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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT showed a pronounced seasonal decline between December 1 and January 1, the losses in construction and manufacturing being particularly noteworthy. Reduced industrial activity was indicated in all provinces.

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WHOLESALE PRICES IN CANADA showed a further slight decline in January, the general index standing at 159.3 compared with 159.5 in December, and 159.7 in November.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN CANADA increased 13 per cent during the week ending February 19 over the same week last year.

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CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS continued at a high level in January, all-Canada total for the month standing at \$6,928,511,000, an increase of 6.7 per cent over January last year.

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AVERAGE WAGES FOR FARM HELP in most provinces and for Canada as a whole were moderately higher at the middle of January this year than a year earlier.

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LANDINGS OF CANADA'S SEA FISH in January were sharply lower than in the corresponding month last year, due in the main to greatly reduced landings of sea herring on the Pacific coast.

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PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER in Canada in 1948 showed a slight decrease from the preceding year, increases in British Columbia and Alberta counterbalancing declines in the remaining provinces.

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FINANCING OF MOTOR VEHICLE SALES showed a further increase in January, with gains both in new and used vehicles.

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CANADIAN PRODUCTION OF CRUDE PETROLEUM reached an all-time record total in 1948, due in the main to the striking developments in the Leduc field of Alberta.

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CANADA'S GOLD PRODUCTION in 1948 amounted to 3,527,573 fine ounces, showing an increase of 15 per cent over the preceding year's total, and the highest annual output since 1943.

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CANADIAN PRODUCTION OF WOOL in 1948 amounted to 11,915,000 pounds, a decrease of 18 per cent from the preceding year.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT SEASONALLY
LOWER AT JANUARY 1

Industrial employment showed a pronounced seasonal decline between December 1 and January 1, the losses in construction and manufacturing being particularly noteworthy. Reduced industrial activity was indicated in all provinces.

The advance index number of employment in the major industrial divisions stood at 197.3 as compared with 204.3 at December 1, a decline of 3.4 per cent. The decrease exceeded that indicated at January 1, 1948, but the index number was then 1.9 per cent below the latest figure, which was the highest in the record for the time of year.

The losses from December 1 ranged from 1.8 per cent in Ontario and 2.7 per cent in Alberta, to 5.2 per cent in Saskatchewan and 6.2 per cent in British Columbia, where unfavourable weather was an important factor. The index numbers of employment in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta were higher than at January 1 last year, but those in the remaining provinces were lower. Except in New Brunswick, the declines were slight. In that province there was a reduction of 5.8 per cent.

The reported salaries and wages were lower by 6.1 per cent in the holiday week of January 1 as compared with the week of December 1. As compared with January 1, 1948, however, there was a gain of 15.2 per cent in the index number of weekly payrolls. The advance figure of average weekly earnings in the eight major industrial groups at the beginning of January was \$41.03 as compared with the all-time high of \$42.23 indicated a month earlier, and \$36.28 a year ago.

The advance index of employment in manufacturing was 202.8, a decline of 2.4 per cent from the December 1 index of 207.9. The figure at the beginning of January last year was 199.9. The disbursements in weekly salaries and wages in the larger manufacturing establishments showed a reduction usual in the holiday week, falling by 5.6 per cent as compared with December 1. The index number of payrolls, however, was 18.1 per cent higher than at January 1, 1948. Earnings of persons employed by the larger manufacturing establishments at January 1 averaged \$42.32 as compared with \$43.71 at December 1, and \$36.31 at January 1, 1948.

JANUARY WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX DOWN SLIGHTLY
FROM DECEMBER; UP 12.4 POINTS IN YEAR

Wholesale prices in Canada showed a further slight decline in January, according to the general wholesale index compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The decline in the index during the month was 0.2 per cent, identical to that shown in December. At this year's January level the index was 12.4 points above January last year.

The index for January, on the base 1926=100, stood at 159.3 as compared with 159.5 in December, 159.7 in November, and 146.9 in January last year. As compared with the preceding month, a drop of three points in the index for animal products, and 0.9 points for both vegetables and wood products, more than counterbalanced increases for the remaining five groups.

Sub-group indexes were as follows in January, those for December being in brackets: vegetable products, 138.4 (139.3); animal products, 173.0 (176.0); textile products, 162.7 (162.0); wood products, 191.3 (192.2); iron products, 170.6 (167.1); non-ferrous metals, 166.0 (163.5); non-metallic minerals, 138.0 (137.6); chemical products, 130.4 (129.1).

CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL
ACCOUNTS UP 6.7 PER CENT IN JANUARY

Business transactions in the form of cheques cashed against individual accounts continued at a high level in January. All-Canada total for the month was \$6,928,511,000 as compared with \$6,490,790,000 in the corresponding month last year, a rise of 6.7 per cent, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

All five economic areas participated in the increase, the greatest percentage gain being shown in the Maritime Provinces. Totals follow by areas, those for January, 1948 being in brackets: Maritime Provinces, \$161,244,000 (\$144,556,000); Quebec, \$2,073,052,000 (\$1,911,595,000); Ontario, \$2,907,239,000 (\$2,696,043,000); Prairie Provinces, \$1,180,453,000 (\$1,142,621,000); British Columbia, \$606,523,000 (\$595,975,000).

FARM WAGES AGAIN HIGHER AT
MID-JANUARY THAN YEAR EARLIER

Average wages for male farm help in most provinces and for Canada as a whole were moderately higher at the middle of January this year than 12 months earlier, according to reports received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from farm correspondents in all parts of Canada. Generally, however, the increase was less than between mid-January 1946 and 1947.

With board provided by the employers, the average farm wage-rate per day for all Canada was \$4.04 at January 15 as compared with \$3.62 at the same date in 1948 and \$3.23 in 1947. By provinces, rates ranged from \$2.94 in Prince Edward Island to \$5.57 in British Columbia, and were higher than in January, 1948 in all provinces except Nova Scotia. Without board, the average daily rate for all Canada was \$4.97 against \$4.66 a year earlier and \$4.15 in 1947, rates being somewhat below 1948 levels in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick only.

The average monthly rate with board for all provinces amounted to \$74.87 compared with \$70.00 in 1948 and \$63.29 two years ago, rates ranging by provinces between \$53.57 in Prince Edward Island and \$88.22 in New Brunswick. There were declines from a year ago in Nova Scotia and British Columbia, the latter being very slight. When workers provided their own board, the average rate for men hired by the month was \$104.34 as against \$100.09 in January last year and \$89.25 in January, 1947. In this case the only decreases were in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

FARM LAND VALUES HIGHER

The average value of occupied farm land in Canada in 1948 is reported at \$39.00 per acre, an increase of 11 per cent over the average indicated in 1947, and an increase of 62 per cent over the 1935-39 average, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Increases over 1947 levels were reported in all provinces with the exception of New Brunswick.

The upward trend in farm land values from pre-war levels reflects, at least in part, the relative changes which have occurred in the price levels of farm products and of the things which farmers buy. The Bureau's index of farm prices of agricultural products for 1948 was 144 per cent above the 1935-39 level, while for the same year the index of prices of commodities and services used by farmers, including living costs, had advanced 83 per cent from the 1935-39 base-period level.

Average values follow by provinces, figures for 1947 being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, \$51 (\$47); Nova Scotia, \$48 (\$46); New Brunswick, \$44 (\$44); Quebec, \$63 (\$61); Ontario, \$68 (\$64); Manitoba, \$34 (\$27); Saskatchewan, \$24 (\$21); Alberta, \$31 (\$25); British Columbia, \$79 (\$75).

DOMESTIC FEED-GRAIN SITUATION
EASIER THAN A YEAR AGO

With 1948 production of coarse grains in most of the country and particularly in the central provinces at higher levels than in 1947, the current crop year to date has been generally featured by a fairly easy domestic feed-grain supply situation, states the Canadian Coarse Grains quarterly review by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

So far, a larger proportion of all the 1948 coarse grain crops has been retained on farms than was the case in 1947. In addition to western oats and barley marketed to February 10, it is estimated that some 29 million bushels of oats and 16.5 million of barley remain on western farms to be marketed before the close of the crop year. Fodder supplies are reported to be generally adequate throughout the country, with surpluses indicated in some areas.

Reflecting both decreased marketings and increased exports as compared with the previous crop year, visible supplies of oats and barley at February 10 were down sharply from the commercial supply position in the same date a year ago. Visible oat supplies at 16.7 million bushels were nearly 15 million below last year's level, while visible barley stocks at 20.2 million bushels were down more than 13 million bushels from a year ago. The drop in commercial supplies between the two dates is common to nearly all positions with the exception of United States ports, where stocks held amounted to 2.8 million bushels of oats and 1.5 million of rye as against none a year earlier.

Commercial supplies of rye and flax are much higher than last year. On February 10, Canadian visible rye stocks totalled 9.2 million bushels as against 0.9 million at the same time last year. Flax supplies of 11.4 million bushels were also up considerably from last year's 6.6 million bushels. Commercial rye stocks were divided about evenly among country elevators, Lakehead terminals and other positions.

Farmers' marketings of both oats and barley in the Prairie Provinces from August 1 to February 10 of the current crop year were below those of the comparable period of 1947-48. During the period, marketings of oats amounted to 56.2 million bushels, 1.3 million below last year's level, while deliveries of barley at 50.9 million were 5.6 million bushels below last year's figure. Marketings of rye and flaxseed for the period totalled 13.3 million and 13.0 million bushels, exceeding those of last year by 3.8 million and 3.7 million bushels, respectively. During the current crop year, Saskatchewan has led in the marketing of oats, Alberta in barley and rye, and Manitoba in flaxseed.

With the removal of export restrictions on coarse grains, there has been a fairly substantial movement of both oats and barley into export channels. During the first six months of the current crop year, exports of oats as grain amounted to 12.3 million bushels, all but 1.3 million bushels of which went to the United States. Custom exports of rolled oats and oatmeal in terms of oats for the same period amounted to 1.2 million bushels. Barley exports totalled 13.5 million bushels, with the United States taking 5.8 million of the total. Other imports of Canadian barley during the period were the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium and Norway, each of which received in excess of one million bushels. Exports of rye and flaxseed for the six months totalled 4.5 million and 2.9 million bushels, respectively.

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on February 17 amounted to 149,546,000 bushels, a decrease of 4,323,000 bushels from the February 10 total, but a rise of 35,528,000 bushels over the same date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 17 were 765,000 bushels as compared with 832,000 a year ago. Overseas export clearances during the week totalled 3,178,000 bushels compared with 1,786,000.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 17, totals for the same week last year being in brackets: oats, 263,000 (362,000) bushels; barley, 302,000 (222,000); rye, 51,000 (9,000); flaxseed, 27,000 (18,000).

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER AND CHEESE

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on March 1 this year amounted to 10,793,000 pounds as compared with 16,507,000 on February 1 and 11,687,000 on the corresponding date last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Holdings of cheddar cheese on March 1 totalled 18,678,000 pounds compared with 21,171,000 on February 1 and 16,469,000 on the same date a year earlier.

Stocks of creamery butter were as follows by cities on March 1, those for the same date last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 1,375 (879) pounds; Montreal, 3,626 (4,138); Toronto, 2,283 (1,608); Winnipeg, 961 (1,799); Regina, 142 (135); Saskatoon, 139 (97); Edmonton, 430 (526); Calgary, 352 (537); Vancouver, 1,485 (1,968).

DAIRY FACTORY PRODUCTION IN 1947

The total value of products turned out by dairy factories in Canada in 1947 was \$352,373,000, showing an increase of \$82,068,000 or 30 per cent over the preceding year, according to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

During the year, 290,952,691 pounds of creamery butter were produced valued at \$152,935,070 compared with 271,464,399 pounds valued at \$105,441,401 in the preceding year. The average price per pound was 52.57 cents, an increase of 13.73 cents over 1946.

The production of factory cheese in 1947 amounted to 123,337,530 pounds valued at \$31,928,861, a decrease in quantity of 24,309,979 pounds, but an increase in value of \$1,014,925. The average price per pound in 1947 was 25.91 cents compared with 20.94 cents in 1946.

Output of concentrated milk products in dairy factories during the year amounted to 331,782,452 pounds valued at \$40,321,591 compared with 300,302,676 pounds valued at \$32,680,517.

The value of milk and cream sold by dairy factories in 1947 was \$97,466,617 compared with \$79,960,579 in the preceding year. Ice cream was produced to the value of \$18,260,344 compared with \$11,234,332, and ice cream mix, \$2,010,304 compared with \$1,087,411. Other products include whey butter, whey cream, chocolate milk, cottage cheese, and egg powder.

The total number of dairy factories in operation during the year was 2,068, a decrease of 126 from the preceding year. Cheese factories were fewer in number, decreasing to 741 from 868 in 1946, while combined butter and cheese factories fell to 153 from 173. There were 1,143 creameries, an increase of 21.

HONEY STOCKS HIGHER Stocks of honey held by commercial packers, wholesale grocers, chain store warehouses and other dealers on January 1 amounted to 9,542,485 pounds, showing an increase of 22 per cent over the 7,788,833 pounds held on October 1. All provinces shared in the gain.

According to the quarterly report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, more than half of the total inventory was packed in bulk containers where holdings are reported at 5,700,902 pounds in comparison with 3,784,914 on October 1. This compares with 3,841,583 packed in consumer packages against 4,003,919. The total stocks of packers showed a moderate increase, totalling 7,786,309 pounds compared with 5,954,061 in the preceding quarter, while wholesalers stocks are slightly reduced to 1,756,176 pounds from 1,834,772.

Stocks of honey were as follows by provinces on January 1, those for October 1 being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 2,007 (1,989) pounds; Nova Scotia, 23,846 (9,296); New Brunswick, 7,885 (6,080); Quebec, 226,689 (204,337); Ontario, 2,349,467 (2,347,053); Manitoba, 2,760,334 (2,266,465); Saskatchewan, 2,122,806 (1,384,961); Alberta, 1,856,235 (1,404,146); British Columbia, 193,216 (164,506).

Production of honey in Canada last year was put at 45,145,000 pounds in an estimate recently released by the Bureau.

JANUARY FISH CATCH DOWN; Landings of Canada's sea fish in January were sharply
GAIN IN 1948 EXPORTS lower than in the corresponding month last year, due in
the main to greatly reduced landings of sea herring on
the Pacific coast. This reduction was brought about, for the most part, by the cold
weather which prevailed throughout the month. On the Atlantic coast, landings of
cod and haddock were higher and smelts and sardines lower.

According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics total landings on both coasts fell to 37,073,000 pounds from 110,257,000 a year earlier, and the value to \$1,481,000 from \$2,445,000. On the Pacific coast, landings totalled 19,529,000 pounds valued at \$292,000 compared with 94,500,000 pounds valued at \$1,101,000. Landings on the Atlantic coast were 17,544,000 pounds valued at \$1,189,000 compared with 15,757,000 pounds valued at \$1,344,000.

Landings of Pacific herring fell to 17,878,000 pounds from 93,257,000 a year ago. On the Atlantic coast, cod landings rose to 6,107,000 pounds from 4,740,000, haddock to 3,462,000 pounds from 2,111,000, while landings of sardines fell to 1,903,000 pounds from 3,128,000, and smelts to 2,553,000 pounds from 3,046,000.

Due to the increasing demands in the United States market, exports of fresh and frozen fish rose from \$38 million in 1947 to \$45.3 million in 1948. Export sales of cured fish increased from \$12.3 million to \$14.9 million, based mainly on the strength of Latin American markets. Exports of canned fish, at \$21 million, were down considerably from the 1947 total of \$31.5 million, despite increases in sales to the United States, South Africa, some European countries and Latin America. The decrease was mainly the result of a large decline in sales to the sterling area, and a virtual cessation of relief shipments.

The lifting of export controls on some of the other fishery products, such as oil, meal, etc., resulted in a rapid expansion of sales of these types from \$2.2 million to \$8.7 million in 1948.

MOTOR VEHICLE FINANCING Financing of motor vehicle sales showed a further increase in January, with gains both in new and used vehicles. During the month, 9,292 vehicles were financed for a total of \$9,278,742, 22 per cent higher in number and up 25 per cent in financed value compared with 7,646 units financed for \$7,401,648 in the same month a year ago.

There were 3,635 new vehicles financed for a total of \$5,254,917 in January this year as compared with 3,325 units involving \$4,606,517 a year earlier. Passenger cars, numbering 2,306 this year, advanced four per cent above the 2,213 vehicles financed in the first month of 1948. This increase is more moderate than the 20 per cent gain in the financing of trucks and buses.

Used vehicles financed in January totalled 5,657 units with a financed value of \$4,023,825 while 4,321 units were financed for \$2,795,131 in the same month last year. Gains amounted to 34 per cent in used passenger cars, and 22 per cent in used commercial vehicle financing.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

February 24, 1949 February 17, 1949 January 27, 1949

(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| (106 Common Stocks) ... | 105.2 | 108.0 | 112.2 |
| 82 Industrials | 99.4 | 102.0 | 107.0 |
| 16 Utilities | 111.6 | 116.1 | 117.8 |
| 8 Banks | 130.4 | 130.9 | 131.9 |

Mining Stock Price Index

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| (30 Stocks) | 83.2 | 85.5 | 87.4 |
| 25 Golds | 67.0 | 68.3 | 68.0 |
| 5 Base Metals | 115.0 | 119.5 | 126.2 |

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP
13 PER CENT DURING WEEK

Department store sales in Canada increased 13 per cent during the week ending February 19 over the same week last year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. An outstanding feature of the week was the sharp gain in sales in the Prairie Provinces.

Sales in Alberta were up 30 per cent, Saskatchewan 29 per cent, Manitoba 20 per cent. Ontario followed with a gain of 12 per cent, the Maritimes nine per cent, while sales in Quebec were unchanged from a year ago. Figures for British Columbia are not available.

LEATHER FOOTWEAR PRODUCTION
DOWN NINE PER CENT IN 1948

Production of leather footwear in Canada in 1948 fell nine per cent from the preceding year's total, the downward trend shown in the first nine months of the year being reversed in the last quarter. Preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics place the year's output at 32,407,000 pairs as compared with 35,574,000 in 1947. In December, production rose to 2,784,000 pairs from 2,548,000 a year ago.

CRUDE PETROLEUM OUTPUT AT
NEW HIGH POINT IN 1948

Canadian production of crude petroleum reached an all-time record total in 1948, due in the main to the striking developments in the Leduc field of Alberta -- now Canada's premier producing area. Output from the Lloydminster field also rose sharply, more than doubling during the year, while production from the Turner Valley -- hitherto Canada's main domestic source -- was moderately lower.

According to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the year's output of crude petroleum aggregated 12,368,042 barrels, an increase of 60 per cent over the preceding year. December's output was 1,247,565 barrels, only slightly under the record monthly total of 1,264,988 barrels for November, but sharply higher than the December, 1947 figure of 766,309 barrels.

Alberta accounted for 10,973,583 barrels in 1948 compared with 6,809,284 in the preceding year. Leduc's output rose sharply to 4,657,371 barrels from 363,363, Lloydminster to 648,055 barrels from 304,707, and Princess to 187,084 barrels from 106,950. Crude output from Turner Valley fell to 4,428,688 barrels from 5,022,350, Conrod to 182,255 barrels from 202,458, and Vermilion to 112,331 barrels from 138,401.

The year's output in Saskatchewan amounted to 847,095 barrels against 534,894 in 1947, Northwest Territories 349,768 barrels compared with 231,844, Ontario 176,225 barrels compared with 130,135, and New Brunswick 21,371 barrels compared with 23,128.

During the year, 58,990,299 M cubic feet of natural gas were produced compared with 52,656,567 M in the preceding year. Output by provinces was as follows (in M cubic feet), totals for 1947 being in brackets: Alberta, 49,238,795 (44,106,643); Ontario, 9,060,277 (7,785,921); New Brunswick, 419,793 (489,810); Saskatchewan, 271,434 (274,193).

GOLD PRODUCTION
INCREASED IN 1948

Canada's gold production in 1948 amounted to 3,527,573 fine ounces, showing an increase of almost 15 per cent over the preceding year's total, and the highest annual output since 1943, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In December, 326,938 fine ounces were produced compared with 311,343 in the preceding month and 274,753 a year ago.

Ontario -- Canada's largest gold-producing province -- accounted for 2,090,414 fine ounces in 1948 compared with 1,944,819 in 1947, followed by Quebec with 767,026 fine ounces compared with 598,127, British Columbia 311,711 fine ounces (249,011), Manitoba and Saskatchewan 196,211 (166,653), Northwest Territories 101,346 (62,517), Yukon 60,605 (47,745), and Nova Scotia 189 (1,271).

PRODUCTION OF WIRE NAILS
HIGHER IN 1948

Canadian production of iron and steel wire nails reached a high total of 85,700 tons in 1948, an increase of almost 11 per cent over the preceding year. December's output totalled 7,100 tons compared with 7,300 in November and 6,600 in December, 1947.

During the year, 900 tons of iron and steel cut nails were produced compared with 940; steel wire staples, 1,600 tons compared with 2,000; and tacks of steel, brass and copper, 2,300 tons compared with 2,400.

LUMBER PRODUCTION SLIGHTLY
LOWER IN 1948

Production of sawn lumber in Canada in 1948 showed a slight decrease from the preceding year, increases in British Columbia and Alberta counterbalancing declines in the remaining provinces. In December, a gain of 15 per cent was registered over the same month a year earlier, with increases in all provinces except Nova Scotia, Quebec and Saskatchewan.

According to estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the all-Canada output of sawn lumber last year amounted to 5,326,000 M feet board measure, showing a decline of less than one per cent from the 5,346,000 M recorded for 1947.

Output for the year was as follows by provinces, totals for 1947 being in brackets (M board feet): Prince Edward Island, 9,830 (12,705); Nova Scotia, 273,058 (348,389); New Brunswick, 220,303 (289,817); Quebec, 1,050,961 (1,144,138); Ontario, 699,518 (725,289); Manitoba, 47,096 (56,224); Saskatchewan, 83,614 (107,572); Alberta, 273,347 (246,575); British Columbia, 2,668,147 (2,415,171).

RADIO SALES LOWER IN NOVEMBER
AND FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1948

Producers' sales of radio receiving sets in November decreased almost 31 per cent from the preceding year and were 32 per cent lower in the 11 months ending November, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In the month, sales were lower in all provinces except Saskatchewan and Alberta, while in the cumulative period, the decline was common to all provinces.

Sales during November amounted to 79,427 units as compared with 114,933 a year earlier. During the first 11 months of 1948, producers' sales totalled 506,567 units as against 747,136 in the similar period of 1947.

Provincial totals for the first 11 months of last year are as follows, those for the like period of 1947 being in brackets: Maritimes, 33,702 (56,172) units; Quebec, 110,747 (152,928); Ontario, 221,706 (338,435); Manitoba, 35,348 (60,011); Saskatchewan, 24,300 (33,314); Alberta, 34,270 (42,569); British Columbia, 46,494 (63,707).

PRODUCTION AND SALES OF
ASPHALT ROOFING MATERIALS

Production and sales of asphalt shingles and rolled roofing both were lower in January this year than in the same month of 1948. A similar trend was shown for tar and asphalt felts and sheathing, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Output in January of asphalt shingles and rolled roofing amounted to 245,000 squares as compared with 389,000 in the corresponding month last year. Production of tar and asphalt felts and sheathing during the month amounted to 3,500 tons, down from the January, 1948 output of 5,000 tons.

In January, sales declined to 256,000 squares from 360,700 in the same month a year earlier. Tar and asphalt felts and sheathing sold in January fell to 3,500 tons from 4,200 in the similar period last year.

PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC SALES
OF RIGID INSULATING BOARD

Production and domestic sales of rigid insulating board both were increased in January. During the month, 20,155,000 square feet were produced compared with 16,814,000 in the same month last year, and domestic sales, 19,557,000 square feet as compared with 14,339,000.

FACTORY SALES OF ELECTRIC STORAGE BATTERIES IN JANUARY

Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers in January were valued at \$1,637,617 compared with \$1,948,794 in December and \$1,265,378 in January last year. The sales in January included 127,045 batteries at \$1,324,693 for the ignition of internal combustion engines, 47 batteries at \$502 for motorcycle starting, 3,936 cells at \$30,651 for farm lighting plants, 1,560 cells at \$49,694 for railway services, batteries valued at \$167,695 for other purposes, including those for telephone switchboards, and miscellaneous parts and supplies for batteries valued at \$64,382.

STOCKS OF NON-FERROUS SCRAP METAL

Dealers' stocks of non-ferrous scrap metal at the end of December were as follows, totals for the first of the month being in brackets: aluminum scrap, 1,845,917 (1,606,510) pounds; brass and bronze scrap, 7,351,282 (6,902,470); copper scrap, 3,692,437 (3,282,690); magnesium scrap, 35,427 (36,040); nickel scrap, 256,562 (217,226); tin-lead scrap, 4,281,358 (4,279,793); zinc scrap, 618,954 (648,265); drosses, 1,449,012 (1,403,824).

CIVIL AVIATION IN NOVEMBER

Scheduled and non-scheduled air carriers both had losses on their November operations, according to figures for the month released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Scheduled air carriers earned \$2,107,949 during the month as against \$1,601,940 in November, 1947. This was not sufficient to meet the operating expenses of \$2,482,738, resulting in a loss on operations of \$374,789. In the 11 months of 1948 the loss was \$429,195, down considerably from the preceding year's corresponding total of \$2,605,347.

The non-scheduled carriers also showed an increase in operating revenues in November from \$119,895 to \$227,389, which failed to cover operating expenses by \$176,722 as against an operating loss in November, 1947 of \$276,487. This reduced the credit balance these carriers had produced during the summer months to \$76,004 for the first 11 months of the year against a loss in 1947 of \$111,229 for the 11 months.

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended February 19 amounted to 70,358 cars as compared with 71,945 cars for the preceding week and 68,817 cars for the corresponding week last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Grain, coal, other mine products and pulpwood showed the largest decreases from the week of February 12, while grain, coal, pulpwood and gasoline and oils were the main factors in the increase over 1948.

Total loadings for the first seven week of this year were only 4,000 cars below the 1948 figure, but grain products were lighter by 4,383 cars, live stock by 4,745 cars, fresh meats by 1,140 cars, pulpwood by 5,006 cars, lumber by 5,931 cars, fertilizers by 1,273 cars, and miscellaneous freight by 2,195 cars. These were partially offset by gains in grain, coal, ores and gasoline and oils.

TELEPHONE INSTALLATIONS
UP SHARPLY IN 1947

Reflecting heavy demands both for business and residential telephone service, the number of telephones installed in Canada in 1947 reached an all-time high figure of 204,479, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This raised the total in use to 2,230,597, an increase of 10 per cent over the preceding year, and an increase of slightly more than 64 per cent in the past decade. Total telephones per hundred population increased from 12.1 in 1938 and 16.5 in 1946 to 17.7 in 1947.

The number of business telephones rose from 585,982 in 1946 to 645,154, or by 10 per cent; residence telephones from 1,079,769 to 1,194,840, or by 10.7 per cent; and rural and public pay telephones showed corresponding increases. Automatic or dial telephones increased by 132,857, or by almost twice the increase for those on manual switchboards.

PRINTING TRADES OF CANADA
INCREASED IN 1946

Total production of the printing trades of Canada in 1946 reached a value of \$222,549,000, an increase of more than \$35,600,000 over the 1945 total of \$186,945,000 according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The 2,404 establishments engaged in this line of manufacture gave employment to an average of 48,950 employees. The cost of materials used in these industries amounted to \$65,501,698 as against \$52,655,848 in 1945, and the value added by manufacture was \$154,951,731 compared with \$132,385,988 in the preceding year.

Of the total production in 1946, \$202,740,088, or 91.1 per cent, consisted of printed matter and other products produced, and the remaining \$19,808,548 consisted of trade work, subcontracts, and other services rendered. Both these items showed substantial gains over the corresponding figures for 1945 of \$172,203,947 and \$14,741,187, respectively.

Periodicals, valued at \$89,079,749, accounted for 43.9 per cent of the value of printed matter and other products, daily newspapers alone contributing \$67,561,382. The value of periodicals was made up of \$56,276,973 received for advertising, and \$32,802,776 received for subscriptions and sales of publications. Only periodicals printed in the publishers' own plants are included in these figures.

Other printed matter and other products were valued at \$113,660,339, comprising \$12,593,825 for printed and bound books, \$18,114,919 for other printed advertising, \$4,933,929 for bound blank books, \$72,353,574 for miscellaneous printed goods and printed stationery, and \$5,664,092 for other products.

PRODUCTION OF WOOL LOWER IN 1948

Canadian production of wool in 1948 amounted to 11,915,000 pounds, a decrease of 18 per cent from the preceding year's figure of 14,090,000 pounds, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The decline was mostly due to the reduction in the number of sheep on farms, but lighter average weights per fleece also contributed to the decline. Output of shorn wool fell to 8,423,000 pounds in 1948 from 10,176,000 a year ago, and pulled wool to 3,492,000 pounds from 3,914,000. The average fleece weight for all Canada was 7.2 pounds compared with 7.4 pounds in 1947.

Exports of wool during 1948 showed a slight decline, totalling 4,929,000 pounds as compared with 5,103,000 a year earlier, while imports were over 15,000,000 pounds above 1947, amounting to 95,181,000 pounds as against 79,895,000. Domestic disappearance, assuming no change in stocks, amounted to 102,167,000 pounds in 1948 compared with the 1947 disappearance of 88,882,000 pounds.

REPORTS ISSUED TODAY

1. Canadian Coarse Grains Quarterly Review (25 cents).
2. Trade of Canada: Exports of Canadian and Foreign Produce, January (25 cents).
3. Labour Force Bulletin No. 12 (25 cents).
4. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, December (25 cents).
5. Stocks of Creamery Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Nine Cities, March 1 (10 cents).
6. Telephone Statistics, 1947 (25 cents).
7. Pack of Canned Fruits and Vegetables, 1948 (10 cents).
8. Farm Wages in Canada (10 cents).
9. Farm Land Values, 1948 (10 cents).
10. Monthly Traffic of Railways, November (10 cents).
11. Stocks of Honey on Hand, January 1, 1949 (10 cents).
12. Financial Statistics of Municipal Governments, 1945 (25 cents).
13. Canadian Statistical Review, February (35 cents).
14. Financing of Motor Vehicle Sales, January (10 cents).
15. Production of Dairy Factories, 1947 (10 cents).
16. Dealers' Monthly Report on Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal, December (10 cents).
17. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, November (25 cents).
18. Asphalt Roofing Industry, January (10 cents).
19. Radio Receiving Sets, November (10 cents).
20. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
21. Nails, Tacks and Staples, December (10 cents).
22. Wire Fencing, December (10 cents).
23. Petroleum and Natural Gas Production, December (10 cents).
24. Steel Wire, December (10 cents).
25. Gold Production, December (10 cents).
26. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, January (10 cents).
27. Production of Leather Footwear, December (10 cents).
28. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways, October (10 cents).
29. Civil Aviation, November (10 cents).
30. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
31. Summary of Sugar Reports for Calendar Years, 1947 and 1948 (10 cents).
32. Rigid Insulating Board Industry, January (10 cents).
33. Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, January (10 cents).
34. Monthly Poultry Estimates, January (10 cents).
35. Advance Statement on Employment and Weekly Earnings, January 1 (10 cents).
36. Report on the Printing Trades in Canada, 1946 (35 cents).
37. Wool Production, 1948 (10 cents).
38. Prices and Price Indexes, January (10 cents).
39. Monthly Report on Shipments and Inventories of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, December (25 cents).
40. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, January (10 cents).

Copies of these and other Bureau reports may be obtained on application to the Dominion Statistician, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

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