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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

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IMPORTS AND EXPORTS WERE BOTH LOWER IN JANUARY this year than last. The former were valued at \$211,900,000 as against \$223,800,000, showing the first decrease for January during the postwar years. Total exports -- domestic and foreign -- declined in dollar value to \$223,800,000 compared with \$239,000,000.

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EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS in leading industrial establishments both showed declines at the beginning of January as compared with the preceding month -- movements invariably indicated at the time of year.

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CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS in January numbered 196,624 as compared with 150,480 in the preceding month and 140,305 in the corresponding month last year.

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VALUE OF RETAIL TRADE rose almost two per cent in January over the corresponding month last year. Regional changes varied little from the all-Canada increase.

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FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS moved downward in January, the monthly index, on the base 1935-39=100, standing at 239.3 as compared with 246.0 for December, and 257.7 for January last year.

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OUTPUT OF ELECTRIC ENERGY by central electric stations in January was at a record level for the month at 4,071,545,000 kilowatt hours, while the consumption of primary power in the month rose to an all-time peak of 3,773,780,000 kilowatt hours.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES showed a moderate rise of one per cent in January over the corresponding month last year, amounting to \$49,763,000 as compared with \$49,094,000. Preliminary figures for February show a gain of one per cent over February, 1949.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ended March 4 amounted to 71,552 cars, up 1,332 cars over the revised total of 70,020 cars for the preceding week, but 1.5 per cent or 1,119 cars under the same week of 1949 when the total was 72,671 cars.

COMMODITY IMPORTS AND TRADE
BALANCES DURING JANUARY

Canada's credit balance in commodity trade with all countries, in keeping with the seasonal pattern of recent years, dropped off sharply in January to \$11,800,000 from last year's peak of \$74,900,000 in December, and was also moderately below the balance of \$15,200,000 for January, 1949.

Both commodity imports and exports were lower in January this year than last. The former were valued at \$211,900,000 as against \$223,800,000, showing the first decrease for January during the postwar years. Total exports -- domestic and foreign -- declined in dollar value to \$223,800,000 compared with \$239,000,000.

Imports from the United States during January continued the downward trend of previous months, being valued at \$154,500,000 compared with \$164,800,000 a year earlier. In contrast, total exports to that country rose to \$133,000,000 from \$117,500,000, reaching the highest peacetime January figure. Canada thus had a reduced adverse balance with the United States of \$21,500,000 as compared with \$47,300,000 in January last year. This adverse balance follows upon abnormal credit balances in November and December totalling \$21,600,000.

In trade with the United Kingdom, there was a favourable balance of \$22,800,000, down from \$30,500,000 a year earlier as the result of a decline in total exports to \$48,900,000 compared with \$55,900,000 and a slight rise in imports to \$26,100,000 from \$25,400,000.

Total exports to all other countries -- Commonwealth and foreign -- had an aggregate value of \$41,900,000 in January, while imports from these countries amounted to nearly \$31,400,000, leaving a credit balance of \$10,500,000. This compares with an export balance of \$28,700,000 in January 1949 when exports to the Commonwealth countries were much higher.

Besides the decrease in the value of January imports from the United States as compared with a year earlier -- amounting to \$10,300,000 in a total decrease from all countries of \$11,900,000 -- there were decreases in purchases from Latin America, Europe, the British West Indies and Commonwealth countries in Africa and Asia. Partly offsetting these were the small gain in dollar value of imports from the United Kingdom and larger gains in those from Australia and the remaining foreign countries. The apparent decrease in the volume of imports from the United States was substantial while the volume of imports from the United Kingdom rose significantly.

Most of the decline from \$164,800,000 to \$154,500,000 in the value of the month's imports from the United States was due to lower Canadian purchases of iron and steel products and non-metallic mineral products, according to a breakdown of imports by main groups from the United States and the United Kingdom now being supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in its preliminary trade bulletins. Imports in the former group fell off to \$61,578,000 from \$67,134,000 last year, and in the latter to \$25,447,000 from \$30,220,000. Imports of animals and animal products were down by \$1,500,000 to \$5,251,000 and of the fibres and textiles group about the same amount to \$15,000,000. Increases of lesser amounts were shown in the other groups.

While total imports from the United Kingdom increased slightly in value, imports of fibres, textiles and products -- largest in value -- declined sharply to \$8,593,000 from \$12,098,000 last year, a change which indicates only a moderate drop in volume, however. Minor decreases were recorded also for the non-metallic minerals and miscellaneous groups. All other groups moved upward, non-ferrous metals including platinum showing the largest rise, from \$1,930,000 to \$4,281,000.

Imports from the British West Indies group declined in January to \$1,509,000 from \$1,835,000 in January, 1949; from Commonwealth countries in Africa to \$1,120,000 from \$1,593,000; and from those in Asia to \$6,139,000 from \$6,274,000. On the other hand, purchases from the Oceania group were more than doubled in value at \$1,955,000 compared to \$866,000, led by a rise for Australia from \$715,000 to \$1,455,000. Total value of imports from all Commonwealth countries, including the United Kingdom, increased slightly for the month to \$36,865,000 compared with \$35,986,000.

Due mainly to a drop from \$7,005,000 to \$5,975,000 in purchases from Venezuela, imports from Latin America declined in value to \$12,358,000 from \$14,182,000 a year ago. There were widespread, generally small, decreases in January imports from European countries, the total value for Europe declining to \$5,055,000 as against \$6,649,000. In contrast, the aggregate value of imports from the remaining foreign countries rose to \$3,085,000 compared with \$1,426,000, the largest gains being in imports from Arabia and the Netherlands Antilles.

Decreases from January last year were recorded for the month in total imports of the animals and animal products, fibres and textiles, iron, and non-metallic minerals group. Largest in value, the iron and products group moved down to \$67,734,000 from \$73,510,000, declines being shown for a majority of main items with the largest in dollar volume in rolling-mill products and engines and boilers. Automobiles and automobile parts were both higher. The non-metallic minerals group, next in size, decreased to \$35,600,000 from \$40,207,000, major reductions being in coal and petroleum products. There was a similar decline in the textiles group to \$29,378,000 from \$35,146,000, with marked decreases in cotton products, wool products and artificial silk and an increase in raw wool. The smaller animals group fell off to \$6,631,000 compared with \$8,891,000.

Among the five other groups, the largest increase was in non-ferrous metals from \$12,876,000 to \$16,531,000, due to sharp gains for precious metals (except gold) and electrical apparatus. Increases in vegetables, coffee, tea and vegetable oils raised the agricultural and vegetable group to \$27,116,000 from \$25,633,000. The wood and paper group moved up to \$7,146,000 from \$6,074,000, and the chemicals and miscellaneous groups were slightly higher at \$10,970,000 and \$10,831,000, respectively.

Various offsetting changes occurred in comparison with imports in December. There were significant declines in such commodities as crude petroleum and products, fruits and sugar, while substantial increases occurred in imports of textile products, platinum, and various sub-groups of iron and its products including farm implements and automobile parts. (1 and 2)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND
PAYROLLS AT JANUARY 1

Employment and payrolls in leading industrial establishments both showed declines at the beginning of January as compared with the preceding month -- movements invariably indicated at the time of year. The decline in employment amounted to 3.8 per cent, while payrolls were down 6.9 per cent. Despite the decline from December, the payrolls index was at a new high for January, and was 2.3 per cent above a year earlier.

The percentage decrease in employment was slightly larger than at January 1 last year or any preceding winter since 1940, but was considerably smaller than at the first of January in the pre-war period. The reduction was also below the general average at January 1 throughout the 29 years for which data are available.

Based on the 1926 average as 100, the general index number of employment stood at 194.2 at January 1 as compared with 201.8 at December 1 and 196.0 at January 1, 1949, the maximum in the record for the time of year. Average weekly earnings at January 1 stood at \$42.38 -- a new high for January -- as compared with \$43.81 for December and \$41.10 at January 1, 1949.

The recession in employment at January 1 as compared with December 1 was relatively greater among men than women, the loss among men amounting to 4.2 per cent as compared with 2.4 per cent among women. A year earlier, the declines in the same comparison were 3.5 per cent among male workers, and 3.1 per cent among women.

Among the major industrial groups only trade and finance showed expansion in employment at January 1 as compared with December 1. Curtailment in industrial activity was reported in all provinces, the losses ranging from 1.8 per cent in Ontario to 13.4 per cent in Nova Scotia. Except in the Maritimes taken as a whole, the declines from December 1 were below average. On the other hand, the reductions in most areas were greater than those recorded at January 1 during and since the war. In some parts of the country, unseasonable weather was a factor in the situation. (3)

CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT
INSURANCE BENEFITS IN JANUARY

Claims for unemployment insurance benefits in January numbered 196,624 as compared with 150,480 in the preceding month and 140,305 in the corresponding month last year. Initial and renewal claims, which provide a measure of new cases of recorded unemployment, totalled 182,053 as compared with 139,406 in December and 126,649 a year earlier. On the last working day in January, ordinary claimants on the live unemployment register numbered 297,238 as compared with 222,064 at the end of December and 197,675 on the same date last year.

There were increased claims in all provinces in January, the number in Quebec rising to 54,828 from 39,486, Ontario to 55,672 from 40,691, and British Columbia to 39,397 from 26,217. Claims for the other provinces were as follows, totals for January last year being in brackets: Nova Scotia, 11,095 (9,017); Alberta, 10,012 (6,095); Manitoba, 9,877 (7,353); New Brunswick, 7,666 (5,882); Saskatchewan, 6,511 (4,580); Prince Edward Island, 1,172 (984); Newfoundland, 394 (-).

In January, benefit payments amounted to \$11,781,142 for 4,925,381 compensated days as against \$6,727,221 for 3,056,418 days in January last year. (4)

RETAIL SALES UP TWO PER CENT IN JANUARY The value of Canada's retail trade rose almost two per cent in January over the corresponding month last year. Changes in sales volume in the different regions varied little from the all-Canada increase, ranging from a rise of four per cent for Ontario to a decrease of four per cent for both Alberta and British Columbia.

Motor vehicle retail dealers had a sales gain of 36 per cent in January, garages and filling stations a rise of eight per cent, and coal and wood dealers an increase of 16 per cent. Grocery and combination retail store sales were up 2.3 per cent, and tobacco 3.4 per cent.

Sales in other groups were lower, ranging from a decline of one per cent for shoe stores to a decrease of 15 per cent for hardware retail outlets. (5)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP MODERATELY IN JANUARY Department store sales showed a moderate rise of one per cent in January over the corresponding month last year, amounting to \$49,763,000 as compared with \$49,094,000. Preliminary figures for February indicate a gain of one per cent over February, 1949.

Nine of the 18 departments reported increased sales in January compared with the same month of 1949. The majority of these changes, both increases and decreases, were small. Stocks at the beginning of January were valued at \$166,180,000 compared with \$146,816,000 a year earlier, an increase of about 13 per cent.

Among the provinces the gain of seven per cent in Alberta in January was the largest deviation from the overall results. Dollar sales -- in thousands -- were as follows by areas, totals for January 1949 being in brackets: Maritime Provinces, \$3,005 (\$3,011); Quebec, \$7,813 (\$7,940); Ontario, \$18,882 (\$18,367); Manitoba, \$7,725 (\$7,464); Saskatchewan, \$2,399 (\$2,334); Alberta, \$3,410 (\$3,198); British Columbia, \$6,529 (\$6,780). (6)

CHAIN STORE SALES AND STOCKS IN JANUARY The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued on Monday, March 13, the first in a new series of monthly bulletins on chain store sales and stocks covering six kinds of business. The food store group -- largest of the six -- had sales totalling \$32,084,000 as compared with \$31,877,000, a rise of 6.5 per cent, while sales of variety stores -- second in size -- fell from \$7,596,000 to \$7,330,000, or by 3.5 per cent.

Women's clothing store chain sales totalled \$2,262,000, unchanged from January last year. Shoe store chain sales were down 5.1 per cent from \$1,635,000 to \$1,552,000, and hardware sales were 2.4 per cent lower at \$824,000 compared with \$844,000. Drug store sales were down 3.8 per cent at \$2,214,000 compared with \$2,301,000.

Food storage stocks were down four per cent from a year earlier, and variety store stocks were down about one per cent. Stocks held by the other four groups were higher, ranging from 1.4 per cent for hardware stores to 14.1 per cent for women's clothing. (7)

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES HIGHER

Cost-of-living indexes for all eight regional cities moved higher during January. Increases were largely confined to foods and reflected higher prices for beef, lamb, eggs, oranges, coffee and sugar. In most centres, miscellaneous series indexes also showed fractional advances. Clothing and homefurnishings were generally lower, while fuel costs were unchanged, except in Saint John and Montreal where small increases were noted. Indexes for rents, which were not surveyed, remained unchanged.

Composite city index increases between January 3 and February 1 were as follows: Vancouver, 1.5 to 163.4; Saskatoon, 1.4 to 163.6; Winnipeg, 1.3 to 156.3; Edmonton, 1.2 to 158.1; Toronto, 0.7 to 157.6; Saint John, 0.7 to 157.8; Halifax, 0.6 to 153.3; Montreal, 0.4 to 164.2. During the same interval the Dominion index rose 0.6 to 160.3.

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

	<u>February 1, 1949</u>	<u>January 3, 1950</u> (August 1939=100)	<u>February 1, 1950</u>
Halifax	152.1	152.7	153.3
Saint John	156.2	157.1	157.8
Montreal	162.4	163.8	164.2
Toronto	154.7	156.9	157.6
Winnipeg	153.8	155.0	156.3
Saskatoon	162.0	162.2	163.6
Edmonton	154.4	156.9	158.1
Vancouver	160.8	161.9	163.4
Dominion	158.2	159.7	160.3

The city indexes show changes in living costs for each city and compare the extent of the rise or fall between cities. They do not, however, compare actual level of living costs. Indexes shown in the above table do not yet include data covering Newfoundland.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>March 9, 1950</u>	<u>March 2, 1950</u>	<u>Feb. 9, 1950</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(16 Common Stocks)	117.9	118.3	119.0
82 Industrials	111.6	112.1	113.1
16 Utilities	126.3	126.0	125.7
8 Banks	142.6	142.4	142.8
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	89.3	91.6	91.2
25 Golds	72.5	73.7	73.1
5 Base Metals	122.3	127.0	126.9

VALUE OF INVENTORIES HELD BY
MANUFACTURERS DOWN FIVE PER CENT

The value of inventories held by the manufacturing industries of Canada at the end of 1949 was down about five per cent from a year earlier, according to index numbers compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The year-end index, on the base 1947=100, stood at 122.4 as compared with 129.0 at the end of 1948.

The index reached a peak of 134.0 in February 1949, but by April had fallen to 130.2. It rose slowly in the next three months to 131.9 in July, but from that month moved progressively lower. At the December level the index was the lowest since May 1948, when it stood at 121.7.

Year-end indexes for all main sub-groups were lower than a year earlier. The index for consumers' goods fell from 126.7 to 125.0, capital goods from 116.7 to 95.3, producers' materials from 138.0 to 127.3, and construction materials from 153.3 to 145.8. (8)

OUTPUT, CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS
BY CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS

Output of electric energy by central electric stations in January was at a record level for the month, while consumption of primary power rose to an all-time high. All provinces shared in the month's output over a year earlier except Ontario.

The month's output amounted to 4,071,545,000 kilowatt hours as compared with the monthly average of 3,889,435,000 for 1949, 3,699,472,000 in January last year, and compares with the previous high January figure of 3,851,111,000 reached in 1947.

Consumption of primary power rose to 3,773,780,000 kilowatt hours in January as against the 1949 monthly average of 3,508,549,000 and 3,406,608,000 in the same month last year. Exports to the United States in January was at the lowest figure for any January since 1936, amounting to 128,075,000 kilowatt hours compared with the annual average of 146,396,000 recorded last year and 151,583,000 a year ago. In January, 1936, exports aggregated 118,050,000 kilowatt hours.

January production was as follows by provinces, totals for January last year being in brackets (figures in thousands): Prince Edward Island, 1,870 (1,634) kilowatt hours; Nova Scotia, 66,683 (62,232); New Brunswick, 65,714 (59,128); Quebec, 2,109,988 (1,839,823); Ontario, 1,063,050 (1,073,706); Manitoba, 227,945 (200,629). Saskatchewan, 82,095 (76,279); Alberta, 77,735 (72,357); British Columbia, 376,465 (313,684). (9)

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Farm prices of Canadian agricultural products -- excluding Newfoundland -- moved downward in January, the monthly index number, on the base 1935-39=100, standing at 239.3 as compared with 246.0 for December, and 257.7 for January last year. The January index is the lowest recorded since December, 1947, when the index stood at 226.7. The substantial decline in the index for January is attributable in large part to the decline in the price of hogs and eggs. As compared with a year ago, current prices were lower for nearly all commodities. The annual average index for 1949 was 251.2, showing a slight decline from the all-time annual average figure of 252.6 in 1948. For 1947 the index stood at 212.5.

Indexes were as follows by provinces in January, figures for the same month last year being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 175.9 (196.5); Nova Scotia, 200.7 (213.4); New Brunswick, 202.2 (227.7); Quebec, 250.9 (274.1); Ontario, 243.1 (267.3); Manitoba, 241.4 (260.0); Saskatchewan, 232.1 (243.9); Alberta, 246.8 (260.4); and British Columbia, 231.5 (247.6). (Mem. 1)

EXPORT WHEAT SUPPLIES
ABOVE LAST YEAR

The combined wheat supply of the United States, Canada, Argentina and Australia -- the world's four major exporting countries -- amounted to 1,683,000,000 bushels on January 1 this year, some 109,000,000 bushels above the supply level at the beginning of 1949. Moderate declines in Canada and Argentina were more than offset by increases in supplies in the United States and Australia.

The total supply of the five principal grains -- wheat, corn, barley, rye and oats -- stood at 162,000,000 short tons, about 16 per cent above the average of the past five years, but only slightly above the large 1949 supply. The sustained level of world grain supplies results largely from continued good crops of corn and wheat and substantial stocks of these grains in the United States.

Stocks of each grain in Canada and Argentina -- with the minor exception of oats in the latter country -- declined from the January 1, 1949, position. The supply of each grain in Australia was higher at January 1 this year, although the total was only half a million short tons greater than at January 1, 1949. In the United States, supplies of rye remained steady, but there were significant decreases in oats and barley supplies.

The United States Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations states that total world breadgrain import requirements for 1949-50 are expected to be reduced 10 per cent or more from the total 1948-49 exports of 26,700,000 long tons -- 970,000,000 bushels of wheat and flour in terms of wheat, and 30,000,000 bushels of rye. Supplies of wheat available for export in the principal surplus-producing areas are considered adequate to meet the export demand with significant increases in stocks not being anticipated except in the United States. (10)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on March 2 amounted to 147,204,000 bushels as compared with 148,818,200 a week earlier, and 142,996,600 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending March 2 totalled 1,943,500 bushels compared with 1,323,800 a year ago, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 252,473,200 bushels as against 247,630,900 in the same 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 March 2, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: oats, 428,400 (557,600) bushels; barley, 225,200 (550,300); rye, 66,800 (39,100); flaxseed, 2,000 (62,400).

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending March 2 amounted to 2,148,800 bushels compared with 1,863,900 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the total for the crop year to date to 99,120,300 bushels against 86,688,400 in the similar period of 1948-49. (Mem. 2)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER
IN NINE CITIES OF CANADA

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on March 10 amounted to 22,863,000 pounds as compared with 9,118,000 on the corresponding date last year. Increased holdings were recorded in each of the nine centres except Quebec and Vancouver. Stocks were as follows by cities on March 10, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 233 (1,078) pounds; Montreal, 3,980 (2,616); Toronto, 6,033 (1,875); Winnipeg, 7,870 (945); Regina, 634 (161); Saskatoon, 230 (159); Edmonton, 2,106 (489); Calgary, 638 (328); Vancouver, 1,139 (1,467).

MILK PRODUCTION SLIGHTLY
HIGHER IN YEAR

Milk production in Canada in 1949 amounted to 16,789,000,000 pounds, showing a slight increase over the preceding year's total of 16,730,000,000 pounds. Of the 1949 production, approximately 9,000,000,000 pounds -- 75,000,000 more than in 1948 -- were used for factory products. Fluid sales in the year reached a total of 4,083,753,000 pounds, an increase of 59,000,000 over the same period of 1948.

Production of milk in December totalled 1,022,000,000 pounds, an increase of 26,000,000 over the same month of 1948. Reports received from dairy correspondents, indicate an increase of 2.5 per cent in milk production in January this year as compared with the same month of 1948.

During 1949 the production of milk in Ontario -- largest producer -- rose to 5,677,129,000 pounds from 5,572,691,000 in 1948, and in Quebec to 4,836,936,000 pounds from 4,775,769,000. The output in Saskatchewan was down to 1,702,591,000 pounds from 1,802,485,000, in Alberta to 1,666,884,000 pounds from 1,672,602,000, and Manitoba to 1,161,815,000 pounds from 1,193,350,000.

British Columbia's output in the 12 months was up to 651,647,000 pounds from 633,576,000, while New Brunswick's was lower at 457,893,000 pounds against 465,276,000. In Nova Scotia, production rose to 442,774,000 pounds from 429,064,000, and in Prince Edward Island to 191,195,000 pounds from 185,549,000. (11)

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives on March 1 amounted to 26,593,000 pounds as compared with 29,084,000 on February 1, and 35,914,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, totalled 8,574,000 pounds compared with 9,619,000 on February 1, and 10,069,000 a year ago.

Holdings of Canadian potatoes, cabbages, parsnips, and celery were higher than a year earlier but others were lower. Stocks of potatoes amounted to 431,670 tons compared with 349,395 a year ago, onions 6,260 tons compared with 11,257, beets 1,034 tons compared with 1,075, carrots 4,922 tons compared with 9,077, cabbages 1,719 tons compared with 1,640, parsnips 917 tons compared with 702, and celery 8,262 crates compared with 4,863. (Mem. 3)

STOCKS OF MEAT AND LARD ON MARCH 1

Stocks of meat held by packers, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses were lower on March 1, amounting to 55,133,000 pounds as compared with 56,952,000 on February 1 and 74,444,000 on the corresponding date last year.

Holdings of frozen meat totalled 28,948,000 pounds compared with 30,655,000 on February 1 and 45,940,000 on March 1, 1949. Stocks of fresh meat amounted to 12,241,000 pounds compared with 14,159,000 at the beginning of February and 13,394,000 a year ago, while cured meat increased to 13,944,000 pounds from 12,138,000 on February 1, but were lower than last year's corresponding total of 15,110,000 pounds.

Lard stocks amounted to 3,312,000 pounds on March 1 as against 3,845,000 on February 1 and 3,506,000 on the same date last year. (Mem. 4)

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FISH Cold storage holdings of fish were lower on March 1, amounting to 25,236,000 pounds as compared with 31,894,000 on February 1 and 28,729,000 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks on March 1 comprised 23,682,000 pounds frozen fresh and 1,554,000 pounds frozen smoked. Stocks of fish in Newfoundland totalled 2,034,000 pounds of frozen fresh sea fish and 23,000 pounds of frozen smoked sea fish. These figures are not included in the all-Canada total. (Mem. 5)

POULTRY NUMBERS INCREASED
5.8 PER CENT AT DECEMBER 1 There were 42,443,000 head of poultry on Canadian farms (excluding Newfoundland) at December 1, 1949, showing an increase of 6.8 per cent over the preceding year's December 1 estimate. Increases were registered in all provinces except Saskatchewan where the decrease amounted to about nine per cent. Current estimates of poultry numbers in Newfoundland are not available, but the census of October 1, 1949, placed the number of domestic fowl in that province at 346,428 head.

Domestic fowl on farms -- hens, cocks and chickens -- numbered 39,319,000 head, an increase of 5.8 per cent over December 1, 1948. Turkeys increased to 2,391,000 from 1,851,700, or by slightly more than 29 per cent. Ducks numbered 405,000 as compared with 354,800, an increase of 14 per cent, but geese were lower at 328,000 compared with 350,900, down 6.5 per cent. (Mem. 6)

SUGAR SUPPLIES IN JANUARY Stocks of raw sugar at the end of January were higher than on the corresponding date of 1949, but the holdings of refined sugar were lower. The former rose from 100,341,882 pounds to 125,536,631, and the latter was down from 220,426,540 pounds to 212,984,738.

Stocks of raw sugar at the beginning of January amounted to 153,908,327 pounds compared with 138,256,134, and the receipts during the month totalled 28,980,308 pounds compared with 33,496,484. Maltings and sales in January were off to 57,352,004 pounds from 71,414,877 pounds.

At the beginning of January there were 246,638,338 pounds of refined sugar in the hands of refineries compared with 223,623,074 a year earlier, and the amount manufactured during the month was 53,988,565 pounds compared with 70,068,638. The month's sales amounted to 87,049,335 pounds compared with 73,254,210 pounds. (12)

WOOL PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES Wool production in Canada in 1949, not including Newfoundland, amounted to 9,835,000 pounds, 17.5 per cent below the 11,915,000 pounds produced in 1948, and approximately half as much as in the peak production year, 1945. The 1935-39 average was 16,022,000 pounds.

Shorn wool production in 1949 amounted to 7,759,000 pounds as compared with 8,423,000 in 1948, and the farm cash income from sales totalled \$1,988,000 compared with \$2,141,000. There was a marked reduction in wool pulled from domestic kilns, the year's total amounting to 2,076,000 pounds compared with 3,492,000.

Exports of wool in 1949, totalling 3,920,000 pounds, were about a 1,000,000 pounds below the 1948 exports, while imports amounted to 70,720,000 pounds as compared with 95,181,000 pounds in 1948 and an annual average of 52,822,000 during the five-year period, 1935-39. Because data on wool inventories are not available, total domestic use cannot be calculated with any degree of precision. Assuming no change in stocks, the domestic disappearance was 76,635,000 pounds in 1949 as compared with 102,167,000 in 1948. (Mem. 7)

PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS
OF COAL IN FEBRUARY

Production of coal in Canada was five per cent higher in February than in the corresponding month last year, but showed a slight decline in the first two months of the year. Imports decreased 56 per cent in the month and 43 per cent in the cumulative period. All provinces shared in the month's rise over a year earlier except Alberta, while in the two months Alberta and British Columbia were lower.

According to preliminary figures, the all-Canada output in February amounted to 1,773,000 tons as compared with 1,688,400 a year earlier. In the two months, 3,522,400 tons were produced as against 3,544,600 in the same period last year. Imports decreased sharply to 361,500 tons from 827,700 a year ago, and in the two months to 995,800 tons as against 1,698,600.

Mines in Alberta produced 770,000 tons in February as compared with 781,500 in February, 1949, and in Nova Scotia 543,000 tons compared with 496,200. Total for Saskatchewan stood at 251,000 tons compared with 213,600, British Columbia 162,500 tons compared with 161,100, and New Brunswick 46,500 tons compared with 36,000. (13)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS
OF SALT IN 1949

Production of common salt during the calendar year 1949 was slightly above the preceding year, while shipments showed a slight decline. The year's output amounted to 749,717 tons as compared with 749,468 in 1948, and the shipments totalled 749,727 tons compared with 750,278. In December, 61,409 tons were produced as compared with 71,895 in November and 62,649 a year earlier. Shipments in the month decreased to 60,998 tons from 70,123 in November and 63,788 in December, 1948. (14)

SALES OF RADIO RECEIVING
SETS IN NOVEMBER

Reversing the downward trend of the two previous months, sales of radio receiving sets in November moved up to 85,540 units valued at \$7,762,416 compared with 80,748 valued at \$6,604,131 in the corresponding month of 1948. Sales in the first 11 months of 1949 were up to 627,097 units valued at \$47,687,027 compared with 506,567 at \$42,668,651 in the like period of 1948.

Ontario was the only province to show increased sales in the month, while in the first 11 months of the year, sales were higher in all but Quebec, Manitoba, and British Columbia.

Sales in the month were as follows by provinces, totals for November, 1948 being in brackets: Ontario, 45,558 (34,606) units; Quebec, 15,134 (18,125); British Columbia, 6,646 (7,115); Maritimes, 5,442 (5,768); Alberta, 5,200 (6,131); Manitoba, 4,375 (5,443); Saskatchewan, 2,619 (3,560); Newfoundland, 566 (-). (15)

PRODUCTION OF GRINDING BALLS

Canadian production of grinding balls in 1949 amounted to 31,931 tons as compared with 27,418 in the preceding year, while the factory sales totalled 29,929 tons at \$2,717,707 compared with 27,622 tons at \$2,402,660. (Mem. 3).

PRODUCTION AND SALES OF STOVES AND WARM AIR FURNACES

Canadian manufacturers produced 35,370 stoves of all kinds and 5,457 warm air furnaces during January this year, according to the first of a new monthly report series by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on production and factory sales of stoves and warm air furnaces. Factory sales in the month totalled 33,790 stoves at \$2,449,435 and 3,970 warm air furnaces at \$492,998.

Electric cooking stoves, over 35 amperes, accounted for more than half the total value of stove sales at \$1,299,502 and were first in units sold at 8,699. Coal, wood and sawdust cooking stoves came second in value at \$350,915 and third in number at 4,706, while coal, wood and sawdust heating stoves were second in number at 6,712 but only fourth in value at \$126,695. Other numerically larger items were: gas cooking stoves and ranges, 3,013 units at \$272,687; electric rangettes, 3,118 at \$93,080; fuel oil (distillate) heating stoves, 1,062 at \$49,125; oil and gasoline stoves and heaters (excluding those using distillate), 3,896 at \$28,899. (Mem. 9)

PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC SALES OF ASPHALT FLOOR TILES

Production of asphalt floor tiles in January amounted to 1,548,400 square feet as compared with 1,596,500 in the preceding month and 1,291,800 in January last year. Domestic sales in the month were down in both comparisons, amounting to 1,296,500 square feet as compared with 1,305,000 in December and 1,328,600 a year ago. (Mem. 10)

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON URBAN AND INTERURBAN LINES IN NOVEMBER

Canadian transit systems showed a decline in traffic in November as compared with the same month of 1948. The total number of passengers on urban and inter-urban lines declined from 138,167,452 to 136,136,679, or by 1.5 per cent. Urban volume at 127,352,304 passengers was down over 2,319,000, while interurban increased nearly 288,500 to 8,784,375.

Despite the overall decline in traffic, revenues advanced to \$12,505,498, up 8.5 per cent or \$976,930 from November, 1948. Urban lines earned \$827,324 more at \$9,196,484, while interurban service gained \$149,606 to \$3,309,014. (16)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Cars of revenue freight loaded in Canada during the week ended March 4 amounted to 71,552 cars, up 1,332 cars over the revised total of 70,020 cars for the preceding week, but 1.5 per cent or 1,119 cars under the same week of 1949 when the total was 72,671 cars. Loadings in the eastern division totalled 46,883 cars compared with 45,905 in the corresponding period of last year, while western division loadings totalled 24,669 cars compared with 26,766. (17)

WAREHOUSING IN 1948

Revenues of 112 warehousing establishments in Canada which reported their operations to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics rose from \$15,731,000 in 1947 to \$17,372,000 in 1948, or by 10 per cent. Expenses advanced from \$13,125,000 to \$14,315,000, or by nine per cent, and the net operating revenues advanced from \$2,606,000 to \$3,056,000.

The number of regular employees was lower at 2,896 compared with 2,933 in 1947, and casual help declined to 235 from 328. Salaried employees decreased to 910 as compared with 971. Total salaries and wages for employees of all classes increased from \$6,820,000 to \$7,521,000. (18)

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, January (10 cents).
2. Monthly Summary of Imports for Consumption, January (20 cents).
3. The Employment Situation at the Beginning of January, Together with Payrolls (25 cents).
4. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, January (25 cents).
5. Retail Trade, January (25 cents).
6. Department Store Sales and Stocks, January (10 cents).
7. Chain Store Sales and Stocks, January (25 cents).
8. Inventories and Shipments by Manufacturing Industries, December (25 cents).
9. Central Electric Stations, January (10 cents).
10. The Wheat Review, February (25 cents).
11. The Dairy Review, January (25 cents).
12. The Sugar Situation, January (10 cents).
13. Preliminary Report on Coal Production, February (10 cents).
14. Salt, December (10 cents).
15. Radio Receiving Sets, November (25 cents).
16. Transit Report, November (10 cents).
17. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
18. Warehousing, 1948 (20 cents).
19. Civil Aviation, 1948 (20 cents).
20. Trade of Canada: Exports, January (50 cents).

Memoranda

1. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, January (10 cents).
 2. Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
 3. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, March 1 (10 cents).
 4. Stocks of Meat, Lard and Tallow, March 1 (10 cents).
 5. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, March 1 (10 cents).
 6. Report on the Poultry Survey, December 1 (10 cents).
 7. Wool Production and Supply, 1949 (10 cents).
 8. Grinding Balls, 1949 (10 cents).
 9. Stoves and Furnaces, January (10 cents).
 10. Asphalt Floor Tiles, January (10 cents).
 11. Type of Ownership of the Manufacturing Industries, 1947 (25 cents).
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