



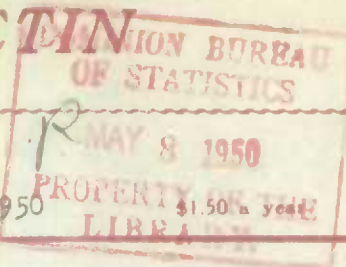
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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

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THE CANADIAN CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE in March this year totalled 5,108,000 persons, including 101,000 in Newfoundland, as against 4,899,000 in March last year for the nine older provinces only. Excluding Newfoundland, the civilian labour force was 108,000 greater than in March, 1949.

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EMPLOYMENT IN THE MAJOR NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES showed a further slight decline at the beginning of March, the downward trend being common to all provinces except British Columbia. In spite of the fall in employment, there was a moderate gain in salaries and wages.

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CANADA'S CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS with all countries in 1949 amounted to \$180 million, down sharply from \$452 million in 1948 but nearly four times the surplus of \$47 million in 1947. The smaller current surplus last year was due mainly to a reduced export balance on commodity account, but trends were also generally adverse in other current transactions.

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NON-RESIDENT INVESTMENTS IN CANADA rose more than \$300 million in 1948 over the 1947 level, the increase being entirely in holdings in the United States, while Canadian direct investments in business outside of Canada declined moderately and the volume of Canadian portfolio holdings of foreign securities rose.

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NET INCOME OF CANADIAN FARMERS from farming operations last year declined for all Canada (excluding Newfoundland) to \$1,537,387,000 from the record figure of \$1,600,336,000 for 1948. In contrast with the overall decrease, net income for five provinces was above 1948.

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LANDINGS OF SEA-FISH IN CANADA in March, excluding Newfoundland, amounted to 23,456,000 pounds, a decrease of 1.5 per cent from last year's corresponding total of 23,808,000 pounds. The total landed value in the month -- \$1,142,000 -- was 6.2 per cent below March, 1949.

REDUCED CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS
IN 1949 INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTS

Canada's current account surplus with all countries in 1949 amounted to \$180 million, down sharply from \$452 million in 1948 but nearly four times the surplus of \$47 million in 1947, according to the preliminary statement on the Canadian balance of international payments for 1949 released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The smaller current surplus last year was due mainly to a reduced export balance on commodity account, but trends were also generally adverse in other current transactions.

Canada's official reserves of gold and United States dollars at the end of 1949 amounted to \$1,117.1 million compared with \$997.8 million a year earlier and \$501.7 million at the end of 1947. Last year's rise of U.S. \$119.3 million was less than the current account surplus as the result of small net outflows of capital leading to the use of reserves in 1949. This contrasts with 1948 when the current account surplus was \$452 million but the official liquid reserves rose \$496 million due to capital movements.

Most of the change in last year's current account surplus occurred in transactions with the United States, Canada's current deficit with that country expanding sharply to \$594 million from \$393 million in 1948. The greatest single factor in this increase was the growth in the value of imports, which rose \$102 million or about five per cent, reaching a level not far below that of the peak year 1947 when prices were lower. The rise in import value over 1948 was due to a combination of net price increases and larger volume, although the volume continued below 1947. At the same time Canadian exports to the United States continued to have an exceptionally high value, with a net increase for the year of \$13 million.

Income payments by Canadian companies to parent companies and other shareholders in the United States were \$55 million greater in 1949 than in 1948, while net receipts from tourist expenditures declined \$48 million due to a sharp rise in the expenditures of Canadian visitors to the United States and only a slight increase in American tourist expenditures in Canada.

While the current deficit with the United States increased, the current account surplus with all overseas countries declined last year to \$774 million from \$845 million in 1948. Current surpluses with the United Kingdom and with the non-sterling overseas countries were both less than in 1948, but the surplus with other sterling area countries was slightly higher.

Transactions with the United Kingdom resulted in a current surplus of \$443 million as against \$486 million the previous year. The reduction of \$43 million was the product of divergent trends in receipts and payments, the former declining slightly and the latter showing a slight rise. The decline in receipts was mainly in such items as shipping receipts and transfers of immigrants' funds, while the principal change in payments was an increase in Canadian imports from the United Kingdom.

With the rest of the sterling area there was a rise in the current account surplus to \$135 million from \$129 million in 1948. This slight gain was due mostly to a larger total of exports, which were maintained by exceptionally high shipments of certain commodities like wheat and railway equipment to India and the Union of South Africa.

Reduced receipts from exports to Continental Europe and lower revenues from freight and shipping services accounted for almost all of a decline from \$230 million in 1948 to \$196 million in the current surplus with other overseas countries. Total current payments to this group of countries as a whole were moderately lower, most of the decline being in imports from countries other than the E.R.P. group.

Influencing last year's trend in the Canadian balance of payments with overseas countries, the Bureau's report states, have been the exchange and balance of payments problems of overseas countries centering around their shortage of dollars. These problems have led to restrictions by most of these countries in expenditures in Canada and other dollar countries. The effects of these restrictions upon Canadian trade in many commodities have been greater than indicated by the totals, since unusually large exports of certain commodities last year have helped to maintain the totals when declines were widespread in other commodities. At the same time Canadian imports from most overseas countries rose only moderately because of the difficulties of supply abroad. (1)

The following table summarizes Canada's current international payments account with all countries, figures for 1948 being revised and those for 1949 preliminary estimates:

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>
	(Millions of dollars)	
Current receipts -		
Merchandise exports (adjusted)	3,030	2,989
Gold available for export	119	139
Tourist expenditures	279	288
Interest and dividends	70	83
Freight and shipping	336	293
Inheritances and immigrants' funds	84	66
All other current receipts	229	212
Total current receipts	<u>4,147</u>	<u>4,070</u>
Current payments -		
Merchandise imports (adjusted)	2,598	2,696
Tourist expenditures	133	191
Interest and dividends	325	390
Freight and shipping	279	255
Inheritances and emigrants' funds	50	53
All other current payments (1)	310	305
Total current payments	<u>3,695</u>	<u>3,890</u>
Current account balance	+ 452	+ 180

(1) Includes contributions of official relief of \$19 million in 1948.

NON-RESIDENT INVESTMENTS IN CANADA
ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY IN 1948

Non-resident investments in Canada rose more than \$300 million in 1948 over the 1947 level, the increase being entirely in holdings in the United States, while Canadian direct investments in business outside of Canada declined moderately and the value of Canadian portfolio holdings of foreign securities rose.

Total value of non-resident investments in Canada amounted in 1948 to \$7,513 million (Canadian) as compared with a revised total of \$7,192 million in 1947, and \$7,178 million in 1946, according to preliminary figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. While showing a marked gain over the two preceding years, the 1948 total is below the 1930 dollar value, which stood at \$7,613.8 million. Since that year there has been a large decline in holdings in the United Kingdom, while holdings in the United States and in other countries have risen.

Investments in Canada held in the United States rose to \$5,588 million in 1948 from \$5,218 million the previous year and \$5,157 million in 1946. In 1930 they amounted to \$4,659.5 million. Investments held in the United Kingdom continued in 1948 the downward trend of the two previous years and the wartime period, declining to \$1,593 million as against \$1,631 million in 1947 and \$1,668 million in 1946. In 1939 United Kingdom holdings stood at \$2,475.9 million and in 1939 at \$2,766.3 million. Investments held in other countries than the United Kingdom and United States also declined last year to \$332 million from \$343 million and \$353 million in 1947 and 1946, respectively; these totals comparing with \$286 million in 1939 and \$188 million in 1930.

American direct investments in Canada in companies controlled in the United States increased in aggregate value to \$2,829 million in 1948 from a revised total of \$2,565 million in 1947, making an increase of more than \$500 million from \$2,304 million in 1945.

Canadian direct investments in businesses outside of Canada are placed at \$788 million in 1948, down from \$822 million in 1947 but still above the 1946 figure of \$772 million. Portfolio holdings of foreign securities by Canadians increased to \$605 from \$579 million. Both items are exclusive of investments of insurance companies. (1)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>April 27, 1950</u>	<u>April 20, 1950</u>	<u>March 30, 1950</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks)	126.8	127.2	119.0
82 Industrials	121.7	121.9	113.0
16 Utilities	132.1	133.4	126.3
8 Banks	144.8	144.9	143.5
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	93.2	93.5	91.5
25 Golds	74.7	75.4	74.6
5 Base Metals	129.5	129.2	124.6

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX UP
0.3 POINTS AT APRIL 1

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index, on the base 1935-39=100, advanced to 164.0 at April 1 from 163.7 at March 1, and 159.3 at April 1 last year.

Foods contributed approximately one-half of the increase of 0.3 points from March 1, while the fuel and light index gain was next in importance.

A rise in the food index from 204.0 at March 1 to 204.5 at April 1 was mainly attributable to higher prices for beef, eggs and coffee. Butter prices were down slightly. Higher quotations in Ontario and Quebec for anthracite coal were largely responsible for the rise in the fuel and light index from 136.3 to 138.0.

The advance of 0.1 points to 166.4 in the index of homefurnishings and services was due mostly to a slight increase in floor coverings. The miscellaneous index rose from 132.1 to 132.3, reflecting an increase in motor operating costs and drug prices.

The clothing index continued to decline, moving from 181.4 to 181.2. Rents were not surveyed at April 1 and the index remained unchanged at 132.7. (2)

Dominion Cost-of-Living Indexes (1935-39-100)

	Com- bined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Cloth- ing	Home furnish- ings and Services	Miscel- aneous
April 1, 1950	164.0	204.5	132.7	138.0	181.2	166.4	132.3
March 1, 1950	163.7	204.0	132.7	136.3	181.4	166.3	132.1
April 1, 1949	159.3	198.5	122.4	131.0	183.2	168.0	128.4

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT
SLIGHTLY LOWER AT MARCH 1

There was a further slight decline in employment in the major non-agricultural industries at the beginning of March, the downward trend being common to all

provinces except British Columbia, according to advance tabulations by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In spite of the fall in employment, there was a moderate gain in weekly salaries and wages.

The general index number of employment, on the 1926 base as 100, stood at 186.6 as compared with 187.2 at February 1, and 188.9 on the corresponding date last year when the index was the highest in the record for the time of year. Weekly payrolls were 1.3 per cent above February 1 and 2.1 per cent above March 1, 1949. The advance figure of average weekly salaries and wages was \$44.69 -- highest in the record -- compared with \$43.99 at February 1, and \$43.27 a year ago.

The advance in employment in British Columbia was 3.8 per cent, representing partial recovery from the serious losses suffered a month earlier, when unfavourable weather had been an important factor in the situation. The reductions in the remaining provinces, as compared with February 1, ranged from 0.2 per cent in Alberta to 1.7 per cent in Nova Scotia and 4.5 per cent in Prince Edward Island. A higher level of activity was noted at March 1 than at the same date a year earlier in Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia.

Employment in manufacturing throughout Canada showed a small increase at March 1 when the advance index was 199.7 as compared with 198.9 at February 1. The latest figure was lower than in March, 1949. Weekly payrolls in manufacturing in the week of March 1 were 1.2 per cent above February 1 and 1.5 per cent higher than at March 1, 1949, while average weekly earnings stood at \$45.80 compared with \$45.43 a month earlier, and \$44.39 a year ago. (3)

CANADA'S LABOUR FORCE IN MARCH Canada's civilian labour force in March this year totalled 5,108,000 persons, including 101,000 in Newfoundland, as against 4,899,000 in March last year for the nine older provinces only, according to a preliminary summary of results of the quarterly labour force survey by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics covering the week ended March 4. Excluding Newfoundland, the civilian labour force was 108,000 greater than in March, 1949.

Of the 5,108,000 in the labour force in March, 4,644,000 were at work, 152,000 had jobs but were not at work because of sickness or other reasons, and 312,000 were without jobs and seeking work.

The quarterly survey is taken by personal interviews of about 30,000 households in over 100 sample areas across the country, and covers persons 14 years of age and over. A summary of its results are given in the table below, figures being in thousands; Newfoundland is included only in the estimates of March, 1950. A bulletin containing detailed results will be available in about two weeks.

Labour Force Characteristics of the Non-Institutional Civilian Population, 14 Years of Age and Over

	<u>March 4</u> <u>1950</u>	<u>March 5</u> <u>1949</u>	<u>Feb. 21</u> <u>1948</u>	<u>March 1</u> <u>1947</u>
Total non-institutional civilian population, 14 years of age and over	9,679	9,270	9,058	8,936
Civilian Labour Force	5,108	4,899	4,825	4,706
with jobs	4,796	4,700	4,669	4,565
At work - 35 hours or more	4,041	4,095	4,033	4,005
At work - 15-34 hours ...	483	389	372	324
At work - 1-14 hours	120	91	103	97
Not at work but with jobs	152	125	161	139
Without jobs and seeking work	312	199	156	141
Not in the Labour Force	4,571	4,371	4,233	4,230

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES DOWN TWO PER CENT IN WEEK Department store sales fell two per cent during the week ending April 22 as compared with the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. All provinces shared in the decrease except Quebec and Ontario. Sales in Quebec were up 11 per cent, and were unchanged in Ontario. Sales in Saskatchewan were down 20 per cent, Manitoba nine per cent, Alberta eight per cent, the Maritime Provinces six per cent, and British Columbia one per cent.

HOUSING COMPLETIONS AND STARTS
DOWN IN JANUARY, CARRY-OVER UP

and a sharp drop in the number of starts, but the number of units under construction at the month-end was above a year earlier.

There was a slight decrease in the number of new dwelling units completed in Canada in January as compared with the corresponding month last year,

Completions in January numbered 6,480 as compared with 6,643 a year earlier, while starts -- including Newfoundland -- totalled 2,152 compared with 3,066. At the end of January there were 55,125 units under construction as compared with 52,852 at the same date last year, an increase of four per cent.

Completions were increased in Quebec, Alberta and New Brunswick, but fell off in Ontario and British Columbia. Starts were down sharply in British Columbia and Alberta, and moderately lower in Quebec and Ontario, and the carry-over of uncompleted dwellings at the end of the month was higher in all provinces except Nova Scotia, Alberta and British Columbia.

Completions in Ontario in January totalled 2,112 units compared with 2,449, Quebec 1,932 compared with 1,591, British Columbia 620 (1,346 in January, 1949), Alberta 872 (550), Nova Scotia 250 (195), Manitoba 245 (241), New Brunswick 211 (93), Saskatchewan 209 (141), Prince Edward Island 29 (37). (4)

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN 1949

Agricultural production in Canada last year was lower than in 1948, above 1947, but down somewhat from the all-time peak reached in 1942, according to index numbers compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The index number of physical volume of agricultural production for 1949, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 121.8 compared with 125.2 in 1948, 116.0 in 1947, and 164.2 in 1942. The smaller production in 1949 as compared with 1948, is largely attributable to the prolonged drought which occurred during the early part of the growing season. The most significant reduction in output was recorded for the grain crops.

The protracted dry spell also adversely affected the 1949 production of potatoes and vegetables, although abundant, timely rains in September resulted in some recovery and final yields of these crops were much better than anticipated earlier. Adding to the decline in production was the smaller outturn of eggs caused by reduced hatchings in 1948 and an output of fewer eggs per hen during the year.

Offsetting but not entirely compensating for the reduced production of the above commodities was the fairly substantial increase in livestock production, together with smaller increases in the output of dairy products, fruit, tobacco, sugar beets and maple products. Reduced berry and grape crops were more than offset by an increased outturn of the tree fruits, while the advance in tobacco production largely resulted from a larger crop of flue-cured tobacco in Ontario.

On a provincial basis, the Prairie Provinces were the only provinces to show declines in their production indexes. Indexes for 1949 follow by provinces, those for 1948 being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 162.5 (133.0); Nova Scotia, 110.0 (91.8); New Brunswick, 147.8 (124.4); Quebec, 132.5 (123.2); Ontario, 126.4 (118.4); Manitoba, 122.1 (143.4); Saskatchewan, 125.2 (132.3); Alberta, 101.4 (119.1); British Columbia, 147.9 (142.2). (Mem. 1)

NET FARM INCOME IN 1949
BELOW 1948 RECORD LEVEL

Net income of Canadian farmers from farming operations last year declined for all Canada (excluding Newfoundland) from the record level attained in 1948, but was still substantially above all other years. In contrast with the overall decrease, net income for five provinces was above 1948.

Preliminary estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics place farm net income for the year at \$1,537,387,000, about four per cent below the revised all-time high of \$1,600,336,000 for 1948. This compares also with the revised estimates of \$1,128,600,000 for 1947 and \$1,161,395,000 for 1946.

Last year's decline from 1948 was the result of somewhat smaller cash receipts from the sale of farm products, reduced value of income in kind, declining inventories of grain and a continued increase in farm operating expenses and depreciation charges. Year-end livestock inventories displayed an increase for the first time since 1944, but this gain was more than offset by a substantial decline in year-end, farm-held stocks of grains.

Net farm income was higher in the three Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Saskatchewan, the gains ranging from less than one per cent in Quebec to nearly 25 per cent in Nova Scotia. The declines in the other provinces varied from less than two per cent in Ontario -- the province of largest net income -- to over 20 per cent in British Columbia.

Cash income from the sale of farm products for the year is estimated for all Canada at \$2,456,871,000, down slightly from \$2,459,393,000 in 1948, and income in kind at \$350,610,000 compared with \$377,465,000; while inventories were down \$72,698,000 as against \$65,059,000. The result was a drop in gross income to \$2,734,783,000 from \$2,771,779,000. Supplementary payments were down to \$17,628,000 from \$20,748,000.

Farm operating expenses and depreciation charges during 1949 continued to move upward, although at a somewhat lower rate than in the previous year, the increase amounting to about two per cent as compared with about 12 per cent in 1948. Total for the year is estimated at \$1,215,024,000 as against \$1,192,211,000 for the previous year and \$1,067,168,000 for 1947. Hired labour and purchases of feed and seed were lower last year, but most of the other main component items were above 1948.

The preliminary estimate of net income by provinces, with totals for 1948 in brackets, was as follows (figures in millions): Prince Edward Island, \$11.4 (\$11.0); Nova Scotia, \$11.7 (\$9.4); New Brunswick, \$25.0 (\$23.7); Quebec, \$244.7 (\$243.6); Ontario, \$407.4 (\$412.8); Manitoba, \$140.0 (\$174.3); Saskatchewan, \$382.6 (\$374.9); Alberta, \$279.3 (\$305.7); British Columbia, \$35.3 (\$44.9). (Mem. 2)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on April 20 amounted to 129,130,800 bushels as compared with 131,765,000 a week earlier, and 120,768,700 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending April 20 totalled 1,431,600 bushels as compared with 2,787,100 a year ago. The cumulative total for the period August 1 - April 20 amounted to 262,926,000 bushels as against 260,342,100 in the similar period of the preceding crop year.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending April 20 amounted to 2,081,900 bushels as compared with 2,960,700 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 113,510,000 bushels against 109,536,000 in the similar period of 1948-49. (Mem. 3)

WORLD WHEAT SITUATION Supplies of wheat remaining for export and carry-over at April 1 this year in the four major exporting countries -- United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina -- were considerably larger than they were a year earlier, while the present early forecasts indicate a generally favourable outlook for crops this season in the Northern Hemisphere.

Forecasts this early in the season are based principally on the area and condition of winter wheat, as spring wheat seeding is just now under way in most northern countries. It is estimated that winter varieties account for about 95 per cent of the total wheat crop in continental Europe and in China; about 75 per cent of the United States total and from 30 to 35 per cent in the Soviet Union. In Canada less than five per cent of the wheat area is planted to winter wheat. In continental Europe, prospects for winter grains are promising with major producing countries reporting good growing conditions on acreages as great or greater than last year. It was dry in the Soviet Union last fall and adequate snow cover was lacking in some areas until late winter. Spring seedings by late March, however, were reported to be higher than a year ago. Reports from India indicate that the crop there is turning out well with production at least up to last year's level.

The outlook in North America is perhaps slightly less favourable than elsewhere in the Northern Hemisphere. In the United States the April 1 estimate of 764 million bushels of winter wheat is 121 million bushels less than the December 1 forecast -- this being due chiefly to continued dryness, aphid infestation and acreage abandonment in the Southern Great Plains. Such a crop would be the smallest since 1944 but still one per cent above the 10-year average. However reports of continued deterioration have been received from several sections of the winter wheat belt and if conditions do not improve the crop may turn out below the presently estimated level. In addition, the acreage intended for spring wheat seeding in the United States is down nearly 13 per cent from last year's plantings -- although still nine per cent above the 1939-48 average.

In Canada's Prairie Provinces, subsoil moisture reserves are quite generally below average, except in Manitoba. Spring is late, too, in the west this year and during April temperatures have been mostly below normal. According to an official report covering the period April 1 to 24, precipitation was five to 50 per cent below normal throughout most of the agricultural area of Manitoba, except in the far northwest. In Saskatchewan there were small deficiencies in the southeast and extreme west but substantial excesses occurred elsewhere. In Alberta, deficiencies ranged to 65 per cent in southern and east central areas but excesses of 35 to over 100 per cent were registered in northern districts. Floods have damaged crop lands along the Red River in Manitoba. Serious grasshopper infestations are anticipated over wide areas in all three provinces and local governments are actively preparing their control campaigns.

In the Southern Hemisphere seeding of small grains is just getting under way, with the long drought in Argentina being relieved by rains in late February and early March. The government in that country recently announced a price bonus for the new crop and this may encourage the seeding of an increased acreage.

The amount of wheat available in the four major exporting countries for export and carry-over at April 1 this year was 919 million bushels compared with 815 million a year ago. Supplies this year (in millions of bushels) were held as follows, last year's figures in brackets: United States, 527 (420); Canada, 183 (200); Australia, 121 (100); and Argentina, 88 (95). (5)

PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS OF
WHEAT FLOUR IN MARCH

Wheat flour production increased 10 per cent in March over the corresponding month last year, amounting to 1,850,721 barrels as compared with 1,683,752. In the first eight months of the current crop year, 14,052,196 barrels were produced, slightly below last year's corresponding total of 14,063,500 barrels.

Wheat flour exports in March amounted to 805,685 barrels as compared with 802,667 in the same month last year, bringing total exports for the eight-month period to 6,729,046 barrels as against 7,585,007 in the similar period of 1948-49.

The following quantities of coarse grains were ground in March, totals for the same month last year being in brackets: oats, 1,835,770 (1,594,304) bushels; corn, 293,065 (223,663); barley, 514,400 (711,208); buckwheat, 1,114 (1,860); mixed grain, 1,502,689 (1,749,129). (Mem. 4)

MILK PRODUCTION AND INCOME
FROM DAIRYING IN FEBRUARY

Milk production in Canada is being maintained at comparatively high levels. The estimated quantity produced in February amounted to 861,244,000 pounds, an increase of 12,000,000 pounds over the same month last year. Of this year's February total, 257,000,000 pounds or 30 per cent was utilized in factory production. Reports from dairy correspondents indicate that output in March rose about two per cent over March last year.

During the first two months of this year, an estimated 1,804,000,000 pounds were produced, an increase of 39,000,000 pounds over a year earlier. The quantity of milk utilized in factory production in the two-month period amounted to 554,000,000 pounds, while fluid sales accounted for 693,000,000 pounds.

Cash income from the sale of dairy products in February amounted to \$17,983,000, a decrease of approximately \$1,014,000 from February last year. The weighted average price of \$2.99 per hundred pounds of milk was down from last year's average of \$3.21. (6)

SHORTENING AND LARD PRODUCTION
IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Production of both shortening and lard in Canada during January and February this year increased over the corresponding months of 1949, the larger increase in this comparison occurring in each case in February.

The production of shortening in January amounted to 9,709,000 pounds, an increase of nine per cent over the output of 8,882,000 pounds reported for January, 1949. In February the production rose to 9,915,000 pounds, two per cent over the January figure and 19 per cent greater than the 8,323,000 pounds recorded for February last year.

Lard production in January this year amounted to 5,916,000 pounds compared with 5,750,000 in January last year, an increase of three per cent. In February the output rose to 6,693,000 pounds, an advance of 13 per cent over this year's January quantity and 41 per cent over the 4,673,000 pounds produced in February, 1949.

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER AND CHEESE ON MAY 1 Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on May 1 amounted to 20,004,000 pounds as compared with 19,900,000 on April 1 and 6,059,000 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks of cheese totalled 22,904,000 pounds compared with 24,712,000 on April 1 and 12,627,000 on May 1, 1949.

Stocks of creamery butter were as follows by cities on May 1, figures for May 1 last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 251 (407) pounds; Montreal, 2,593 (1,926); Toronto, 4,994 (2,098); Winnipeg, 7,788 (642); Regina, 596 (73); Saskatoon, 240 (170); Edmonton, 2,318 (169); Calgary, 567 (141); Vancouver, 657 (433). (Mem. 5)

STOCKS OF RAW AND REFINED SUGAR Refinery stocks of raw and refined sugar were lower at the end of March than on the corresponding date last year. Stocks of raw sugar amounted to 65,869,872 pounds as compared with 107,737,242, and refined stocks totalled 176,721,542 pounds as against 239,809,122.

The amount of refined sugar manufactured during March was 78,827,210 pounds compared with 107,603,887 in the corresponding month last year. Receipts of raw sugar decreased to 71,150,612 pounds from 111,855,402, and meltings and sales to 75,825,275 pounds against 109,010,486. (7)

LANDINGS OF SEA-FISH IN MARCH Landings of sea-fish in Canada in March, excluding Newfoundland, amounted to 23,456,000 pounds, a decrease of 1.5 per cent from last year's corresponding total of 23,808,000 pounds. The total landed value in the month -- \$1,142,000 -- was 6.2 per cent below the March, 1949, value of \$1,217,000.

During the first three months of this year, landings increased to 221,540,000 pounds valued at \$5,696,000 as compared with 191,430,000 pounds at \$5,038,000 in the similar period of 1949, a rise of 16 per cent in aggregate landings and 13 per cent in value.

Due to lower landings of herring, the Pacific coast catch declined 34.9 per cent in March, amounting to 4,527,000 pounds as compared with 6,953,000 in the same month last year. Despite the decrease in the month, landings for the first quarter were 12 per cent higher, advancing to 173,676,000 pounds as against 144,065,000 in the like period of 1949.

Atlantic coast landings in March totalled 18,929,000 pounds, 12.3 per cent higher than the catch of 16,855,000 pounds a year earlier. Almost all species were taken in greater quantities, the exceptions being sardines, lobsters, oysters, rosefish and catfish. During the three-month period, 47,864,000 pounds were landed, showing a slight rise of one per cent over 47,365,000 pounds in 1949. (8)

PRODUCTION OF LEATHER FOOTWEAR IN FEBRUARY Canadian production of leather footwear in February amounted to 2,842,335 pairs, showing an increase of 13.6 per cent over the preceding month's total of 2,509,086 pairs, but down four per cent from last year's corresponding total of 2,963,039 pairs. During the first two months of this year, 5,351,421 pairs were produced as against 5,492,162 in the similar period of 1949. (9)

PRODUCTION OF COKE LOWER IN FEBRUARY
AND FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1949

Production of coke from ovens and gas retorts was at a lower level in February, amounting to 286,000 tons as compared with 323,000 in January and 317,000 in February last year. During the first two months of this year, 609,000 tons were produced, down nine per cent from last year's corresponding total of 669,000 tons.

Producers' stocks of oven and retort coke, excluding breeze at the end of February, amounted to 121,000 tons, of which 45,000 tons were located in the eastern provinces, 74,000 tons in Ontario, and 2,000 tons in the western provinces. Stocks of breeze totalled 95,000 tons, the eastern provinces accounting for 12,000 tons, Ontario 72,000 tons, and the western provinces 12,000 tons.

Producers' disposed of 353,000 tons in February as compared with 370,000 in the preceding month and 326,000 in February, 1949. Of this year's February total, 46,000 tons were used in coke and gas plants, 144,000 tons in producers' smelters, 18,000 tons for domestic use, 58,000 tons for other uses, 53,000 tons sold to dealers for resale, and 34,000 tons for export. (10)

PRODUCTION OF SILVER, LEAD, ZINC
AND COPPER HIGHER; NICKEL LOWER

February production of silver, lead, zinc and copper was higher than in the corresponding month last year, while the month's output of nickel was lower. Silver production in the month was 1,385,422 fine ounces (968,883 in February last year); lead, 10,964 (10,627) tons; zinc, 22,381 (20,013) tons; copper, 22,265 (21,540) tons; and nickel, 8,499 (10,863) tons. (11 and 12)

PRODUCTION OF WIRE NAILS

Production of wire nails in February this year was slightly higher than in the same month last year, amounting to 6,549 tons as compared with 6,540. During the first two months of this year, 13,648 tons were produced, down from last year's corresponding total of 13,733 tons. (13)

SALES OF PAINTS, VARNISHES
AND LACQUERS IN FEBRUARY

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for all but a small percentage of the total Canadian production amounted to \$5,555,197 in February as compared with \$6,157,584 in the corresponding month last year, a decrease of 10 per cent. During the first two months of this year, sales totalled \$11,091,862, slightly below last year's corresponding total of \$11,724,210. (14)

SALES OF RADIO RECEIVING SETS
INCREASED IN FEBRUARY

Sales of radio receiving sets in February moved up to 47,655 units valued at \$4,106,580 as compared with 44,268 units at \$3,328,642 in the corresponding month last year. Sales in the first two months of this year were up slightly to 85,467 units valued at \$7,136,390 as against 85,062 worth \$6,636,912 in the similar period of 1949. Increased sales were recorded in all provinces except the Maritimes, Quebec and Saskatchewan, both in the month and cumulative period.

Sales in February were as follows by provinces, totals for the same month last year being in brackets: Ontario, 26,704 (24,049) units; Quebec, 7,881 (8,434); Maritimes, 3,278 (3,813); Alberta, 2,821 (2,564); British Columbia, 2,565 (1,713); Manitoba, 2,382 (1,883); Saskatchewan, 1,637 (1,812); and Newfoundland, 387 (-). (15)

PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER
EAST OF THE ROCKIES

Production of sawn lumber, east of the Rockies, in February was slightly lower than in the corresponding month last year, all provinces sharing in the decrease except Prince Edward Island and Alberta where gains of approximately 25 per cent and 21 per cent were recorded. Estimated production for the eight provinces amounted to 178,797 M feet board measure as against 179,445 M, a decline of 0.4 per cent.

Output for the provinces was as follows, with February, 1949 figures in brackets: Alberta, 73,247 (60,610) M feet board measure; Quebec, 40,614 (42,973); Nova Scotia, 21,461 (26,776); New Brunswick, 19,545 (19,928); Ontario, 11,508 (14,600); Saskatchewan, 9,082 (10,823); Manitoba, 3,052 (3,504); Prince Edward Island, 288 (231). (16)

RAILWAY OPERATING REVENUES AND
EXPENSES DECREASED IN JANUARY

Operating revenues of Canadian railways were lower in January, amounting to \$61,011,954, down 8.9 per cent or nearly \$5,972,000 from the same month last year. The decline in January was due to continued storm conditions in the western division and by a lack of snow for woods operations as well as a fuel problem in the east. Freight receipts fell \$6,091,180 to \$48,175,036, or by 11.2 per cent, while passenger fares declined 4.5 per cent or some \$270,000 to \$5,756,990.

All operating expense accounts, except general, were lower, totalling \$64,029,070, down \$3,283,706 or 4.9 per cent from the monthly record of \$67,312,776 in January last year.

Operating income registered a record debit of \$5,414,625 in January as compared with \$2,996,706 one year earlier. Revenue freight tonnage, including Newfoundland, declined 14.5 per cent or 1,816,333 tons from the revised total of 12,89,782 tons in January, 1949 to 10,673,449 tons.

Revenue passengers numbered 2,525,262 against 2,901,118 one year earlier, down 13 per cent. The average journey fell from 82 to 80 miles and passenger mileage receded 15.1 per cent.

Total pay roll for 170,296 employees amounted to \$39,791,374 in January as compared with 173,857 employees earning \$40,279,193 in January, 1949, a decrease of two per cent in numbers and 1.2 per cent in earnings. (17)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Revenue freight loaded by Canadian railways amounted to 71,908 cars during the week ended April 22 compared with 69,042 cars in the preceding week and 73,840 cars in the same week last year. The decline from 1949 was 1,932 cars or 2.6 per cent, with the eastern division loading 47,392 cars against 48,734 one year earlier and the western region reporting 24,516 cars compared with 25,106. In the first 16 weeks of this year, 1,099,096 cars were loaded against 1,154,809 cars in the similar period of 1949. (18)

POWER LAUNDRIES, CLEANING
AND DYEING PLANTS IN 1948

Aggregate receipts of power laundries, dry cleaning, and dyeing plants in Canada continued to move upward in 1948, totalling \$71,982,000 -- highest in the record dating from 1930 -- as compared with \$59,044,000 in 1947, an increase of 22 per cent. There was a further sharp rise in the number of plants in 1948 to 1,081, an increase of 307 during the year. The employees totalled 25,876 against 24,856 in the preceding year and their salaries and wages rose to \$35,878,000 from \$30,502,000. (19)

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. The Canadian Balance of International Payments, Preliminary Statement, 1949 (25 cents).
2. Preliminary Price Movements, April (10 cents).
3. Advance Statement on Employment and Weekly Earnings, March 1 (10 cents).
4. New Residential Construction, January 1 to January 31, 1950 (25 cents).
5. The Wheat Review, April (25 cents).
6. The Dairy Review, March (25 cents).
7. The Sugar Situation, March (10 cents).
8. Canadian Fisheries Statistics, March (30 cents).
9. Production of Leather Footwear, February (10 cents).
10. Coal and Coko Statistics, February (25 cents).
11. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, February (15 cents).
12. Copper and Nickel Production, February (15 cents).
13. Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, February (15 cents).
14. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, February (10 cents).
15. Radio Receiving Sets, February (25 cents).
16. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, February (25 cents).
17. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, January (10 cents).
18. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
19. Laundries, Cleaners and Dyers, 1948 (30 cents).
20. Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal and Secondary Non-Ferrous Ingot, December (15 cents).
21. Radio Receiving Sets, January (25 cents).
22. Steam Railways, 1948 (50 cents).
23. Trade of Canada: Exports, March (50 cents).
24. Chemicals and Allied Products, Final Summary Statistics, 1948 (10 cents).
25. The Fur Goods and Fur Dressing Industries, 1948 (25 cents).
26. Salt, February (10 cents).
27. Operating Results and Financial Structure of Filling Stations and Garages, 1948 (25 cents).
28. Canadian Statistical Review, April (35 cents).

Memoranda

1. Index of Farm Production, 1949 (10 cents).
2. Farm Net Income, 1949 (25 cents).
3. Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
4. Grain Milling Statistics, March (10 cents).
5. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products in Nine Cities, May 1 (10 cents).
6. The Lumber Industry in New Brunswick, 1948 (10 cents).
7. The Lumber Industry in Nova Scotia, 1948 (10 cents).
8. Supplement Statement to Estimates of Production and Consumption of Meats, 1949
9. Asphalt Roofing, March (10 cents).
10. Rigid Insulating Board, March (10 cents).
11. Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipes and Fittings, February (10 cents).
12. Fluid Milk Sales, February (10 cents).



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