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## --- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S RETAIL TRADE in March showed an increase of seven per cent over the corresponding month last year. In January, sales rose two per cent, in February by nine per cent, and the gain for the first quarter of this year was about six per cent.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT in Canada at the beginning of March was at a slightly lower level than at February 1. The movement has been downward at March 1 in eight earlier years since 1939, and the loss this year approximated the average in that period.

FOREIGN VEHICLES ENTERING CANADA on traveller's vehicle permits in April totalled 87,077, an advance of 4.3 per cent over last year's April figure of 83,510. Increased entries were recorded in all provinces except Manitoba and Ontario, the decline in the former being due to the severe floods.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES decreased 10 per cent in April as compared with the corresponding month last year, all provinces sharing in the decline.

CANADA'S POPULATION at the first of March this year was 13,766,000, an increase of 59,000 over the figure for December 1, 1949.

FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS in Canada, excluding Newfoundland, advanced in March over February, but were below the level of March last year. Prices increased from February to March in all provinces, but were below those of a year earlier.

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER in nine cities of Canada on May 12 amounted to 13,175,000 pounds as compared with 7,751,000 on the corresponding date last year.

STOCKS OF CANADIAN WHEAT in store or in transit in North America at midnight on May 4 amounted to 124,778,100 bushels as compared with 126,780,200 a week earlier, and 113,300,000 on the corresponding date last year.

STOCKS OF CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES held by canners, wholesale dealers and chain store warehouses were higher on April 1 this year than last. Canned fruit stocks rose from 3,072,791 dozen containers to 4,805,429, and canned vegetables from 14,226,619 dozen to 16,582,702.

RETAIL SALES UP SEVEN  
PER CENT IN MARCH

Canada's retail trade in March showed an increase of seven per cent over the corresponding month last year. In January, sales rose two per cent, in February by nine per cent, and the gain for the first quarter of the year was about six per cent.

The sustained high volume of new motor vehicle sales played a major part in the March increase, dealers' sales being up 51 per cent over March last year. Coal and wood dealers reported a sales advance of 26 per cent, garages and filling stations 17 per cent, appliance and radio dealers 10 per cent, and food stores seven per cent. Food store sales increased mainly on the strength of a 16 per cent gain for chain stores, independent food merchants reporting a sales advance of three per cent.

Although the traditional Easter stimulus to retail business occurred earlier this year than last, all four of the apparel trades reported decreases in March, ranging from two per cent for shoe stores to 17 per cent for men's clothing stores. Department store sales decreased three per cent, and jewellery store sales by 11 per cent.

There were increased sales in all provinces in the month, the Maritimes leading with a gain of 12.7 per cent, Saskatchewan 8.6 per cent, Manitoba 7.8 per cent, Alberta 7.6 per cent, Quebec and Ontario each 6.7 per cent, and British Columbia 3.6 per cent. (1)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT  
SLIGHTLY LOWER AT MARCH 1

Industrial employment in Canada at the beginning of March was at a slightly lower level than at February 1, according to data received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 21,094 leading firms in the eight major non-agricultural divisions. The movement has been downward at March 1 in eight earlier years since 1939, and the loss this year approximated the average in that period. There were declines in all provinces except British Columbia.

The index number of employment, on the 1926 base as 100, fell to 186.6 at March 1 from 187.2 at the first of February and the maximum March 1 figure of 188.9 recorded in both 1948 and 1949. This year's March 1 index exceeded by 2.7 per cent the wartime peak index for March 1 recorded in 1944.

In spite of the small recession in industrial employment generally indicated at March 1 as compared with a month earlier, there was an increase of 1.3 per cent in the latest index number of weekly payrolls, which was 2.1 per cent above March 1, 1949, previously the top figure for the late winter in the record of nearly 10 years. The per capita earnings, at \$44.69, reached a new all-time maximum, exceeding the February 1 average by 1.6 per cent, and last year's March 1 index by 3.3 per cent.

On the whole there was an increase in employment in manufacturing, and mining was generally more active. The trend in logging, transportation, communications, construction, hotels and restaurants and trade was downward. (2)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES  
DOWN 10 PER CENT IN APRIL

Department store sales decreased 10 per cent in April as compared with the corresponding month last year, all provinces sharing in the decline, according to preliminary figures. Sales in Saskatchewan showed the sharpest decrease of 25 per cent, followed by the Maritimes with a decrease of 12 per cent, Manitoba 11 per cent, Alberta 10 per cent, Ontario nine per cent, and Quebec and British Columbia each seven per cent.

Preliminary figures for the week ending May 6 show that sales decreased four per cent from the corresponding week last year. All provinces shared in the decline except Alberta and the Maritimes, the gain in the former amounting to three per cent and the latter, one per cent. Sales in Manitoba fell 10 per cent, Saskatchewan nine per cent, British Columbia and Quebec each four per cent, and Ontario three per cent.

CHAIN STORE SALES AND  
STOCKS IN MARCH

Sales of grocery chain stores, hardware chain stores and variety chain stores showed increases in March over the corresponding month last year, while decreases were registered in women's clothing chains, shoe stores, and drug stores. Stocks held by each of the six chains were higher at the end of March than at the same time last year.

The food store group had sales totalling \$41,894,000 as compared with \$36,253,000 in March, 1949, a rise of 15.6 per cent, while sales of variety stores increased slightly to \$9,408,000 from \$9,281,000, or by 1.4 per cent.

Women's clothing store chain sales decreased 6.2 per cent, amounting to \$2,474,000 as against \$2,638,000, and drug store sales fell from \$2,386,000 to \$2,341,000, or by 1.9 per cent. Shoe store sales were 6.9 per cent lower at \$2,014,000 compared with \$2,163,000. Hardware store sales recorded an advance of 2.9 per cent, standing at \$664,000 as against \$645,000. (3)

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC INCREASED  
4.3 PER CENT IN APRIL

Foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits in April totalled 87,077, an advance of 4.3 per cent over last year's April figure of 83,510. Increased entries were recorded in all provinces except Manitoba and Ontario, the decline in the former being due to the severe floods. Entries into Nova Scotia remained unchanged, while a decrease was shown for the Yukon Territory. During the first four months of this year, a total of 209,979 vehicles entered Canada, a rise of six per cent over the 198,086 recorded in the similar period of 1949.

Entries into Ontario totalled 45,862 in April as compared with 47,494 in April last year, Quebec 17,608 compared with 16,575, and British Columbia 13,049 compared with 11,706. New Brunswick's total was 8,461 (5,366 in April, 1949), Alberta 1,028 (1,001), Manitoba 590 (904), Saskatchewan 454 (416), Yukon Territory 14 (47), Newfoundland 10 (-), and Nova Scotia 1 (1). (Mem. 1)

CANADA'S POPULATION AT MARCH 1  
ESTIMATED AT 13,766,000

Canada's population at the first of March this year was 13,766,000, an increase of 59,000 over the figure for December 1, 1949, according to the quarterly estimate by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The gain in the latest quarter compares with estimated increases of 71,000 in the quarter from September 1 to December 1 last year and 87,000 from June 1 to September 1 when there were larger net increases from immigration added to the gains from natural increase. The annual estimate for June 1, 1949 was 13,549,000, the estimated nine-month increase to March 1 this year being 217,000.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>May 11, 1950</u>	<u>May 4, 1950</u>	<u>April 13, 1950</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks) .....	128.7	128.0	126.3
82 Industrials .....	124.3	123.0	120.8
16 Utilities .....	131.3	131.8	133.5
8 Banks .....	145.5	147.6	143.9
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks) .....	91.8	92.5	92.8
25 Golds .....	73.0	74.4	76.1
5 Base Metals .....	128.9	128.2	125.3

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES  
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Farm prices of agricultural products in Canada, excluding Newfoundland, advanced in March over February, but were below the level of March last year, according to index numbers compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Prices increased from February to March in all provinces, but were below those of a year earlier in each province.

The index number for all-Canada, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 246.2 for March as compared with 242.7 for February and 251.1 in March last year. The increase over February is largely attributable to increased prices paid for live stock. Small increases were also registered for eggs and potatoes. Compared with a year ago, prices were lower for all commodities except live stock.

Indexes by provinces for March, with figures for the same month of 1949 in brackets, are as follows: Prince Edward Island, 180.0 (199.8); Nova Scotia, 192.3 (216.4); New Brunswick, 208.7 (223.4); Quebec, 252.1 (267.6); Ontario, 253.2 (254.3); Manitoba, 248.8 (253.8); Saskatchewan, 237.7 (240.5); Alberta, 256.2 (257.0); and British Columbia, 234.9 (247.3). (Mem. 2)

CROP CONDITIONS IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Seeding is now general throughout most of Saskatchewan and Alberta but with minor exceptions little work has been done on the land in Manitoba. Provincial officials doubt whether the flooded area (estimated as high as half a million acres) in the Red River Valley will produce much more than feed this year. Warm weather is required to dry up excess moisture if seeding is to become general in the rest of Manitoba by this week-end.

In Saskatchewan about 25 per cent of the wheat crop is seeded although considerable variation is noted between areas. Practically no work has been done in the southeast while up to 75 per cent of the wheat in the northwest is in. Only 10 per cent of the province's coarse grain acreage has been planted. Warmer weather has prevailed in both Saskatchewan and Alberta over the past week and good progress in seeding is also being made in the latter province.

In southeastern Alberta most of the crop is in, somewhat less than half of the wheat acreage is seeded from Lethbridge north to Edmonton, while only a good start has been made over much of the remainder of the province. Surface moisture conditions in Saskatchewan and Alberta are generally adequate for germination but better than average rains will be needed after seeding to build up subsoil reserves which are now deficient. Cold weather has so far delayed the hatching of grasshopper eggs but infestation in most of the affected areas is expected to be at least as serious as last year.

Spring operations in the major part of Manitoba have not yet commenced. Apart from a strip of territory running north from Russell to Swan River where a good start has been made in seeding, little or no work on the land has been done in the province. Given warm, dry weather, seeding should get under way by this week-end, except in the Red River Valley where it is unlikely any seeding will commence until the end of the month. The provincial Department of Agriculture doubts whether much of the estimated half million acres of flooded area will produce much more than feed this year. Provincial authorities also forecast a marked reduction in wheat and sugar beet acreage, and possibly sunflowers with more attention to barley, flax and summerfallow. Roughage is very scarce in most parts of the province and there has been an absence of growth in pastures. There has been considerable loss of poultry in the flood but limited loss of other stock. Market gardeners around Winnipeg have lost most of their bedding plants, their land is flooded and the outlook is critical.

Seeding of spring wheat in Saskatchewan is 25 per cent completed as compared with 85 per cent seeded a year ago. Except in the southeast wheat seeding is under way in most areas but there is considerable variation in amount seeded throughout the province. In the North Battleford, Lloydminster and Meadow Lake area 75 per cent has been seeded; 60 per cent at Maple Creek and Lander; from five to 10 per cent in the Regina, Weyburn and Melfort areas while in other parts of the province 20 to 40 per cent has been sown. About 10 per cent of the intended coarse grain acreage in the province has been seeded. Surface moisture is satisfactory to start plant growth but weather has been backward. Cold weather has delayed the hatch of grasshopper eggs.

Under the stimulus of warmer weather, seeding has become general throughout Alberta. In the southeast, sowing of wheat is practically completed with excellent progress being made in coarse grain seedings. From Lethbridge north to Edmonton rather less than half the crop is in. Planting, however, is just getting under way in the southwest, in large sections of eastern and central Alberta and in the Peace River district. In general, surface moisture supplies are adequate for germination but subsoil reserves are low in most areas and good rains will be required after seeding to promote development of a satisfactory crop. Grass growth has been slow and beef and dairy herds are still on hay along most of the Calgary-Edmonton line. Grasshoppers are expected to be about as serious as in 1948. (4)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF  
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on May 4 amounted to 124,778,100 bushels as compared with 126,780,200 a week earlier, and 115,300,000 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week amounted to 3,676,600 bushels, up from last year's corresponding total of 1,698,700 bushels. Cumulative total for the period August 1 - May 4 was 268,683,100 bushels as against 264,386,200 in the similar 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 May 4, totals for the same week last year being in brackets: oats, 756,500 (1,487,900) bushels; barley, 364,900 (1,100,300); rye, 131,500 (153,200); flaxseed, 6,200 (91,600).

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending May 4 amounted to 3,692,200 bushels as compared with 4,925,100 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 119,796,900 bushels as against 117,151,500 in the similar period of 1948-49. (Mem. 3)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER  
IN NINE CITIES OF CANADA

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on May 12 amounted to 18,175,000 pounds as compared with 7,751,000 on the corresponding date last year. Increased holdings were recorded in each of the nine centres except Quebec, Montreal and Vancouver. Stocks of creamery butter were as follows by cities on May 12, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 192 (386) pounds; Montreal, 2,224 (2,757); Toronto, 4,870 (2,547); Winnipeg, 6,788 (792); Regina, 709 (96); Saskatoon, 213 (169); Edmonton, 2,064 (268); Calgary, 572 (158); Vancouver, 545 (578).

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, were lower on May 1, amounting to 20,507,000 pounds as compared with 25,913,000 on April 1, and 30,553,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, decreased to 6,200,000 pounds from 7,414,000 on April 1, and 6,753,000 on May 1 last year.

Holdings of Canadian potatoes, cabbages and parsnips were higher than a year earlier, but others were lower. Stocks of potatoes amounted to 224,892 tons as compared with 185,556 a year ago, onions 1,033 tons compared with 4,504, beets 189 tons compared with 373, carrots 1,428 tons compared with 2,074, cabbages 307 tons compared with 123, parsnips 300 tons compared with 217, and celery 1,062 crates compared with 2,014. (Mem. 4)

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FISH Cold storage holdings of fish in Canada, including Newfoundland, were lower on May 1, amounting to 18,587,000 pounds as compared with 19,951,000 on April 1 and 27,526,000 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks on May 1 comprised 16,739,000 pounds frozen fresh and 1,848,000 pounds frozen smoked. (Mon. 5)

FORAGE AND VEGETABLE SEEDS Canada's 1949 forage seed crops were valued at \$13,228,000, down sharply from the preceding year's total of \$21,639,000, according to final estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The value of vegetable seed and field root-seeds also moved lower to \$1,070,000 as compared with \$1,966,000.

Among the larger forage seed crops there were marked decreases in the value of alfalfa, alsike clover, red clover, and creeping red fescue, but increases in sweet clover, timothy, and brome grass. Among vegetable seed crops there were declines in peas, beans and cucumbers, but increases in carrots, lettuce, and onions.

The value of forage seed crops was as follows by provinces, totals for 1948 being in brackets: Maritimes, \$207,000 (\$60,000); Quebec, \$184,000 (\$415,000); Ontario, \$3,462,000 (\$4,407,000); Manitoba, \$2,084,000 (\$2,810,000); Saskatchewan, \$2,334,000 (\$3,985,000); Alberta, \$4,396,000 (\$9,444,000); British Columbia, \$561,000 (\$518,000). (Mon. 6)

PRODUCTION OF NAILS AND STEEL WIRE IN MARCH Production of wire nails in March this year was slightly lower than in the corresponding month last year, amounting to 7,488 tons as compared with 7,530. During the first three months of this year, 21,136 tons were produced as against 21,263 in the similar period of 1949.

Production in March this year of steel wire declined to 31,697 tons as compared with 31,954 a year earlier, and in the first quarter to 86,733 tons as against 88,714. Output of wire fencing in March totalled 1,872 tons as compared with 2,472 in March last year, and in the cumulative period amounted to 5,848 tons against 6,810 in the same months last year. (5)

SHIPMENTS OF PRIMARY SHAPES IN FEBRUARY Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 198,347 net tons in February as compared with 211,431 in the preceding month. The February shipments included 3,231 tons of semi-finished shapes, 9,604 tons of structurals, 12,528 tons of plates, 27,353 tons of rails, 4,674 tons of tie plates and track material, 37,209 tons of hot rolled bars, 15,007 tons of pipes and tubes, 22,106 tons of wire rods, 21,955 tons of black sheets, 7,853 tons of galvanized sheets, 5,635 tons of castings, and 8,871 tons of other rolled products. The amount of producers' interchange was 114,248 tons in February against 92,064 in January. (6)

PRODUCERS' SALES OF PRODUCTS MADE FROM CANADIAN CLAYS IN JANUARY Producers' sales of products made from Canadian clays were lower in January this year, amounting to \$1,100,953 as compared with the monthly average of \$1,472,485 in 1949, and \$1,267,525 in the corresponding month last year. Sales were as follows in January, totals for the same month last year being in brackets: building brick, \$690,688 (\$704,665); structural tile, \$203,539 (\$201,862); drain tile, \$27,811 (\$47,292); sewer pipe, \$91,347 (\$155,044); fireclay blocks and shapes, \$2,817 (\$29,302); pottery, \$17,744 (\$70,948); other clay products, \$67,007 (\$58,412). (7)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS  
OF CEMENT IN MARCH

Production and shipments of Portland cement by Canadian manufacturers decreased in March this year from the corresponding month of 1949, while in the first three months of this year, production was higher and shipments lower.

March output amounted to 1,302,820 barrels as compared with 1,339,704 in March last year, and shipments totalled 1,232,931 barrels as against 1,402,176. For the first three months of the year, aggregate production was 3,664,520 barrels as against 3,564,968 in 1949, while shipments dropped to 2,676,057 barrels from 2,931,527. (8)

STOCKS OF HIDES AND SKINS  
AND PRODUCTION OF LEATHER

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers at the end of March amounted to 414,744 as compared with 455,627 on the corresponding date last year. There were 470,383 calf and kip skins on hand compared with 489,412 a year earlier, 23,597 goat and kid skins compared with 98,681, 29,470 horse hides compared with 38,526, and 45,503 dozen sheep and lamb skins compared with 61,136.

Production of cattle sole leather in March amounted to 1,552,286 pounds as compared with 1,817,467 in the same month last year, and finished stocks on hand at the end of the month totalled 3,833,562 as against 3,765,302. Production of cattle upper leather amounted to 3,200,006 square feet as compared with 3,643,415 in March, 1949, and the stocks on hand totalled 2,338,244 square feet as against 1,847,511. (Mem. 7)

STOCKS OF CANNED FRUITS  
AND VEGETABLES HIGHER

Stocks of canned fruits and vegetables held by canners, wholesale dealers and chain store warehouses were higher on April 1 this year than last. Canned fruit stocks rose to 4,805,429 dozen containers from 3,072,791 on the corresponding date last year, and stocks of vegetables to 16,582,702 dozen from 14,226,619 a year ago.

Among the canned fruits, there were marked increases in the stocks of apple-sauce, pears, peaches, pineapple, and raspberries, and large declines in plums and gages. Canned beets, carrots, carrots and peas combined, corn, and tomatoes were held in greater quantities, but beans and peas were lower. Stocks of foods for infants and apple juice were increased but there were decreases in soups, tomato juice and tomato catsup.

Stocks of principal canned fruits were as follows on April 1 this year, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: applesauce, 299,104 (124,796) dozen; cherries, 260,553 (303,456); pears, 955,245 (477,399); peaches, 1,966,964 (1,156,205); pineapple, 329,271 (71,591); plums and gages, 278,918 (509,891); raspberries, 151,975 (38,143); strawberries, 60,735 (59,392).

Stocks of principal canned vegetables on April 1 included the following: green or wax beans, 836,247 (1,559,127) dozen; baked beans, 1,579,737 (1,618,503); beets, 300,706 (177,339); carrots, 283,240 (216,871); carrots and peas combined, 159,084 (147,382); corn, 5,675,890 (1,458,170); mixed vegetables, 409,501 (296,234); peas, 3,228,196 (4,659,317); tomatoes, 3,815,856 (3,703,504).

April 1 stocks of other canned foods included: apple juice, 1,234,037 (712,654) dozen; infants' foods, 4,539,635 (3,418,579); jams, 323,053 (383,385); pickles, 307,155 (354,564); relishes and sauces, 325,399 (212,748); soups, 5,929,681 (8,075,089); spaghetti, 455,226 (324,774); tomato juice, 3,799,615 (5,364,114); tomat catsup, 1,530,926 (2,303,136). (9)



RAILWAY FREIGHT TRAFFIC  
LOWER IN JANUARY

Volume of revenue freight carried by Canadian railways in January fell to 9,662,264 tons from 11,113,742 tons in January 1949, and 11,599,866 tons in January, 1948. Weather conditions, particularly in the western division, restricted loadings, while the coal strike in the United States lessened intransit and import traffic. The decrease from January last was 1,451,478 tons or 15 per cent. The current total was the smallest for any January since 1942, but remains considerably above the 5,467,082 tons carried in the same month of 1939. Newfoundland loadings are included for the first time and were 24,083 tons for the month. The decrease for the other nine provinces was actually 1,475,561 tons from the preceding January. (10)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ending May 8 amounted to 73,928 cars, showing a minor decline of 426 cars from the 74,354 cars loaded in the corresponding week last year. The eastern division total rose 945 cars to 50,633 compared with 49,688, but western loadings were down from 24,666 to 23,295 cars. During the first 18 weeks of this year, all-Canada loadings aggregated 1,248,344 cars as compared with 1,303,261 in the same period of 1949. (11)

LUMBER INDUSTRY IN QUEBEC

Gross value of production of Quebec's lumber industry in 1948 amounted to \$69,957,892 as compared with \$75,898,677 in the preceding year, a decrease of 5.3 per cent. There were 1,961 active mills in the year as compared with 2,051 in 1947. The industry employed 10,374 workers receiving \$13,223,486 in salaries and wages as compared with 11,613 earning \$13,570,091 in 1947. Cost of materials used totalled \$43,516,856 as against \$46,089,961.

Production of sawn lumber of all species aggregated 1,095,719 M feet board measure valued at \$58,920,212 in 1948 as compared with 1,227,055 M with a value of \$63,258,288 a year earlier. Pulpwood, cut-up and barked during the year totalled 156,683 cords compared with 155,258 in 1947. There were 208,238 squares of shingles produced as against 222,200, and 446,850 sawn ties against 376,135.

Output of sawn lumber was as follows by kinds in 1948, totals for 1947 being in brackets: spruce, 572,425 (637,583) M feet board measure; yellow birch, 114,854 (138,706); white pine, 84,773 (89,695); balsam fir, 75,608 (74,137); jack pine, 72,460 (79,769); hemlock, 41,024 (41,359); maple, 31,520 (40,446); white birch, 26,784 (34,630); aspen, 16,358 (23,751); basswood, 15,708 (20,311); red pine, 13,368 (11,505); cedar, 8,529 (9,247); poplar, 7,468 (9,020); and elm, 5,609 (6,696). (Mem. 8)

LUMBER INDUSTRY IN SASKATCHEWAN

Gross value of production of Saskatchewan's lumber industry in 1948 amounted to \$3,825,161 as compared with \$4,185,743 in 1947, a decline of 8.6 per cent. There were 355 active mills in the year as compared with 427. The industry employed 983 persons who were paid \$970,118 in salaries and wages as compared with 1,341 employees paid \$987,690 in 1947.

Production of sawn lumber of all species aggregated 91,228 M feet board measure valued at \$3,558,784 as compared with 104,744 M with a value of \$3,973,886 a year earlier. Output of sawn ties totalled 133,117 valued at \$116,974 as against 127,078 at \$108,065. (Mem. 9)

SALES OF FARM IMPLEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT AT NEW PEAK IN 1949

Sales of new farm implements and equipment -- mainly at the wholesale level -- reached an all-time peak value of \$220,710,000 in 1949, according to preliminary figures received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was 29 per cent higher than the preceding year's aggregate of \$170,666,000, and 78 per cent above the 1947 total of \$122,395,000. Sales of repair parts showed a more moderate advance, rising to \$27,709,000 from \$26,997,000 in 1948 and \$23,276,000 the year before.

All provinces except the Maritimes shared in the expansion of sales of new equipment during the year. The total for Saskatchewan -- largest among the provinces -- advanced from \$46,506,000 in 1948 to \$59,977,000, Ontario from \$38,453,000 to \$49,382,000, Alberta from \$36,748,000 (\$45,532,000), Manitoba from \$23,369,000 to \$37,993,000, Quebec from \$14,907,000 to \$17,133,000, and British Columbia from \$5,222,000 to \$5,360,000. The Maritime total fell from \$5,461,000 to \$5,333,000.

Sales of parts were increased in all provinces except Alberta where the total fell from \$6,754,000 to 1948 to \$6,373,000. In Saskatchewan where sales were heaviest, the value rose from \$8,363,000 in 1948 to \$8,750,000. The value for Ontario rose from \$4,996,000 to \$5,314,000, Manitoba from \$3,909,000 to \$4,060,000, Quebec from \$1,826,000 to \$1,993,000, the Maritimes from \$660,000 to \$708,000, and British Columbia from \$490,000 to \$511,000. (Mem. 10)

BREAKFAST FOODS INDUSTRY

Gross value of production of the breakfast foods industry of Canada in 1948 amounted to \$15,278,827 as compared with \$15,242,203 in the preceding year. There were 20 establishments in the industry employing a total of 1,140 persons with salary and wage payments amounting to \$2,370,653 compared with 19 plants with 1,158 employees earning \$2,238,557 in 1947. Cost of materials used was \$8,146,467 as against \$7,815,285.

Production in 1948 included 59,358,140 pounds of prepared breakfast foods valued at \$11,173,295; 10,156,262 pounds of unprepared breakfast foods valued at \$1,139,603; and other products valued at \$2,965,929. Certain unprepared cereal products, such as oatmeal, rolled oats, etc. which are mainly produced in the flour milling industry, are not covered by this summary. (12)

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES OF CANADA

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics released its annual report on the geographical distribution of the manufacturing industries of Canada for the year 1947.

The report contains an historical summary of principal statistics -- number of employees, salaries and wages, cost of materials, and gross and net value of products -- for Canada as a whole from 1870 to 1947, as well as provincial figures for representative years from 1917.

Tables in the report also contain data by counties, census divisions, and municipalities for the provinces, as well as data on the provincial distribution of the 41 leading industries. Principal statistics are also given for leading Canadian cities and towns.

Copies of this report may be obtained from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa. The price is 50 cents per copy. (13)

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. Retail Trade, March (10 cents).
2. The Employment Situation at the Beginning of March, Together with Payrolls (25 cents).
3. Chain Store Sales and Stocks, March (10 cents).
4. Telegraphic Crop Report -- Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
5. Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, March (15 cents).
6. Primary Iron and Steel, February (25 cents).
7. Products Made from Canadian Clays, January (15 cents).
8. Cement and Cement Products, March (10 cents).
9. Stocks of Canned Fruits and Vegetables, April 1 (25 cents).
10. Traffic Report of Railways, January (10 cents).
11. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
12. Prepared Breakfast Foods Industry, 1948 (15 cents).
13. Geographical Distribution of the Manufacturing Industries, 1947 (50 cents).
14. Dyeing and Finishing of Textile Goods in Canada, 1948 (25 cents).
15. Advance Statement of Hours of Work and Hourly and Weekly Earnings of Male and Female Wage-Earners and Salaried Employees Reported by Leading Manufacturers for the Last Week of October, 1948 (25 cents).
16. Summary of Monthly Railway Traffic Reports for Year Ended December 31, 1949 (25 cents).
17. The Broom, Brush and Mop Industry in Canada, 1948 (25 cents).
18. The Musical Instrument Industry in Canada, 1948 (25 cents).
19. Travel Between Canada and the United States, March (20 cents).
20. Railway Revenue Freight Loadings, April (10 cents).

Memoranda

1. Volume of Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Traveller's Vehicle Permits, April (10 cents).
  2. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, March (10 cents).
  3. Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
  4. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, May 1 (10 cents).
  5. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, May 1 (10 cents).
  6. Forage and Vegetable Seed -- Production and Value -- 1949 (10 cents).
  7. Statistics on Hides, Skins and Leather, March (10 cents).
  8. The Lumber Industry in Quebec, 1948 (10 cents).
  9. The Lumber Industry in Saskatchewan, 1948 (10 cents).
  10. Sales of Farm Implements and Equipment in Canada, Preliminary, 1949 (10 cents).
  11. Mineral Wool, March (10 cents).
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