

D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

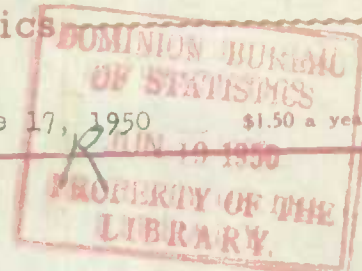
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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S CUSTOMARY TRADE DEFICIT WITH THE UNITED STATES was again sharply below last year's level in April as the result of expanded exports and decreased imports, while for the second successive month Canada had a small debit balance in commodity trade with the United Kingdom. In trade with all countries, there was an adverse balance in April for the fourth successive year.

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ESTIMATED TOTAL OF SALARIES AND WAGES and supplementary labour income in March amounted to \$633,000,000, showing an increase of \$8,000,000 over the February total of \$625,000,000, and a rise of \$27,000,000 or four per cent over the March, 1949 estimate of \$606,000,000.

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INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT showed a moderate expansion at the beginning of April, reversing the downward movement indicated since October 1 last. The rise was accompanied by an increase in weekly payrolls.

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AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS of hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading Canadian manufacturing establishments reached a new high figure of \$43.57 during the week ended April 1. This was 47 cents above the March 1 average of \$43.10, and \$1.44 above the April 1, 1949 figure of \$42.13.

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CASH INCOME OF CANADIAN FARMERS from the sale of farm products in the first three months of this year amounted to \$407,586,000, showing a decline of two per cent from the first-quarter estimate of \$415,931,000 for 1949, but a rise of six per cent over the \$383,359,000 for the first three months of 1948.

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COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES for three of the eight regional cities registered increases between April 1 and May 1, while four declined. The Edmonton index remained unchanged.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES rose three per cent in May over the corresponding month last year, according to preliminary figures. Gains were recorded in all sections of the country except Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ending June 3 rose to 78,985 cars from the revised total of 72,748 for the preceding week and 73,970 for the corresponding week last year.

REDUCED TRADE DEFICIT WITH UNITED STATES
IN APRIL, SMALL DEFICIT WITH UNITED KINGDOM

Canada's customary trade deficit with the United States was again sharply below last year's level in April as

the result of expanded exports and decreased imports, while for the second successive month Canada had a small debit balance in commodity trade with the United Kingdom. In trade with all countries, there was an adverse balance in April for the fourth successive year.

Imports from the United States in April declined to \$162,200,000 from \$177,300,000 a year earlier, while domestic exports to the United States increased to \$137,800,000 compared to \$110,700,000 and foreign exports were unchanged at \$1,500,000. As a result, the debit balance for the month fell to \$22,900,000 as against \$65,100,000 for April last year.

For the four months ending April, the cumulative value of domestic exports to the United States was \$96,000,000 above the aggregate for the corresponding 1949 period, rising to \$551,800,000 compared to \$455,800,000, while foreign exports increased to \$8,000,000 from \$6,200,000. Imports from the United States in the period decreased to \$620,700,000 from \$659,900,000. The aggregate adverse balance for the four months thus fell to less than a third the figure for the four months last year, amounting to \$60,900,000 as compared to \$197,900,000.

In contrast with gains in the first three months of the year, imports from the United Kingdom declined slightly in April to \$29,500,000 as compared to \$30,100,000 in April last year. Domestic exports to the United Kingdom, however, were down sharply to \$25,800,000 from \$63,000,000. Allowing for the small amount of foreign exports, there was a debit balance of \$3,600,000 in the month with the United Kingdom as compared to a credit balance of \$33,400,000 a year earlier, and a small debit balance of \$2,400,000 in March this year. Credit balances totalling \$28,100,000 were recorded in January and February, however, making a credit balance for the four months ending April of \$22,100,000, down from \$96,600,000 in the corresponding 1949 period.

Total imports from all countries in April were valued at \$230,900,000, down moderately from \$237,400,000 for March and below last year's April value of \$242,700,000. Domestic exports to all countries -- as earlier reported -- decreased in value to \$205,500,000 as compared to \$228,200,000 for March and \$237,800,000 for April, 1949, while foreign exports stood at \$4,200,000 as against \$3,500,000 and \$2,500,000, respectively. The result was an adverse overall balance of \$21,200,000 as compared to debit balances of \$5,700,000 for March and \$2,400,000 for April last year. It was the fourth successive year that a debit balance has been shown for April.

For the four months ending April, total imports also exceeded total exports, the aggregate value of imports amounting to \$880,400,000 as compared to \$854,400,000 for domestic exports and \$12,300,000 for foreign exports. The resultant adverse balance of \$13,700,000 for the period compares with an adverse balance of \$3,000,000 for the like period last year.

In contrast with an unusual debit balance in March, Canada had a small credit balance in April with Commonwealth countries other than the United Kingdom as well as with foreign countries other than the United States.

Canadian purchases were lower in value in the month than a year earlier from Commonwealth countries in America, Africa and the Oceania group, but higher from those in Asia. The value of imports was also lower from Europe but higher from Latin America and from the remaining group of foreign countries.

Imports from Commonwealth countries in America were down from \$4,400,000 in April last year to \$1,600,000, due chiefly to reduced purchases from Barbados, Jamaica and British Guiana. The African group total declined from \$2,115,000 to \$1,068,000, decreases from the Union of South Africa, Gold Coast, Nigeria and British East Africa accounting for most of the drop. With increased purchases from New Zealand and Fiji outweighed by a reduction in imports from Australia, the total for the Oceania group fell from \$3,083,000 to \$2,537,000. Offsetting these decreases in part, imports from Commonwealth countries in Asia rose in April to \$7,858,000 from \$4,653,000 in April, 1949, advances being general for the individual countries.

The value of imports from Latin American countries rose in the month to \$14,909,000 from \$11,682,000 a year ago, large gains being shown in purchases from Brazil and Mexico, and lower totals for Cuba and the Dominican Republic.

April purchases from continental Europe fell moderately to \$6,858,000 from \$7,503,000 in April last year, lower figures being shown for Belgium and Luxembourg, France, Italy, the Netherlands, and Sweden, and higher for Germany and Switzerland. On the other hand, imports from the remaining foreign countries rose to \$4,148,000 from \$1,783,000, with marked gains for Arabia, Japan, the Netherlands Antilles and the Philippines.

The principal factor in the overall reduction in the month's imports from the United Kingdom was a sharp decline in purchases of fibres and textiles to \$8,712,000 from \$13,247,000 a year earlier. There were also large proportionate decreases in imports of non-ferrous metals. Iron products, on the other hand, continued to show sharp gains, rising in the month to \$12,170,000 from \$7,635,000, while moderate increases were shown in agricultural and vegetable products, and chemical products. Since the devaluation of the pound sterling would have some tendency to reduce prices of imports in terms of dollars, it may be assumed that, in terms of volume, increases were greater and decreases smaller than the value figures for imports from the United Kingdom indicate.

Lower overall purchases in the month from the United States were the result of reductions in fibres and textiles, iron and products, non-ferrous metals and non-metallic minerals. There were small gains in wood and wood products, and chemicals and allied products. The iron products group -- largest of the nine -- had a value of \$66,030,000 as against \$78,000,000 last year. Non-metallic minerals were valued at \$28,069,000 against \$30,875,000; agricultural and vegetable products, \$12,577,000 against \$12,116,000; non-ferrous metals, \$11,169,000 against \$11,669,000; and fibres and textiles, \$10,843,000 against \$13,229,000.

Increases were shown in April over the same month last year in total imports in four of the nine main commodity groups. Largest declines were in iron and its products group, which fell to \$79,281,000 from \$87,145,000, and in fibres and textiles, down to \$26,769,000 from \$32,586,000. In the iron group there were marked declines in purchases of rolling mill products, most main classes of non-farm machinery, and engines and boilers. Imports of farm implements and machinery and automobile parts were at about the same level, while automobiles climbed sharply. Among the textiles, there were marked declines in cotton and wool products, and artificial silk and products.

The agricultural group showed a slight increase in the month to \$32,200,000 from \$31,100,000 a year earlier, gains being shown in coffee and chicory, tea, vegetable oils, and rubber. Sugar and cocoa imports were lower. Animals and animal products as a group fell slightly from \$5,800,000 to \$5,700,000, while wood, wood products and paper rose from \$7,300,000 to \$7,500,000.

Non-ferrous metals were down from \$15,800,000 to \$15,000,000, with declines in aluminum, brass and copper, and precious metals (except gold). Non-metallic minerals were also lower at \$37,100,000 compared with \$38,200,000, clay and products and petroleum products being lower, and crude petroleum higher. Chemicals as a group rose from \$11,100,000 to \$11,900,000, and miscellaneous commodities from \$13,700,000 to \$15,400,000. (1 and 2)

CROP CONDITIONS IN CANADA Wheat seeding is completed in the Prairie Provinces except in a few scattered areas where excessive precipitation has delayed operations. Somewhat larger acreages of coarse grains remain to be seeded in these areas but given favourable weather all seeding should be finished by this week-end.

In Manitoba, growth for the most part has been rapid, and apart from the lateness of the crop, conditions are favourable. Prospects in Saskatchewan improved materially during the past week as a result of good rains in most areas.

Crops in Alberta are generally fair but conditions vary greatly throughout the province. Prospects in the southwest remain good but rain is badly needed in the remainder of the south and in much of the central area and in the northeast. Rains last week temporarily relieved conditions in northern and extreme eastern areas. Grasshoppers are hatching in most regions of the forecast area of Saskatchewan and a well-organized control campaign is under way. Wireworms have been active in southern, central and west central districts of the province.

Rain and warm weather since May 30 have greatly improved the crop prospects in nearly all sections of Ontario, but the counties of Halton, Waterloo, Lambton, Ontario and sections of Middlesex are still in need of more moisture. Spring grains appear good, while pasture and hay crops are now making better growth. Fall wheat is heading out on somewhat shorter straw than usual and promises a yield slightly below normal. The seeding of late crops has been almost completed under generally favourable conditions. The acreage of sugar beets, soybeans and corn has been increased, while it is reported that the acreage of dry beans and tobacco has been reduced.

In Quebec, all crops have been greatly improved by frequent rains and warmer weather during the past two weeks. While a number of first-year meadows still show the effects of winter-killing, the outlook is good for the hay crop on older meadows. Seeding, with a few exceptions in eastern Quebec, is completed and grains are showing above ground in most areas. Sugar beets and early potatoes are both doing well. Prospects are good for truck crops, although strawberry yields will be below normal due to severe winter damage. Cattle have now been placed on pasture in nearly all areas.

Moderately warm days with cool nights have been experienced in British Columbia during the past two weeks. Soil moisture conditions in the Peace River area are good but in most parts of the province rains would be welcome. Seeding of grains is practically completed and growth has been quite rapid. Alfalfa cutting will commence shortly in the Okanagan. The season is about 10 days later than usual.

Warm weather and ideal growing conditions prevailed over most areas of the three Maritime Provinces during the first part of June. Rain is required in general to keep crops advancing in most areas. Seeding is practically completed with an increase in grain acreage and a decrease in potato acreage. Apple bloom was good with prospects for a heavy set, except in Prince Edward Island where bloom was light. Small fruits are promising. (3)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on June 1 amounted to 108,464,500 bushels as compared with 111,911,700 a week earlier, and 89,319,000 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week totalled 3,038,700 bushels compared with 1,742,200 a year ago. The cumulative total for the period August 1 - June 1 amounted to 279,742,700 bushels against 272,426,600 in the similar period of the preceding crop year.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending June 1 amounted to 4,144,800 bushels as compared with 5,349,400 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 135,406,100 bushels as against 139,159,200 in the similar period of 1948-49. (Mem. 1)

FARM CASH INCOME IN FIRST
THREE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR

Cash income of Canadian farmers from the sale of farm products in the first three months of this year amounted to \$407,586,000, according to an estimate by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was two per cent below the first-quarter estimate of \$415,931,000 for 1949, but six per cent above the \$383,359,000 for the first three months of 1948.

Cash income from the sale of field crops, at \$113,290,000, was eight per cent below the estimate for the same period of 1949. This decline can be partly explained by smaller marketings and lower prices for coarse grains and flaxseed. Under present coarse grain marketing regulations in the Prairie Provinces, producers are paid at the time of delivery only on initial price per bushel, a price which was lower during the first quarter of this year than for the same period of 1949. Any surpluses accumulated by the Canadian Wheat Board through the sale of these grains during the crop year 1949-50 will be shared with the grower after the close of the season. In addition to the 1950 decline in marketings and prices, oats and barley equalization payments in 1949 helped to maintain last year's estimate above that of 1950.

Income from the sale of livestock at \$182,355,000 during the first quarter of this year was nearly seven per cent above that of a year ago. With the exception of hogs, prices were higher for all livestock. Apart from sheep, marketings also increased. Income from the sale of dairy products was down to \$59,046,000 from \$62,172,000.

Provincially, declines in cash income occurred in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and Ontario. In absolute terms, the greatest decline took place in Alberta, while on a percentage basis it occurred in Manitoba.

Ontario had the largest total of \$171,579,000 compared with \$163,952,000 a year earlier, followed by Alberta with \$69,985,000 compared with \$76,857,000, Quebec \$62,754,000 compared with \$65,077,000, and Saskatchewan \$41,857,000 compared with \$45,437,000.

Manitoba was next in order with \$22,794,000 compared with \$25,737,000, British Columbia \$16,982,000 (\$17,114,000 in 1949), New Brunswick \$9,521,000 (\$9,645,000), Nova Scotia \$7,447,000 (\$7,574,000), and Prince Edward Island \$4,667,000 (\$4,538,000). (4)

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Farm prices of agricultural products in Canada -- excluding Newfoundland -- increased in April over the preceding month, but were below April last year, according to index numbers compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Increased prices were recorded in all provinces from March to April, but were below those of a year earlier in each province except Ontario.

The index number for all-Canada, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 248.8 in April as compared with 246.0 for March and 250.9 in April last year. The index has shown a steady rise since January, and is largely attributable to rising live-stock prices. Compared with a year ago, prices were lower for all products except livestock.

Indexes were as follows in April, figures for the same month last year being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 189.8 (197.7); Nova Scotia, 192.7 (211.7); New Brunswick, 209.0 (219.3); Quebec, 254.0 (259.1); Ontario, 255.2 (253.6); Manitoba, 253.3 (254.5); Saskatchewan, 240.4 (241.7); Alberta, 260.0 (261.3); British Columbia, 255.6 (247.8). (Mem. 2)

FRUIT CROP PROSPECTS VARIABLE

Prospects for the fruit crops in Canada this year as at mid-May vary considerably, depending on the locality and type, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Judging by the bloom, the outlook for the orchard fruits in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec is promising. On the other hand, strawberries in the heavy producing area of the Island of Orleans and Bellechasse county are expected to be reduced 50 per cent by winter injury.

Production in Ontario is still uncertain. The apple and peach crops are expected to be lighter than those of last year, while the condition of the other tree fruits is variable. A reduction in the strawberry crop is looked for and, while raspberry plantations in western Ontario are in excellent health, red raspberries in eastern Ontario show considerable winter killing.

In British Columbia heavy winter injury has reduced the crop outlook considerably. All types of fruit trees show winter injury in varying degrees. Apple orchards appear to have suffered the least and are bearing heavy loads of bloom. Peach, apricot and cherry trees all suffered extensive damage but the full amount of the loss is not yet known. Pear and plum trees were also affected, but not to the same extent. All areas report favourably regarding the strawberry crop but heavy snow has caused serious brockage of raspberry canes.

The acreage of the five main vegetable crops under contract this year to the processors show an overall drop of 23 per cent since last season. Acreage by types, with 1949 figure in brackets follow: asparagus, 940 (850) acres; beans, 5,870 (5,010) acres; corn, 31,800 (63,050) acres; peas, 38,870 (33,120) acres; tomatoes, 30,140 (39,240) acres. (Mem. 3)

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FISH

Cold storage holdings of fish in Canada, including Newfoundland, amounted to 31,680,000 pounds on June 1 as compared with 18,584,000 on May 1 and 42,475,000 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks on June 1 comprised 29,749,000 pounds frozen fresh and 1,931,000 pounds frozen smoked. (Mem. 4)

STOCKS OF MEAT AND LARD ON JUNE 1 Stocks of meat held by packers, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses on June 1 amounted to 72,866,000 pounds as compared with 74,294,000 on May 1 and 71,163,000 on the corresponding date last year.

Holdings of frozen meat increased to 42,827,000 pounds compared with 41,675,000 on May 1 and 41,808,000 on June 1 last year. Stocks of fresh meat decreased to 14,676,000 pounds from 16,401,000 on May 1, but were above last year's June 1 figure of 13,407,000 pounds. Stocks of cured meat fell to 15,363,000 pounds from 16,218,000 on May 1 and 15,948,000 on June 1, 1949.

June 1 stocks of lard amounted to 5,755,000 pounds as compared with 4,812,000 at the beginning of May and 3,869,000 on the same date last year. (Mem. 5)

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, were lower on June 1, amounting to 17,464,000 pounds as compared with 20,500,000 on May 1 and 27,597,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, decreased to 5,098,000 pounds from 6,234,000 on May 1 and 6,423,000 on June 1 last year.

Holdings of Canadian potatoes amounted to 34,533 tons as compared with 120,474 a year ago, onions 427 tons compared with 1,997, beets 63 tons compared with 502, carrots 729 tons compared with 522, cabbages 32 tons compared with 96, parsnips 47 tons compared with 53, and colery 1,490 crates compared with 3,759. (Mem. 6)

PRODUCTION OF BUTTER AND CHEESE LOWER IN MAY Creamery butter production was lower in May and the first five months of this year than in the corresponding periods of 1949. The month's output declined to 28,616,000 pounds from 31,987,000, and in the five months to 78,791,000 pounds from 81,865,000.

Cheddar cheese production was also lower, amounting to 10,874,000 pounds in May as compared with 14,372,000 a year ago, and in the five-month period totalled 20,520,000 pounds as against 22,287,000 in the similar period of 1949.

Output of concentrated milk products stood at 42,779,000 pounds compared with 46,688,000 in May last year, total for the five months ending May standing at 125,926,000 pounds as against 138,082,000 in 1949. Ice cream production in May increased to 2,702,000 gallons from 2,667,000 a year earlier, but fell in the five months to 7,379,000 gallons from 8,047,000. (5)

STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS Stocks of creamery butter were higher on June 1, amounting to 31,945,000 pounds as compared with 28,440,000 on May 1 and 24,203,000 on the corresponding date last year. Cheese stocks totalled 37,010,000 pounds against 33,776,000 on May 1 and 29,454,000 a year earlier.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on June 1 amounted to 10,652,000 pounds as compared with 6,868,000 on May 1 and 32,920,000 on the same date last year, while holdings of skim milk powder were 5,579,000 pounds as against 3,542,000 on May 1 and 13,384,000 a year ago. Stocks of frozen cream on June 1 aggregated 120,000 pounds, and of ice cream, 633,000 gallons.

June 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, amounted to 768,000 cases compared with 541,000 on May 1 and 833,000 on June 1 last year. Holdings of poultry meat decreased to 12,498,000 pounds from 14,232,000 on May 1, but were above last year's June 1 figure of 5,670,000 pounds. (Mem. 7)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF MARGARINE

Production of margarine in Canada during May increased to 8,019,000 pounds from 7,190,000 in the preceding month and 7,200,000 in the corresponding month last year. The cumulative total for the first five months of this year rose sharply to 42,922,000 pounds from 26,259,000 in the similar period of 1949. Stocks of margarine at the beginning of June amounted to 3,091,000 pounds, showing a decline from the May 1 total of 4,092,000 pounds. (Mem. 8)

PROCESS CHEESE PRODUCTION DECREASED IN MAY

Production of process cheese in May amounted to 2,552,000 pounds, showing a decrease of 17 per cent from the revised figure of 3,059,000 pounds produced in April, but an increase of three per cent over the 2,468,000 pounds recorded for May last year. Stocks held by manufacturers decreased by seven per cent, totalling 1,071,000 pounds as compared with 1,157,000 pounds held at the end of April.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES

Cost-of-living indexes for three of the eight regional cities registered increases between April 1 and May 1 while four declined. The Edmonton index remained unchanged at 160.4 during April. Narrow changes occurred in food price indexes, chiefly reflecting fluctuations in butter, eggs, beef and coffee. Clothing and homefurnishings and services indexes moved narrowly also, while the miscellaneous items indexes were unchanged at most centres. Rents were not surveyed in May and therefore, recorded no movement.

Composite city index increases between April 1 and May 1 were as follows: Vancouver, 0.5 to 166.2; Winnipeg, 0.3 to 159.3; and Toronto, 0.2 to 160.6. The index for Saint John fell 0.4 to 159.4; Montreal, 0.3 to 166.2; Halifax, 0.1 to 155.5; and Saskatoon, 0.1 to 164.7. The Dominion index remained unchanged during the same interval at 162.7.

	<u>May 1, 1949</u>	<u>April 1, 1950</u> (August 1939=100)	<u>May 1, 1950</u>
Halifax	152.4	155.6	155.5
Saint John	156.0	159.8	159.4
Montreal	161.7	166.5	166.2
Toronto	155.0	160.4	160.6
Winnipeg	154.7	159.0	159.3
Saskatoon	161.7	164.8	164.7
Edmonton	155.1	160.4	160.4
Vancouver	161.1	165.7	166.2
Dominion	158.2	162.7	162.7

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

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT
HIGHER AT APRIL 1

Industrial employment showed a moderate expansion at the beginning of April, reversing the downward movement indicated since October 1 last. The rise was accompanied by an increase in weekly payrolls, and average weekly earnings advanced to a new all-time high figure. The improvement in employment was contra-seasonal in character according to the experience of the period since 1920, during which generally increased activity was reported at April 1 on only six prior occasions.

The index number of employment, on the base 1926=100, stood at 187.6, up one point from the March figure of 186.6, and unchanged from April 1 last year. Payrolls rose 0.9 per cent during the week ending April 1 over March 1, and 3.6 per cent over April 1 last year. Average weekly earnings at \$44.87, exceeded by 2.9 per cent the per capita figure for March 1, and were 3.5 per cent above April 1, 1949.

The trend in employment was higher in all provinces except Ontario and Manitoba, where there was no general change. Activity was increased in 18 of the 22 cities for which data are available. Industrially, a seasonal contraction on a fairly large scale was reported in logging, while the trend in the remaining industrial divisions was upward. (6)

WEEKLY WAGES IN MANUFACTURING
REACH NEW HIGH AT APRIL 1

Average weekly earnings of hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading Canadian manufacturing establishment reached a new high figure of \$43.57 during the week ended April 1. This was 47 cents above the March 1 average of \$43.10, and \$1.44 above the April 1, 1949, figure of \$42.13.

Hourly earnings at April 1 averaged 101.8 cents -- also a new peak -- as compared with 101.4 cents at March 1, and 98.2 cents at April 1, 1949. The average number of hours worked during the week of April 1 rose to 42.8 from 42.5 at March 1, and 42.9 at April 1, 1949.

In durable manufactured goods, average weekly wages moved up to \$47.30 from \$46.77 at March 1, and \$45.66 at April 1, 1949, while in non-durable goods the average advanced to \$39.87 from \$39.57 at March 1 and \$38.47 at April 1, 1949. The work-week in durable goods was 43.0 hours compared with 42.6 at March 1 and 43.2 at April 1 last year, and in non-durables it was 42.6 hours against 42.5 at March 1, and 42.6 a year earlier. (7)

LABOUR INCOME IN MARCH

Estimated total of salaries and wages and supplementary labour income in March amounted to \$633,000,000, showing an increase of \$8,000,000 over the February total of \$625,000,000, and a rise of \$27,000,000 or four per cent over the March, 1949 estimate of \$606,000,000. During the first three months of this year, estimated labour income rose to \$1,878,000,000 from \$1,818,000,000 in the similar period of 1949, or by three per cent.

Labour income in manufacturing advanced to \$218,000,000 from \$214,000,000 in March last year; in utilities, transportation, communication, storage and trade to \$168,000,000 from \$161,000,000; in finance and services to \$145,000,000 from \$134,000,000; and in construction to \$39,000,000 from \$35,000,000.

The total for agriculture, logging, fishing, trapping and mining declined in March, amounting to \$41,000,000 compared with \$42,000,000 a year earlier. Supplementary labour income in the month totalled \$22,000,000 as against \$20,000,000 a year ago. (8)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP
THREE PER CENT IN MONTH

Department store sales rose three per cent in May over the corresponding month last year, according to preliminary figures. Gains were recorded in all regions of the country except Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Largest gain of six per cent was shown in Quebec, followed by the Maritimes and Ontario with advances of five per cent each, Alberta four per cent, and British Columbia three per cent. Sales in Manitoba were down eight per cent, and in Saskatchewan five per cent.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>June 9, 1950</u>	<u>June 2, 1950</u>	<u>May 11, 1950</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks)	131.6	130.6	128.7
82 Industrials	126.8	126.4	124.3
16 Utilities	134.6	132.5	131.3
8 Banks	150.7	147.2	145.5
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	92.0	93.0	91.8
25 Golds	71.9	73.5	73.0
5 Base Metals	132.0	131.8	128.9

CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION OF RUBBER

Consumption of rubber decreased 10 per cent in April, total for the month amounting to 13,842,200 pounds as compared with 15,097,200 in March. Natural rubber consumption declined to 7,790,000 pounds from 8,772,400, synthetic to 3,678,100 pounds from 3,772,400, and reclaim to 2,374,100 pounds from 2,552,400.

Domestic production of synthetic rubber moved lower in April, totalling 10,313,000 pounds as compared with 11,849,600 in the preceding month, while reclaim advanced to 768,300 pounds from 721,300.

Month-end stocks of natural rubber rose to 11,809,300 pounds as compared with 11,161,900 in March, synthetic to 10,528,000 pounds compared with 9,206,400, and reclaim to 3,700,500 pounds compared with 3,599,700. (9)

STOCKS OF HIDES AND SKINS
AND PRODUCTION OF LEATHER

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers at the end of April amounted to 428,812 as compared with 454,600 on the corresponding date last year. There were 473,835 calf and kip skins on hand compared with 584,283 a year earlier, 27,184 goat and kid skins compared with 160,842, 16,695 horse hides compared with 15,933, and 46,106 dozen sheep and lamb skins compared with 46,337.

Production of cattle sole leather in April amounted to 1,393,490 pounds as compared with 1,599,049 in the same month last year, and finished stocks on hand at the end of the month totalled 3,977,149 pounds as against 3,836,816. Production of cattle upper leather amounted to 2,263,759 square feet as compared with 2,833,348 in April, 1949, and the stocks on hand totalled 2,241,212 square feet as against 1,821,833. (Mem. 9)

SALES OF PAINTS, VARNISHES
AND LACQUERS LOWER IN APRIL

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for all but a small percentage of the total Canadian production amounted to \$7,117,029 in April as compared with \$8,683,762 in the corresponding month last year. During the first four months of this year, sales totalled \$24,648,471 as against \$29,638,077 in the similar period of 1949. (10)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF IRON
CASTINGS AND CAST IRON PIPES

Production of iron castings and cast iron pipes and fittings amounted to 55,000 tons in April, while shipments totalled 36,200 tons. During the first four months of this year, 235,200 tons were produced and 149,700 tons were shipped. (Mem. 10)

PRODUCTION AND SALES OF
STOVES AND WARM AIR FURNACES

Canadian manufacturers produced 42,520 stoves of all kinds in April as compared with 36,714 in the preceding month, and 4,003 warm air furnaces as against 4,615. Factory sales of stoves in the month amounted to 34,730 units of all types compared with 38,372 in March, and the sales of furnaces totalled 3,674 compared with 3,142.

Among the stoves produced during the month were 17,163 electric ranges and rangettes; 5,758 coal, wood and sawdust cooking stoves; 4,157 coal, wood and sawdust heating stoves; 2,989 gas cooking stoves and ranges; 5,777 oil and gasoline stoves and heaters; and 4,726 fuel oil (distillate) heating stoves. (Mem. 11)

RAILWAY REVENUES AT A
NEW PEAK FOR MARCH

Operating revenues of Canadian railways in March reached a new record total for the month at \$78,092,000, showing an increase of \$3,767,000 or five per cent over the corresponding month last year. Operating expenses fell slightly from \$70,612,000 last year to \$70,556,000, and the operating income rose from \$1,315,000 a year earlier to \$5,299,000.

First quarter operating revenues aggregated \$204,828,000 as compared with \$207,279,000 in the same period of last year, while operating expenses totalled \$199,439,000 as compared with \$203,696,000. The deficit on operations during the quarter was \$1,597,000 as compared with \$4,016,000.

The payroll in March grossed \$41,684,000, up nearly one per cent from March last year, while the employees numbered 173,753, down 0.4 per cent. (11)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ending June 3 rose to 78,985 cars from the revised total of 72,748 for the preceding week and 73,970 for the corresponding week last year. This year's cumulative total to June 3 was 1,552,259 cars as against 1,591,042 in the similar period of 1949.

Loadings in the western division during the week amounted to 25,111 cars as compared with 23,302 a year earlier, increases being recorded in grain, coal, building materials, lumber, oil and gasoline. The eastern region total rose to 53,874 cars from 50,668 as most commodities were moved in greater volume. (12)

SALES OF PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS Sales of pest control products by Canadian registrants in 1949 were valued at \$14,202,290, showing an advance of 18 per cent over the 1948 total of \$11,990,920, according to returns received from 440 registrants which accounted for about 95 per cent of the total sales of these products in Canada.

Agricultural dusts and sprays with sales valued at \$4,946,010, continued to lead all groups, followed closely by weedicides at \$4,676,403. Disinfectants at \$2,042,446, household and industrial insecticides at \$1,824,897, livestock treatments at \$535,437, and rodenticides at \$177,097, accounted for the remainder. (Mem. 12)

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. Trade of Canada: Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade, April (10 cents).
2. Trade of Canada: Imports for Consumption, April (10 cents).
3. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
4. Farm Cash Income, January to March (25 cents).
5. Dairy Factory Production, March (10 cents).
6. The Employment Situation at the Beginning of April, Together with Payrolls (25 cents).
7. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings Reported at the First of April (25 cents).
8. Estimates of Labour Income, March (10 cents).
9. Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, April (25 cents).
10. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, April (10 cents).
11. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, March (10 cents).
12. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
13. Civil Aviation, December (15 cents).
14. Shipments and Inventories of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, March (25 cents).
15. Trade of Canada: Exports, April -- Detailed Report -- (50 cents).
16. Trade of Canada: Articles Imported from Each Country, Three Months Ended March (25 cents).
17. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways of Canada, February (10 cents).
18. The Sporting Goods Industry, 1948 (15 cents).

Memoranda

1. Grain Statistics - Week Ended June 1 - (10 cents).
2. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, April (10 cents).
3. Fruit and Vegetable Report, Summary (10 cents).
4. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, June 1 (25 cents).
5. Stocks of Meat, Lard and Tallow, June 1 (10 cents).
6. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, June 1 (10 cents).
7. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, June 1 (10 cents).
8. Margarine Statistics, April (10 cents).
9. Statistics on Hides, Skins and Leather, April (10 cents).
10. Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipes and Fittings, April (10 cents).
11. Stoves and Furnaces, April (10 cents).
12. Sales of Pest Control Products by Canadian Registrants, 1949 (15 cents).
13. The Miscellaneous Wood-Using Industry, 1948 (25 cents).

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