway revenue in the week ended December 3 amounted to 77,719 cars, down 1,253 cars from the preceding week and 3,602 cars below last year's corresponding total. Eastern division loadings totalled 49,459 cars compared with 52,635 a year ago, while western volume somewhat affected by weather conditions in British Columbia, were 28,260 cars against 28,686. Cumulative loadings at Canadian stations during the first 48 weeks of this year were 3.5 per cent under 1948 volume for the same period. (20)

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. Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade, October (10 cents).
2. Monthly Summary of Imports for Consumption, October (10 cents).
3. Employment Situation at Beginning of October, Together with Payrolls (10 cents).
4. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings, October 1 (10 cents).
5. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, October (25 cents).
6. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, October (10 cents).
7. December Estimate of Value of Field Crops (10 cents).
8. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
9. Canadian Coarse Grains, Quarterly Review, November, 1949 (25 cents).
10. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, December 1 (10 cents).
11. Dairy Factory Production, November (10 cents).
12. Stocks of Meat, Lard and Tallow, December 1 (10 cents).
13. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, December 1 (10 cents).
14. Housing Bulletin No. 21, September (20 cents).
15. Central Electric Stations, October (10 cents).
16. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, September (10 cents).
17. Copper and Nickel Production, September (10 cents).
18. Primary Iron and Steel Industry, 1948 (35 cents).
19. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, September (10 cents).
20. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
21. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways of Canada, August (10 cents).
22. Shipments and Inventories of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, September (25 cents).
23. Vegetable Oils Industry, 1948 (15 cents).
24. Compressed Gases Industry, 1948 (15 cents).
25. Bridge Building and Structural Steel Work Industry, 1948 (15 cents).
26. Artificial Abrasives Industry, 1948 (25 cents).
27. The Miscellaneous Industrial or Non-Metallic Minerals in Canada, 1948 (30 cents).
28. Transit Report, August (10 cents).

Memoranda

1. Production and Stocks of Margarine, November (10 cents).
2. Asphalt Roofing, October (10 cents).
3. Summary Statistics, Federal Civil Service Employment and Payrolls (25 cents).
4. Pack of Tomatoes and Tomato Juice, 1949 (10 cents).
5. Pack of Plums, 1949 (10 cents).
6. Pack of Pumpkin, 1949 (10 cents).
7. Lasts, Trees and Wooden Shoefindings, 1948 (10 cents).
8. Carriages, Sleighs and Vehicle Supplies, 1948 (10 cents).
9. Excelsior, 1948 (10 cents).

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