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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

SALARIES AND WAGES AND SUPPLEMENTARY LABOUR INCOME in 1949 amounted to an estimated total of \$7,630,000,000, or about seven per cent higher than the revised estimate of \$7,113,000,000 for the preceding year. Increases were recorded in all industries except forestry and fishing.

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SALES OF WHOLESALERS IN JANUARY this year were five per cent lower than in the same month last year, and 11.4 per cent below December, 1949.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES fell seven per cent during the week ending March 11 as compared with the same period of 1949, all provinces except Saskatchewan and Alberta showing declines.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS for the week ending March 11 amounted to 71,103 cars as compared with 71,552 in the preceding week and 74,473 in the corresponding week last year.

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FOREIGN VEHICLES ENTERING CANADA on traveller's vehicle permits increased nine per cent in February, numbering 39,033 as compared with 35,826 in the corresponding month last year.

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OVERALL COST OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES used by farmers showed a slight drop in the five months from August last year to January this year, while farm living costs increased.

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STEEL INGOT PRODUCTION in February amounted to 251,390 tons as compared with 249,009 in the corresponding month last year.

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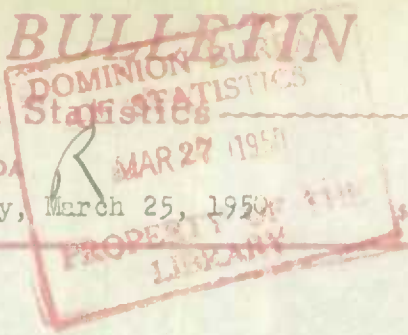
CRUDE PETROLEUM PRODUCTION rose to an all-time record total of 21,487,130 barrels in 1949, an advance of 74 per cent over the preceding year's figure of 12,368,042 barrels.

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STOCKS OF CANADIAN WHEAT in store or in transit in North America at midnight on March 9 amounted to 143,369,800 bushels as compared with 140,294,500 on the same date last year.

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CANADA'S 1949 COMMERCIAL FRUIT CROP had an estimated value of \$42,708,000, down 11 per cent from the preceding year's total of \$48,149,000.



LABOUR INCOME UP SEVEN PER CENT IN YEAR

Estimated total of salaries and wages and supplementary labour income in 1949 stands at \$7,630,000,000, or about seven per cent higher than the revised estimate of \$7,113,000,000 for the preceding year. Increases were recorded in all industries with the exception of forestry and fishing, the decline in the former being substantial.

The estimated total for all industries in December amounted to \$642,000,000, down \$19,000,000 from November, but up \$28,000,000 or about five per cent over December, 1948. The influence of winter weather on outside industrial activity, together with a shorter work-week due to the holiday season, were major factors contributing to the decline from November.

Labour income in agriculture, logging, fishing, trapping and mining as a group totalled \$586,000,000 in 1949 as compared with \$622,000,000 in the preceding year. In December the total was \$47,000,000 as against \$52,000,000 a year earlier.

In manufacturing, labour income for the year totalled \$2,582,000,000 compared with \$2,422,000,000 in 1948, and in December it was \$217,000,000 against \$211,000,000.

In construction the year's total was \$527,000,000 compared with \$478,000,000 in the preceding year, the December figure standing at \$41,000,000 compared with \$39,000,000.

The estimated total for utilities, transportation, communication, storage and trade for the year amounted to \$2,022,000,000 as compared with \$1,846,000,000 in 1948, and for December at \$174,000,000 compared with \$164,000,000.

In finance and services -- including government -- the year's labour income aggregated \$1,655,000,000 as compared with \$1,510,000,000 the year before. The December total was \$141,000,000 compared with \$129,000,000.

Supplementary labour income in 1949 totalled \$252,000,000 as compared with \$236,000,000 in 1948, and in December it was \$22,000,000 against \$21,000,000. (1)

MAN-HOURS AND HOURLY EARNINGS

Average weekly wages paid to hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading Canadian manufacturing establishments at January 1 this year amounted to \$40.48, down \$2.42 from the peak figure for December 1, but \$1.02 above the January 1949 average of \$39.46. The decline from December 1 was due to the observance of holidays and to seasonal inactivity in certain industries.

Hourly-earnings reached a new maximum of 101.2 cents at January 1, an increase of 1.2 cents over December 1, and an advance of four cents over January, 1949. The average work-week was 40.0 hours against 42.9 at December 1, and 40.6 a year ago. (2)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES DOWN SEVEN PER CENT

Department store sales decreased seven per cent during the week ending March 11 as compared with the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures. All provinces participated in the decline except Saskatchewan and Alberta, where gains of three per cent and one per cent were recorded. Sales in British Columbia fell 11 per cent, Quebec and Ontario each nine per cent, Manitoba seven per cent, and the Maritime Provinces six per cent.

WHOLESALE SALES DOWN
FIVE PER CENT IN JANUARY

Sales of wholesalers in January this year were five per cent lower than in the same month last year, and 11.4 per cent below December 1949, according to statements submitted by 367 wholesalers representing nine lines of trade.

The unadjusted index of sales for the nine trades, on the base, average for 1935-39=100, stood at 231.8 for January, compared with 243.2 for January, 1949, and 261.5 for December last year.

All regions of the country shared in the general decline in sales except the Maritimes, where a fractional gain of 0.6 per cent was recorded. Sales in the Prairie Provinces and Ontario were each down four per cent from a year ago, Quebec seven per cent, and British Columbia nine per cent.

Groceries, and fruits and vegetable trades showed minor gains in sales with increases over January 1949 of 1.8 per cent and 0.4 per cent, respectively. Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers, registered a minor decline of 0.5 per cent in dollar volume of sales from a year ago. Sales of automotive equipment wholesalers were seven per cent below January last year, drug wholesalers' sales dropped 10 per cent, and hardware declined 15 per cent. Footwear sales were 12 per cent lower, dry goods 16 per cent, and clothing 22 per cent. (3)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

March 16, 1950 March 9, 1950 Feb. 16, 1950

(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

(106 Common Stocks)	119.2	117.9	117.7
82 Industrials	113.1	111.6	111.5
16 Utilities	127.0	126.3	125.3
8 Banks	143.2	142.6	143.3

Mining Stock Price Index

(30 Stocks)	90.9	89.3	90.7
25 Golds	73.8	72.5	72.8
5 Base Metals	124.5	122.3	126.0

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC UP
NINE PER CENT IN FEBRUARY

Foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits increased nine per cent in February, numbering 39,033 as compared with 35,826 in the corresponding month last year. All provinces reported gains except Ontario and Nova Scotia. A decline was also shown for the Yukon Territory. During the first two months of the year, entries totalled 75,218, a rise of 10 per cent over last year's figure of 68,416.

Entries into Ontario in February totalled 19,437 as compared with 20,111 in the corresponding month last year, Quebec 8,551 compared with 7,963, British Columbia 6,551 compared with 4,879, and New Brunswick 3,587 compared with 2,333. Alberta's total was 461 (302 in February 1949), Manitoba 357 (176), Saskatchewan 52 (30), Newfoundland 19 (-), Yukon Territory 18 (31), Nova Scotia nil (1). (Mem. 1)

ANALYSIS OF CANADIAN
MANUFACTURING OUTPUT

Increased wholesale prices of partly and fully manufactured products accounted for about three-fourths of a gain of \$2,045,334,000 in the gross value of Canadian manufacturing output in 1947 over 1946, and physical volume of production for the remainder, according to the detailed report on the manufacturing industries of Canada in 1947 released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Gross value of products made in Canada during 1947 amounted to \$10,081,027,000, an all-time record up to that year, but exceeded in 1948 when it advanced 17 per cent over 1947 to a new peak of \$11,800,887,000.

The number of manufacturing establishments rose in 1947 to 32,734 from 31,249 in the preceding year, and the employees advanced to 1,132,000 from 1,058,000, or by seven per cent. The 1947 total was, however, still 109,000 below the record number employed in 1943. Salary and wage payments amounted to \$2,085,926,000 -- a new high -- as against \$1,740,687,000 in 1946, and \$2,029,621,000 in 1944, the previous high year.

From the point of view of employment, which more closely reflects changes in the physical volume of production than any other factor, the non-ferrous metal products group showed the greatest advance in the year with an increase of 13.2 per cent. The wood and paper products group came second with an increase of 10.9 per cent, followed by the miscellaneous industries group with 10.3 per cent, non-metallic mineral products 7.5 per cent, textiles 6.9 per cent, iron and its products 5.7 per cent, vegetable products 5.2 per cent, and chemicals and allied products 3.3 per cent. The animal products group registered a minor decline of 0.7 per cent.

All provinces contributed to the advance in the value of products manufactured during the year, Ontario leading with a total of \$4,903,473,000 -- 48 per cent of the all-Canada total -- as compared with \$3,754,524,000 in 1946. Quebec was next in order with \$3,017,049,000 -- 30 per cent of the Dominion total -- compared with \$2,497,972,000, and British Columbia \$858,285,000 compared with \$644,528,000. Manitoba -- fourth largest -- had a total value of \$383,130,000 as compared with \$351,887,000.

The value of production in Alberta was \$296,054,000 as compared with \$257,032,000 in 1946, New Brunswick \$208,366,000 (\$170,754,000 in 1946), Nova Scotia \$204,219,000 (\$178,793,000), Saskatchewan \$196,452,000 (\$168,357,000), Prince Edward Island \$12,653,000 (\$11,200,000), and Yukon and Northwest Territories \$1,344,000 (\$646,000).

The factory value of products manufactured by the 10 leading industries in order of magnitude were as follows -- in thousands -- totals for 1946 being in brackets: pulp and paper, \$706,972 (\$527,815); slaughtering and meat packing, \$486,917 (\$475,953); non-ferrous metal smelting and refining, \$453,034 (\$304,719); sawmills, \$402,133 (\$287,910); electrical apparatus and supplies, \$366,506 (\$234,573); automobiles, \$340,918 (\$193,440); flour and feed mills, \$324,152 (\$260,659); butter and cheese, \$309,728 (\$234,664); petroleum products, \$288,500 (\$223,425); primary iron and steel, \$216,276 (\$153,083). (4)

ANALYSIS OF CHEQUES CASHED
IN CANADIAN CLEARING CENTRES

Cheques cashed in the clearing centres of Canada advanced year by year without interruption from 1938 to 1949, when they reached a total of \$87.6 billion as compared with \$30.9 billion in 1938, an increase of 183 per cent. Adjusted for price changes, the amount of cheques cashed rose steadily from 1938 to 1945, but then declined in each of the three years 1946 to 1948, moving upward again in 1949, according to the Bureau's annual report for 1949 on cheques cashed in clearing centres.

The report presents in charts and tables various analyses of trends in amounts of cheques cashed by economic areas and contains historical tables showing amounts for each clearing centre from 1926 to 1949, with long and short-term changes. (5)

FARM LIVING COSTS ADVANCE
BUT TOTAL FARM COSTS LOWER

Overall cost of commodities and services used by Canadian farmers showed a slight drop in the five months from August last year to January this year, while farm living costs increased, according to indexes compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The Bureau's composite price index of commodities and services used by farmers, including farm living costs, declined from 192.3 for August to 187.9 for January. At the latter level, however, the index was fractionally above the standing of 187.7 for January, 1949. The drop of 4.4 points from August to January this year was due entirely to a sharp seasonal drop in farm wage rates, the index of which fell from 388.1 to 324.8. Exclusive of farm living costs, the composite index fell from 204.2 for August to 196.3, which compares with 198.3 in January last year.

Reflecting increases for foods, fuel, health and maintenance, and miscellaneous items for both eastern and western Canada, the index of farm family living costs rose from 174.5 for August to 175.3 for January. The latest index was 3.5 points above the index for January, 1949. Clothing and household equipment remained unchanged in the five months.

Indexes for farm equipment and materials increased 4.2 points, rising from 180.2 to 184.4, the latter level comparing with 180.3 in January last year. Among its components, price indexes were higher in January this year than in August for farm machinery, building materials, gasoline, oil and grease, feed, fertilizer, seed and hardware, but was unchanged for binder twine, while all sub-groups moved higher than a year ago except seed. (6)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on March 9 amounted to 143,369,800 bushels as compared with 147,204,000 a week earlier, and 140,294,500 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending March 9 totalled 1,631,800 bushels as compared with 1,828,600 a year ago, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 244,105,000 bushels as against 249,459,500 in the similar period of the preceding crop year.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending March 9 totalled 2,676,700 bushels as compared with 2,544,900 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the total for the crop year to date to 101,797,100 bushels against 89,528,600 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 17 amounted to 21,222,000 pounds as compared with 7,662,000 on the corresponding date last year. Increased holdings were recorded for each of the nine centres except Quebec.

Stocks were as follows by cities on March 17, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 367 (961) pounds; Montreal, 2,753 (2,172); Toronto, 5,647 (1,772); Winnipeg, 7,829 (916); Regina, 610 (139); Saskatoon, 231 (178); Edmonton, 2,121 (320); Calgary, 608 (272); Vancouver, 1,056 (977).

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS
OF PROCESSED CHEESE

Production of processed cheese in February amounted to 3,019,000 pounds as compared with 2,622,000 in January and 2,977,000 in the same month last year. Stocks held by manufacturers amounted to 843,000 pounds at March 1 as compared with 993,000 at February 1.

PRODUCTION OF FROZEN EGGS

Production of frozen eggs in February, including all plants under inspection reporting to the Department of Agriculture and uninspected plants reporting to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, was 2,125,839 pounds.

VALUE OF CANADA'S FRUIT
CROP LOWER IN 1949

Canada's 1949 commercial fruit crop had an estimated value of \$42,708,000, down 11 per cent from the preceding year's total of \$48,149,000. Among the individual crops, only pears, cherries and apricots were higher in value. Average prices for most fruits were also lower than in 1948.

The apple crop was down in value to \$20,257,000 from \$22,631,000, peaches to \$4,796,000 from \$4,953,000, strawberries to \$5,683,000 from \$6,821,000, raspberries to \$2,629,000 from \$3,279,000, plums and prunes to \$1,297,000 from \$1,889,000, grapes to \$1,416,000 from \$2,559,000, and loganberries to \$123,000 from \$340,000.

Pears were up in value to \$2,370,000 from \$2,185,000, cherries to \$3,352,000 from \$2,863,000, and apricots to \$785,000 from \$629,000.

The crop in British Columbia was down to \$22,906,000 from \$26,610,000, Ontario to \$13,193,000 from \$15,018,000, but was higher in Quebec at \$4,108,000 against \$3,605,000. In Nova Scotia the value was lower at \$1,917,000 against \$2,151,000, and New Brunswick at \$584,000 against \$765,000. (Mem. 3)

PRODUCTION OF FIBRE FLAX
AND SEED LOWER IN 1949

The value of fibre flax and seed produced on Canadian farms in the 1949-50 season is estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at \$531,000, down sharply from the preceding year's total of \$1,330,000. Seed fell in value to \$179,000 from \$275,000, graded scutched flax to \$246,000 from \$800,000, and graded scutched tow to \$106,000 from \$255,000.

The acreage devoted to the production of flax fibre showed a marked decline in 1949, being estimated at 6,065 acres compared with 13,993 in 1948, but the area producing seed rose to 1,453 acres from 123. There were 452 tons of graded scutched flax produced in 1949 compared with 1,000 in the preceding year, and 551 tons of tow compared with 850. Seed production in the year amounted to 35,800 bushels compared with 50,000. (Mem. 4)

FEWER DIVORCES IN
CANADA IN 1949

Both in number and rate, divorces in Canada have dropped off sharply in the last two years, after a rapid climb during the war and early post-war years from 1941 to 1947. In 1948 the number fell 16 per cent from the all-time high in 1947, and last year showed a further drop of 14 per cent. In the two years the all-Canada divorce rate has fallen from 65.3 to 44.9 per 100,000 population.

According to preliminary figures, divorces in 1949 totalled 5,911, down from the preceding year's figure of 6,881, but a sharp advance over the 1940 total of 2,369. The decrease from 1948 lowered the rate per 100,000 population from 53.5 to 44.9. In 1940 the rate was 20.8.

Ontario had a total of 2,373 divorces in 1949 as compared with 3,107 in 1948, and British Columbia 1,491 compared with 1,683. Alberta's divorce total was 594 compared with 651; Manitoba, 411 compared with 477; Quebec, 350 (292); Saskatchewan, 289 (333); New Brunswick, 202 (211); Nova Scotia, 181 (78); Prince Edward Island, 20 (49).

Although second to Ontario in the number of divorces granted, British Columbia's rate of divorce per 100,000 population exceeded the rest of the country by a wide margin, with a figure of 133.8, but was lower than the 155.5 recorded for 1948. Alberta was next with a rate of 68.2 (77.0 in 1948); Ontario, 53.8 (72.3); Manitoba, 52.8 (63.0); New Brunswick, 39.1 (41.9); Saskatchewan, 33.6 (39.0); Nova Scotia, 28.1 (12.3); Prince Edward Island, 21.3 (52.7); and Quebec, 9.0 (7.7).

Following are annual totals of divorces in Canada between 1939 and 1948: 1940, 2,369; 1941, 2,461; 1942, 3,089; 1943, 3,263; 1944, 3,788; 1945, 5,076; 1946, 7,683; and 1947, 8,199.

CHARGES AND CONVICTIONS FOR
INFRACTIONS OF THE LAW IN 1948

Charges against adults for indictable offences, or the more serious type of crime, were less numerous in Canada in 1948 than in the preceding year, but charges for non-indictable offences showed a sharp rise. As a result, the total number of adults summoned to appear before the courts for infractions of the law was substantially greater.

A total of 924,711 cases of adult offenders were dealt with by the courts in 1948 as compared with 803,139. Charges for indictable offences decreased to 48,066 as compared with 50,681, while those for non-indictable offences rose to 876,645 as compared with 752,458 in 1947.

Convictions for indictable offences totalled 41,632 in 1948, a decrease of 5.5 per cent from the 1947 figure of 44,056. Non-indictable convictions, on the other hand, rose from 752,458 in 1947 to 876,645, or by 16.5 per cent.

Convictions for theft accounted for about one-quarter of the indictable class with 10,068 proven cases as compared with 9,844 in 1947. Burglary and robbery accounted for 5,541 convictions compared with 5,304, false pretences 3,667 compared with 3,094, common assault 1,895 (2,220 in 1947), dangerous or reckless driving 1,842 (2,066), aggravated assault 1,794 (1,952), driving car while drunk 1,481 (1,825), and receiving stolen goods 1,463 (1,378).

Violations of traffic regulations accounted for almost three-quarters of the convictions for non-indictable offences, totalling 649,599 compared with 537,519 in 1947. Drunkenness was next in order with 70,542 convictions compared with 70,868, breaches of municipal by-laws 40,552 compared with 34,354, infractions of the Liquor Control Act 27,744 compared with 28,486, and offences against provincial Acts 14,295 compared with 5,944. (7)

PRODUCTION OF LEADING
MINERALS IN 1949

Production of 11 of Canada's 16 leading minerals was increased in 1949 over the preceding year, asbestos, gypsum, lead, lime, and nickel showing declines. In December, production was lower than a year earlier for clay products, coal, gypsum, lime, nickel and salt.

According to preliminary figures, output for the year by items, was as follows, totals for 1948 being in brackets: asbestos, 573,668 (716,769) tons; cement, 15,916,564 (14,127,123) barrels; clay products, \$17,669,815 (\$17,234,475); coal, 19,109,747 (18,449,689) tons; copper, 525,983,025 (481,463,966) pounds; gold, 4,112,626 (3,529,608) fine ounces; iron ore, 3,774,525 (1,337,244) tons.

Lead production in the year amounted to 320,984,062 pounds compared with 334,501,917 in 1948; lime, 1,019,110 (1,050,427) tons; natural gas, 62,089,307 (58,603,269) M cubic feet; nickel, 252,168,484 (263,479,163) pounds; petroleum, 21,487,130 (12,368,042) barrels; salt, 749,727 (741,261) tons; silver, 17,577,194 (16,109,982) fine ounces; zinc, 581,382,544 (468,327,036) pounds; gypsum, 2,994,797 (3,216,809) tons. (8)

CRUDE PETROLEUM OUTPUT
AT NEW HIGH IN 1949

Canadian production of crude petroleum rose to an all-time record total in 1949, due principally to sharply increased output from the Leduc and Redwater fields of Alberta. Production from the Lloydminster field also advanced, while output from Turner Valley was lower.

According to preliminary figures, the year's output of crude petroleum aggregated 21,487,130 barrels, an advance of 74 per cent over the preceding year's figure of 12,368,042. December's output was 1,782,856 barrels, moderately below the 1,915,028 produced in November, but above the December, 1948 total of 1,247,654.

Alberta accounted for 20,246,466 barrels in 1949 as compared with 10,973,583 in 1948. Leduc's output rose to 9,688,784 from 4,657,371 in 1948, Redwater to 4,793,491 barrels from 36,875, and Lloydminster to 716,941 barrels from 648,055.

Crude output from Turner Valley fell to 3,826,543 barrels from 4,428,688, Taber to 150,746 barrels from 201,527, Conrad to 139,728 barrels from 182,255, Princess to 121,227 barrels from 187,084, and Vermillion to 86,933 barrels from 112,331.

The year's output in Saskatchewan amounted to 779,962 barrels as compared with 847,095 in 1948, Ontario 258,374 barrels compared with 176,225, Northwest Territories 182,783 barrels compared with 349,768, and New Brunswick 19,545 barrels compared with 21,371.

During the year, 62,089,307 M cubic feet of natural gas were produced compared with 58,990,299 M in the preceding year, while in December, 8,120,343 M cubic feet were produced as against 5,071,338 M in November and 7,091,990 M a year earlier. Output in 1949 was as follows by provinces (in M cubic feet), totals for 1948 being in brackets: Alberta, 51,812,751 (49,238,795); Ontario, 9,418,231 (9,060,277); Saskatchewan, 487,001 (271,434); and New Brunswick, 371,324 (419,793). (9)

PRODUCTION OF STEEL
INGOTS IN FEBRUARY

Steel ingot production in February, as in January, was above the corresponding month in 1949. The February total was 251,890 tons as compared with 249,009, bringing the total for the first two months of the year to 533,434 tons as against 524,996 a year earlier. On a daily basis, the February output averaged 8,996 tons compared with 8,893 a year ago, and in the two-month period the average was 9,041 tons compared with 8,898. (10)

SHIPMENTS OF PRIMARY SHAPES
HIGHER IN DECEMBER

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 234,284 net tons in December compared with 239,797 tons in November. The December shipments included 6,997 tons of semi-finished shapes, 11,718 tons of structurals, 12,220 tons of plates, 30,979 tons of rails, 6,180 tons of tie plates and track material, 45,593 tons of hot rolled bars, 16,964 tons of pipes and tubes, 25,194 tons of wire rods, 21,808 tons of black sheets, 7,272 tons of galvanized sheets, 6,778 tons of castings, and 13,083 tons of other rolled products. The amount of producers' interchange was 62,014 tons in December as against 72,690 in November.

Of the amounts shipped for sale during December, 32,763 tons went direct to railways and railway car shops, 15,765 tons to pressing, forming and stamping plants, 30,438 tons to merchant trade products, 26,435 tons to building construction, 14,900 tons to the containers industry, 14,020 tons to agricultural equipment, 13,685 tons to the automotive industry, 9,103 tons to machinery plants, 1,722 tons to shipbuilding, 14,310 tons to mining, lumbering, etc., and 1,536 tons to miscellaneous industries. Producers' interchange, or the tonnage shipped to producers' own works for further processing, totalled 62,014 tons in December. (11)

SALES OF PAINTS IN 1949

Manufacturers' sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers in 1949 were valued at \$78,777,500, showing a decrease of four per cent from the preceding year's figure of \$82,258,300. In December, sales were down to \$4,244,400 from \$5,546,800 in November, and \$4,493,400 in December, 1948. (12)

RIGID INSULATING BOARD

Production and domestic sales of rigid insulating board moved to lower levels in February. Output in the month amounted to 14,634,400 square feet as compared with 20,132,100 in the corresponding month of 1949, and the sales totalled 13,830,800 square feet compared with 19,802,100. (Mem. 5)

CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION OF RUBBER

Consumption of rubber increased three per cent in January to 13,861,000 pounds as compared with 13,405,500 in December. Natural rubber consumption advanced to 8,082,700 pounds from 7,865,700, synthetic to 3,421,500 pounds from 3,213,900, and reclaim to 2,356,800 pounds from 2,325,900.

Domestic production of synthetic rubber was higher in January, totalling 10,360,000 pounds as compared with 8,843,500 in December, while reclaim declined slightly to 710,100 pounds from 750,400. Month-end stocks of natural rubber increased to 12,844,200 pounds compared with 11,605,400 in December, synthetic to 9,952,300 pounds as compared with 9,950,100, while reclaim fell to 3,834,900 pounds compared with 4,133,800. (13)

STOCKS OF HIDES AND SKINS
AND PRODUCTION OF LEATHER

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers at the end of January this year amounted to 404,996 as compared with 478,247 on the corresponding date last year. There were 496,505 calf and kip skins on hand compared with 576,400 a year earlier, 33,839 goat and kid skins compared with 86,404, 24,760 horse hides compared with 25,983, and 43,931 dozen sheep and lamb skins compared with 70,044.

Production of cattle sole leather in January amounted to 2,055,703 pounds as compared with 1,702,806 in the same month last year, and finished stocks on hand at the end of the month totalled 3,161,651 pounds as against 3,655,282. Production of cattle upper leather amounted to 2,958,213 square feet compared with 3,085,692, and the stocks on hand totalled 2,344,868 square feet against 1,727,931. (Mem. 6)

FEWER CATTLE, HORSES AND
SHEEP ON CANADIAN FARMS

There were fewer cattle, horses and sheep on Canadian farms on December 1, 1949 than on the corresponding date in 1948. The decrease in the number of cattle was slight -- about one-tenth of one per cent -- to 8,243,000 from 8,251,000. Sheep and lambs decreased to 1,235,000 from 1,322,000, and horses to 1,738,000 from 1,841,900. The number of hogs, as reported in the Bureau's release on February 21, was 5,412,900 as compared with 4,504,300. (Mem. 7)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Cars of revenue freight loaded on Canadian railways during the week ended March 11 amounted to 71,103, down slightly from the preceding week's total of 71,552 cars, and 4.5 per cent or 3,375 cars under the corresponding week of 1949 when the total was 74,478 cars. Loadings in the eastern division totalled 47,119 cars compared with 48,092 in the same week last year, while western loadings, due to lower grain movement, declined from 26,386 to 23,984 cars. (14)

HANDBOOK ON NEWFOUNDLAND
RELEASED FOR DISTRIBUTION

Published by authority of the Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, a special handbook under the title "Newfoundland -- Canada's New Province" was released on Friday, March 17, by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for public distribution.

Containing a foreword by the Prime Minister, the handbook runs to more than 140 pages, telling in words and pictures of the human resources, history, geography and development of the Island and the Coast of Labrador. There are 10 chapters under the following headings: physical geography; history; provincial, municipal and local government; the people; public health and welfare; education; natural resources and industries; labour and employment; foreign trade; transportation and communications. It has about 90 illustrations, five coloured reproductions, six black-and-white maps and one lithographed map. The format is identical with that of the well-known Canada Handbook series.

Text of the booklet was prepared in the Department of External Affairs, with the exception of the chapter on physical geography, which was contributed by the Geographical Bureau of the former Department of Mines and Resources. Statistical material, layouts and certain designs were provided by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, which undertook the task, in close collaboration with the Department of External Affairs, of preparing and editing the booklet for publication.

Price of this handbook is 25 cents a copy. Orders for copies, accompanied by money order, should be sent to the King's Printer, Ottawa. (15)

LUMBER INDUSTRY IN MANITOBA Gross value of production of the lumber industry in Manitoba in 1948 amounted to \$3,017,291, showing an increase of 2.7 per cent over the preceding year's total of \$2,938,224. One-hundred and sixty nine plants were in operation during the year with 598 workers who received \$701,354 in salaries and wages as compared with 190 plants employing 717 persons whose earnings totalled \$577,341 in 1947. Output of the industry included 60,846 M feet board measure of sawn lumber as compared with 65,307 M in 1947, 2,256 M laths compared with 2,317 M, and 94,140 sawn ties compared with 18,207. (Mem. 8)

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. Estimates of Labour Income, December (10 cents).
2. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings, January 1 (10 cents).
3. Wholesale Trade, January (10 cents).
4. The Manufacturing Industries of Canada, by Provinces, 1947 (75 cents).
5. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, 1949 (50 cents).
6. Price Index Numbers of Commodities and Services Used by Farmers, January, 1950 (10 cents).
7. Statistics of Criminal and Other Offences, 1948 (50 cents).
8. Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, December (10 cents).
9. Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas, and Manufactured Gas, December (15 cents).
10. Steel Ingots, February (10 cents).
11. Primary Iron and Steel, December (15 cents).
12. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, December (10 cents).
13. Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, January (25 cents).
14. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
15. Newfoundland, Canada's New Province (25 cents).
16. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings, February (10 cents).
17. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways, November (10 cents).
18. Travel Between Canada and the United States, January (10 cents).
19. Products Made from Canadian Clays, November (10 cents).
20. Shipments and Inventories of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, December (25 cents).

Memoranda

1. Volume of Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Traveller's Vehicle Permits, February (10 cents).
2. Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
3. Value of Fruit Production, 1949 (10 cents).
4. Fibre Flax Production, 1947-49 (10 cents).
5. Rigid Insulating Board Industry, February (10 cents).
6. Hides, Skins and Leather, January (10 cents).
7. Cattle, Horses, and Sheep on Canadian Farms, December 1 (10 cents).
8. Lumber Industry in Manitoba, 1948 (10 cents).

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