

D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA

Vol. XVIII - No. 32

Saturday, August 12, 1950

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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S OFFICIAL COST-OF-LIVING INDEX advanced a further 2.1 points between June 1 and July 3 to reach a new high at 167.5. This compares with an index level of 162.1 a year ago, 156.9 at July, 1948, and 135.9 at July, 1947.

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INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT showed a marked upswing at the beginning of June. Aggregate weekly salaries and wages also moved higher.

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CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS in June totalled 62,048, showing a decline of 25 per cent from the preceding month's total of 83,082, but an increase of 17 per cent over last year's June figure of 53,114.

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GENERALLY GOOD TO EXCELLENT CROP CONDITIONS prevail in the three Prairie Provinces. Harvesting will be one to three weeks later than usual and frost damage is still a factor to be considered.

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OUTPUT OF CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS in June, at 4,305,111,000 kilowatt hours, was five per cent higher than in the same month last year, raising the aggregate for the first half of 1950 to 24,803,925,000 kilowatt hours from 23,462,350,000 in the like 1949 period.

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CANADIAN OUTPUT OF STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS reached a peak total of 1,689,024 tons in the first six months of this year, being slightly above last year's high total of 1,676,041 tons for the same period.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES rose 12 per cent during the week ending July 29, all sections of the country participating in the gain except Saskatchewan where sales remained unchanged.

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FACTORY SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN-MADE MOTOR VEHICLES, which have been climbing at a rapid rate in recent months, showed a further sharp rise in June to reach a total of 41,383 -- second highest monthly figure on record. This raised the aggregate for the first six months of the year to 191,765 -- the largest half-year total in the history of the industry.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ended July 29 reached a new peak for the period at 81,096 cars, showing an advance of 7,563 cars or 10.3 per cent over the corresponding week last year.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX REACHED
NEW HIGH AT BEGINNING OF JULY

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced a further 2.1 points between June 1 and July 3 to reach a new high of 167.5. This compares with an index level of 162.1 a year ago, 156.9 at July 1948 and 135.9 at July, 1947.

As has been the case for some months, higher food prices accounted for most of the latest increase, but rents were also a contributing factor. The food index rose sharply from 209.0 to 214.3, largely as a result of increases in meat, eggs and potatoes. A considerable proportion of the price rise in these items was seasonal, particularly in eggs which advanced 10.4 cents per dozen, and potatoes which rose 8.6 cents per 10 pounds. Average advances per pound in meats were 2.9 cents for beef, 6.0 for lamb, 1.0 for pork, and 1.2 for veal.

The rent index moved from 132.7 to 134.9, reflecting the results of a June rent survey. Fuel and light rose 0.6 points to 137.7, following slight increases for coal and coke in some centres. The index of miscellaneous items strengthened 0.1 points to 132.5, the most notable advance in this group being gasoline prices in British Columbia. The indexes of clothing and homefurnishings and services remained unchanged at 180.7 and 166.9, respectively. Slight increases and decreases within these two groups counterbalanced each other. (1)

Dominion Cost of Living Indexes
1935-39=100

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Cloth- ing	Home Furnish- ings and Services	Miscel- laneous
July 3, 1950	167.5	214.3	134.9	137.7	180.7	166.9	132.5
June 1, 1950	165.4	209.0	132.7	137.1	180.7	166.9	132.4
July 2, 1949	162.1	207.2	123.4	129.1	183.3	167.5	128.5

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
UP 12 PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales rose 12 per cent during the week ending July 29, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. All sections of the country participated in the rise except Saskatchewan where sales remained unchanged. Quebec had the largest gain of 17 per cent, followed by Ontario with an advance of 16 per cent, Manitoba 12 per cent, the Maritime Provinces six per cent, Alberta five per cent, and British Columbia four per cent.

WORLD PRICE MOVEMENTS
IN SECOND HALF OF 1949

Living costs continued to move higher in most countries in the second half of 1949, but at a somewhat slower pace. Wholesale price levels generally advanced during the latter part of 1949, although indexes for Switzerland and the United States continued to decline. The devaluation of the pound sterling on September 18 was followed by a general readjustment of nearly all foreign currencies and was reflected in a realignment of international price levels.

The United States Bureau of Labour Statistics consumer's price index registered a small change between June and December. Moderate declines in food and clothing which exceeded advances in rent and fuel, brought the index down to 167.5 for a net decrease of 1.2 per cent. Due mainly to higher prices for food, the cost-of-living index for the United Kingdom rose two points to 113.

After receding fractionally from a peak of 162.8 in August, the cost-of-living index for Canada closed the year at 161.5, 2.6 points above the comparable level in 1948. Higher levels for rents and fuel were mainly responsible for the change. Australia's cost-of-living index for six capital cities registered an increase of 4.5 per cent to 165.3 between June and December, while the South African index fell 0.3 per cent to 154.2. Index advances in other countries were as follows: France, 12.9 per cent; Peru, 8.9 per cent; Chile, 7.5 per cent; Spain, 5.7 per cent; and Finland, 5.5 per cent.

The general wholesale commodity price index for the United States fell from 154.5 in June to 151.2 in December, a decline of eight per cent in farm products leading the movement. Reflecting rising prices in wool, cereals, non-ferrous metals and cotton, the Board of Trade index for the United Kingdom mounted 3.9 per cent to 241.0 between June and December.

The Canadian wholesale index of 508 price series fluctuated narrowly between June and December, ending the year at 156.9, 2.7 points below the post-war peak of 159.6 attained in December, 1948. Substantial increases in wholesale prices were noted in France and Australia, their respective indexes showing gains of 10.5 per cent and 10.0 per cent. Advances were also recorded for Mexico which rose eight per cent, Finland 7.6 per cent, Peru 5.6 per cent, Chile 4.5 per cent, Denmark 4.2 per cent, and Netherlands 4.1 per cent. (2)

CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT
INSURANCE BENEFITS IN JUNE

Claims for unemployment insurance benefits in June totalled 62,048, showing a decline of 25 per cent from the preceding month's total of 83,082, but an increase of 17 per cent over last year's June figure of 53,114. Of the claims filed in June this year, 51,284 were initial and renewal claims as compared with 71,619 in May and 44,783 in June, 1949.

Ordinary claims on the live unemployment register numbered 109,433 as against 146,453 in May and 80,391 a year earlier. Persons commencing receipt of benefit numbered 40,781 as compared with 56,868 in May and 32,211 in June last year. During June, \$6,578,926 was paid in respect of 2,742,203 days as compared with \$9,586,658 and 4,004,678 days in May and \$4,113,254 and 1,855,753 days a year ago.

Claims in Quebec rose in June to 22,233 from 16,953 in the corresponding month last year, and in Ontario to 18,902 from 18,065. In British Columbia, claims totalled 7,990 (7,160 in June, 1949), Manitoba 3,287 (2,155), Nova Scotia 3,207 (3,725), Alberta 2,428 (1,222), New Brunswick 2,318 (2,731), Saskatchewan 1,042 (826), Newfoundland 440 (60), and Prince Edward Island 201 (217). (3)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT
HIGHER AT JUNE FIRST

Industrial employment showed a marked upswing at the beginning of June, according to figures received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from over 20,000 firms in the eight major non-agricultural industries. Aggregate weekly salaries and wages also moved higher.

The staffs of the reporting firms increased almost four per cent over May 1 -- the largest advance at the same date since 1941 -- and the index number rose to a new June 1 peak of 196.0 as against 188.7 at May 1. At June 1 last year it was 194.5. The rise in recorded employment at June 1 as compared with a month earlier was accompanied by an increase of three per cent in weekly salaries and wages.

At \$44.61, average weekly salaries and wages were 38 cents lower than at May 1. Also lower than at April 1 and March 1 this year, the most recent figure of per capita earnings was otherwise the highest in the record, exceeding the June 1, 1949, average by 5.4 per cent.

Conforming to the seasonal pattern, the increase in employment for men at June 1 was decidedly more pronounced than for women. The co-operating firms reported a gain of about 4.8 per cent among their male employees as compared with a rise of 0.5 per cent among females. The general proportion of women was lower than at May 1, but was the same as at June 1, 1949.

On the whole, the trend of employment was favourable in all provinces, in 18 of the 22 cities for which data are available, and in each of the main industrial divisions. Moderate advances were recorded in manufacturing, in which the gain of 1.5 per cent was slightly less-than-average in extent, according to the experience of preceding years, although it was larger than that noted 12 months previously.

Among the non-manufacturing classes there was extremely marked expansion in logging, due in the main to river-driving operations in the Eastern and Central provinces; improvement was also noted in British Columbia. Mining, communications, transportation, construction and maintenance, hotels and restaurants and trade also showed considerably heightened activity. The largest increases were those of 42.6 per cent and 17.2 per cent in logging and construction, respectively. The gain in the former was above-normal for the time of year, while that in construction was less-than-average. (4)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>August 5, 1950</u>	<u>July 27, 1950</u>	<u>July 6, 1950</u>
	(1935-39=100)		
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks)	130.8	129.2	122.1
82 Industrials	127.2	125.3	116.7
16 Utilities	131.2	130.1	126.2
8 Banks	144.6	144.7	146.7
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	84.9	82.3	81.6
25 Golds	61.0	57.5	61.5
5 Base Metals	133.2	132.3	121.9

CROP CONDITIONS ACROSS CANADA Generally good to excellent crop conditions prevail in the three Prairie Provinces. Harvesting will be one to three weeks later than usual and frost damage is still a factor to be considered.

Conditions in Manitoba continue to be favourable in spite of the lateness of the season and the occurrence of some lodging. Cutting of fall rye has begun but the spring grain harvest will not be general until the end of August.

Moisture supplies are considered to be adequate to mature crops in most areas of Saskatchewan. Yield prospects are good to excellent in eastern and northern districts and, while there is considerable variability over central and west-central districts, an average yield is expected for these areas as a whole. Fall rye yields in the southwest are light and spring grains in this area are expected to yield slightly below normal. Only local hail damage has occurred and insect damage is light, although there is still a threat of further grasshopper damage over central and western districts.

Crop prospects in Alberta have been maintained or improved during the past two weeks and a close-to-average grain crop may be expected. Conditions are quite variable throughout the province, ranging from patchy in north-central districts to excellent in east-central districts. While the wheat crop is all headed, harvesting is expected to be one to three weeks late. Moisture conditions are now generally satisfactory but rain will be needed for filling in some districts. Considerable local hail damage has occurred, being especially severe in the Peace River block.

Despite late seeding, the outlook for grain production in Ontario has improved steadily and above-average yields are anticipated, provided good harvesting weather prevails during the next three weeks. Heavy rains during the latter part of July and the first three days of August delayed the harvesting of wheat and the completion of haying. There are many excellent fields of winter wheat in central Ontario and harvesting of this crop is further advanced than in a number of counties in southwestern Ontario, where wet weather has caused considerable sprouting. Wet weather has also resulted in the deterioration of the quality of a considerable part of the hay crop. On the other hand the aftermath of hay fields and pastures has benefited from the ample moisture supplies in nearly all parts of the province. The larger-than-anticipated hay crop and the increased acreage of fodder corn are expected to provide most counties with sufficient, although not plentiful, supplies of winter fodder.

With the exception of a few counties in old Ontario and some districts in northern Ontario, the yield of spring grains is expected to range from above normal to considerably above normal and the harvesting of these crops is now general. Heavy storms have caused some lodging and clear warm weather is needed for harvesting.

Turnips, mangels, potatoes and soybeans have made satisfactory growth in Ontario and sugar beets are considered excellent. Tobacco yields are expected to be average. The harvest of the flue-cured crop started at the beginning of August but will not be in full swing until the middle of the month. Although the corn crop was slightly below normal at the first of August, favourable weather from now until harvest time would still result in good yields.

Cool weather in Quebec during the last two weeks has retarded the growth of corn and other warm weather crops. Frequent rains have delayed the harvesting of the hay crop in all areas except around Montreal, where it has been completed. The yield of hay is estimated to be above the 1949 level in the Montreal areas, but elsewhere it is expected to be only fair. Harvesting of grains has begun in some localities and the yield prospects are good. Pastures are in good condition and dairy production is satisfactory. All truck and canning crops are yielding well. Flue-cured tobacco is about normal and the sugar beet crop is very promising. The picking of raspberries and blueberries is at its height and yields are good.

Favourable weather has promoted good growth of grains and food crops in the Maritimes and average crops of wheat, oats and barley are expected. Haying is well advanced and the quality is excellent. In some sections rain last week greatly improved the pastures, which were failing rapidly. The prospects for the New Brunswick potato crop are good and only a small amount of blight is reported.

The hot, dry spell in British Columbia was relieved somewhat by rain during the latter part of July. Harvesting of grain is now in full swing in the southern portions of the Province and fall-sown crops are yielding fair to good returns. Spring grains, however, are somewhat light. Second-cut alfalfa is now being harvested but yields are light. Pastures, which were failing rapidly, were freshened by the recent rains. In the Okanagan Valley the apple crop is sizing well, except on trees suffering from winter injury. (5)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on July 31 amounted to 99,168,700 bushels as compared with 96,718,000 a week earlier and 54,556,100 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week amounted to 10,156,500 bushels as compared with last year's corresponding total of 9,964,900.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending July 31, totals for the same week last year being in brackets: oats, 2,591,200 (5,487,800) bushels; barley, 1,222,500 (3,164,300); rye, 219,600 (528,500); flaxseed, 13,700 (56,000).

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending July 31 amounted to 5,338,400 bushels as compared with 4,256,000 in the corresponding period of 1949.

WHEAT SUPPLIES AT JULY 1
IN MAJOR EXPORTING COUNTRIES

Wheat supplies remaining on or about July 1 in the four major exporting countries for export and carry-over at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 687 million bushels, according to the latest available estimates. This is substantially above a year earlier, when 569 million bushels were available.

Large supplies in the United States and Australia account for the increase, estimated quantities in Canada and Argentina being down from last year. Supplies this year, with last year's figures in brackets, were held as follows: United States, 417 (308) million-bushels; Canada, 122 (126); Australia, 88 (63); Argentina, 60 (72).

Total supplies for the four countries are now placed lower than earlier anticipated, due to a downward revision in the estimated carryover in the United States, with completion of the annual crop-year-end survey of stocks, to 417 million bushels from the 450 million forecast. The reduction is accounted for by an increase in estimated domestic disappearance for the crop year, which ends in the United States on June 30.

Harvesting is well under way in the United States winter wheat area and the latest official crop estimate places the yield at nearly 721 million bushels, more than ten million above the previous estimate. Spring wheat production is put at 236 million, making a total probable wheat crop of some 957 million bushels. This is 17 per cent below the 1,146 million bushels harvested last year and the first crop in seven years below a billion bushels.

In Canada, winter wheat is being harvested in Ontario with near-average yields anticipated. Harvest will be late in most of western Canada, where some 25.8 million acres were seeded to spring wheat, but good yields were in prospect at the end of July in nearly all of the major wheat-producing areas.

Prospects for the next Argentine wheat crop are reported to be promising, while reports from Australia indicate that wheat acreage may be reduced somewhat and yields lower than last season. Weather conditions were adverse in parts of Europe early in July but have improved recently, the continent's crop is still expected to equal or exceed last year's outturn. (6)

FRUIT CROP ESTIMATES

All fruit crops showed some improvement during the past month but yields, with the exception of raspberries and grapes, are still expected to be well below the 1949 level. The apple crop is currently set at 15,691,000 bushels, two per cent above the June estimate, but 12 per cent lighter than in 1949.

Estimate of the pear crop stands at 722,000 bushels as against 1,000,000 in 1949; plums and prunes, 486,000 (827,000) bushels; peaches, 1,151,000 (2,011,000) bushels; apricots, 12,000 (181,000) bushels; cherries, 313,000 (491,000) bushels; strawberries, 22,356,000 (26,251,000) quarts; raspberries, 11,074,000 (10,931,000) quarts; loganberries, 866,000 (877,000) pounds; and grapes, 65,094,000 (36,194,000) pounds. (Mem. 1).

PRODUCTION OF BUTTER AND CHEESE LOWER IN JULY

Creamery butter production was four per cent lower in July and the first seven months of this year than in the corresponding periods of 1949. The month's output declined to 36,420,000 pounds from 38,010,000 in July last year, and in the seven months to 155,294,000 pounds from 161,011,000.

Cheddar cheese production was 14 per cent lower in July, amounting to 15,851,000 pounds as compared with 18,511,000 a year earlier. In the seven-month period, 54,612,000 pounds were produced, showing a decline of 11 per cent from last year's corresponding total of 61,413,000 pounds.

Output of concentrated milk products stood at 47,788,000 pounds compared with 41,565,000 in July last year, an advance of 15 per cent. Cumulative total for the seven months ending July remained practically unchanged at 230,099,000 pounds against 229,520,000 in the like 1949 period. Ice cream production in July aggregated 3,526,000 gallons as compared with 3,798,000 a year ago, a decline of seven per cent, and in the seven months fell to 14,097,000 pounds from 15,438,000, or by nine per cent. (7)

STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Stocks of creamery butter were higher on August 1, amounting to 60,963,000 pounds as compared with 49,445,000 on July 1 and 59,875,000 on the corresponding date last year. Cheese stocks totalled 36,381,000 pounds compared with 38,605,000 on July 1 and 30,065,000 a year earlier.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on August 1 amounted to 37,021,000 pounds as compared with 25,513,000 on July 1 and 55,147,000 on the same date last year, while holdings of skim milk powder were 8,047,000 pounds as against 6,660,000 on July 1 and 12,162,000 a year ago. Stocks of frozen cream on August 1 aggregated 777,000 pounds as compared with 464,000 on July 1, and of ice cream, 884,000 gallons compared with 881,000.

August 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, amounted to 784,000 cases as compared with 853,000 on July 1 and 808,000 on August 1, 1949. Holdings of poultry meat declined to 8,892,000 pounds from 11,571,000 on July 1, but were above last year's August 1 figure of 7,125,000 pounds. (Mem. 2)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF MARGARINE

Production of margarine in July amounted to 5,891,000 pounds as compared with 5,525,000 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the total for the first seven months of the year to 54,928,000 pounds against 38,756,000 in the like period of 1949. Stocks on August 1 totalled 1,930,000 pounds as compared with the revised July 1 total of 3,583,000 pounds. (Mem. 3)

PROCESS CHEESE PRODUCTION DECREASED IN JULY

Production of process cheese in July amounted to 2,040,000 pounds, showing a decrease of 18 per cent from the revised figure of 2,503,000 pounds produced in June, and 11 per cent below the 2,296,000 pounds recorded for July last year. Stocks held by manufacturers were 29 per cent below those of last month, totalling 875,000 pounds compared with 1,238,000.

CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS OUTPUT
ABOVE 1949 IN JUNE AND HALF-YEAR

Output of central electric stations in Canada declined 2.5 per cent in June from the record monthly total attained in May, but was five per cent above the same month last year. Total for the first six months of this year increased six per cent over the same months of 1949. All provinces shared in the rise over 1949 in the month and cumulative period.

According to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the month's output amounted to 4,505,111,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 4,417,089,000 in May and 4,018,065,000 in June last year. In the six-month period, 24,803,925,000 kilowatt hours were produced as against 23,462,350,000 in the like 1949 period.

Consumption of primary power advanced in June to 3,698,458,000 kilowatt hours from 3,481,039,000 a year ago, and in the half year to 22,132,939,000 kilowatt hours from 20,706,990,000. Gross exports to the United States in June totalled 167,627,000 kilowatt hours compared with 155,169,000 in June, 1949. In the cumulative period, 1,013,013,000 kilowatt hours were exported as against 1,007,989,000.

June production was as follows by provinces, totals for the same month last year being in brackets (figures in thousands): Prince Edward Island, 1,582 (1,362) kilowatt hours; Nova Scotia, 60,740 (58,128); New Brunswick, 61,093 (57,769); Quebec, 2,500,980 (2,325,178); Ontario, 1,053,254 (1,006,873); Manitoba, 171,217 (152,691); Saskatchewan, 71,186 (66,413); Alberta, 66,189 (60,830); British Columbia, 318,870 (288,821). (8)

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES
DOWN IN MAY AND FIVE MONTHS

Births, deaths and marriages registered in Canada were all lower in May and the five months ending May this year than in the corresponding periods of 1949.

Births in May numbered 29,411 compared with 31,786 in May last year, making a cumulative total of 139,585 for the five months as against 142,322 for January-May, 1949, a decrease of 1.9 per cent. There were decreases in the month in all provinces except Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Alberta, while in the five months all provinces were lower except Prince Edward Island, Alberta and British Columbia.

Deaths totalled 9,825 in the month compared with 11,162 a year earlier, and for the five months aggregated 51,432 compared with 51,715, down 0.5 per cent. Increases in the month were recorded only for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and British Columbia, and in the five months for the same provinces and Alberta.

Marriages in May fell off to 9,046 from 10,237, and in the five months were down 3.5 per cent to 52,124 from 53,927 last year. The number was higher in May in Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan alone, and for the five months in Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta. (9)

SALES OF PAINTS, VARNISHES AND
LACQUERS IN JUNE AND HALF-YEAR

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for all but a small percentage of the total Canadian production increased six per cent in June, amounting to \$9,281,580 as compared with \$8,722,109 in the same month last year. Despite the rise in the month, cumulative sales for the first half of this year declined to \$42,635,538 from \$43,831,390 in the similar period of 1949, or by three per cent. (10)

SHIPMENTS OF MOTOR VEHICLES AT NEW PEAK IN FIRST HALF OF 1950 Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles, which have been climbing at a rapid rate in recent months, showed a further sharp rise in June to reach a total of 41,383 -- second highest monthly figure on record. This raised the aggregate for the first six months of the year to 191,765 -- the largest half-year total in the history of the industry.

This year's June shipments compare with 35,281 units in May, 30,096 in June last year, and the record monthly total of 41,901 units in April, 1929. In the first half of last year, 140,115 units were shipped, and in 1948 the total was 129,182 units. The previous peak for the half year was 188,361 units in 1929, when shipments were, to a large extent, concentrated in the first six months of the year.

Most of the gain in June and the half-year over the corresponding 1949 periods occurred in shipments of passenger cars, the month's total advancing from 20,008 to 29,733, and the half-year's from 87,470 to 138,564. Shipments of commercial vehicles rose in June from 10,088 to 11,650, and in the six months from 52,645 to 53,201.

Shipments of vehicles for sale in Canada totalled 38,092 in June compared with 27,183 a year earlier, and in the half-year numbered 176,500 compared with 125,262. Vehicles for export numbered 3,291 in June this year against 2,913, and in the six months totalled 15,265 compared with 14,853. (11)

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN JUNE AND FIRST HALF OF 1950 Canadian output of steel ingots and castings reached a peak total of 1,689,024 tons in the first six months of this year, being slightly above last year's high total of 1,676,041 tons for the same period. June output was also above last year, standing at 276,423 tons as compared with 270,455 tons.

The half-year output of pig iron showed a slight decline to 1,102,190 tons from 1,135,071 a year earlier, but was higher in June at 198,462 tons as compared with 194,255 tons.

Output of ferro-alloys in the half-year was down to 79,454 tons from 130,444 in the same period of 1949, and was also lower in June at 15,350 tons compared with 19,264. (12)

SHIPMENTS OF PRIMARY STEEL SHAPES HIGHER IN MAY Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 248,789 net tons in May as compared with 216,723 tons in the preceding month. The May shipments included 6,828 tons of semi-finished shapes, 13,820 tons of structurals, 14,723 tons of plates, 30,950 tons of rails, 7,622 tons of tie plates and track material, 44,007 tons of hot rolled bars, 23,013 tons of pipes and tubes, 24,785 tons of wire rods, 23,144 tons of black sheets, 9,053 tons of galvanized sheets, 6,274 tons of castings, and 15,010 tons of other rolled products. The amount of producers' interchange was 128,356 tons in May as against 106,273 tons in April. (13)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF IRON
CASTINGS AND CAST IRON PIPES

Production of iron castings and cast iron pipes and fittings in June amounted to 59,700 tons, while shipments for use in Canada and for export totalled 45,000 tons. During the first six months of this year, 354,600 tons were produced, and 239,000 tons were shipped. (Mem. 5)

COPPER, ZINC OUTPUT UP IN
MAY; NICKEL AND LEAD LOWER

Canadian production of copper, zinc and silver moved higher in May than in the corresponding month last year, while the output of nickel and lead fell to lower levels. May totals for the five metals were as follows, figures for May, 1949 being in brackets: copper, 22,600 (21,653) tons; zinc, 30,694 (24,840) tons; silver, 1,751,343 (1,498,990) fine ounces; nickel, 10,980 (11,161) tons; and lead, 13,571 (17,940) tons. (13 and 14)

GOLD OUTPUT IN MAY
AGAIN ADVANCES

Gold production in Canada during May maintained the steady upward trend of previous months with an increase of 12 per cent over May last year. There were increases in all producing provinces but a decline in the Northwest Territories.

Total output for the month was 373,758 fine ounces as compared with 332,442 in May last year. For the five months ending May, the cumulative production rose to 1,830,996 as against 1,619,440 fine ounces in the same 1949 period, a gain of 13 per cent.

May production by areas, with figures for May last year in brackets, was as follows: Quebec, 96,126 (78,384) fine ounces; Ontario, 209,685 (193,695); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 23,267 (16,641); British Columbia, 26,711 (24,469); Yukon, 79 (nil); Northwest Territories, 17,046 (18,268). (15)

IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES IN 1949

Combined output of the iron and steel group of industries and of transportation equipment industries in 1949 was nine per cent greater in value than in 1948, aggregating \$2,472,000,000 as against \$2,262,000,000, according to a preliminary summary of statistics for these industries.

Totals for each group were higher last year than in 1948. Output value for the iron and steel and their products group increased to \$1,408,912,700 from \$1,320,527,400, and for the transportation equipment group to \$1,062,903,700 from \$941,483,900.

Substantial increases were recorded by 17 of the 20 industries in the two groups, the largest gains being for farm implements, motor vehicles, motor vehicle parts, and primary iron and steel. Major decline was in shipbuilding.

Output values for the larger industries of the two groups in production value, with 1948 figures in brackets, are as follows: motor vehicles, \$487,532,200 (\$398,056,600); agricultural implements, \$176,817,100 (\$146,956,300); motor vehicle parts, \$169,939,000 (\$140,068,400); primary iron and steel, \$303,299,400 (\$282,167,150); railway rolling stock, \$246,743,300 (\$237,382,900); sheet metal products, \$154,101,900 (\$152,560,900); machinery, \$237,502,100 (\$232,605,800); iron castings, \$134,364,700 (\$123,738,700); shipbuilding, \$79,893,400 (\$106,783,300). (16)

LEATHER FOOTWEAR PRODUCTION Leather footwear production in May amounted to 2,820,695 pairs as compared with 2,680,938 in the preceding month and 3,247,108 in the corresponding month last year. In the first five months of this year, 14,074,658 pairs were produced as compared with 15,419,741 in the same period of 1949. (17)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ended July 29 reached a new peak for the period at 81,096 cars, showing an advance of 7,563 cars or 10.3 per cent over the corresponding week last year. Since the middle of May this year the weekly volume has been well above 1949 and 1948 levels. Cumulative loadings for the first 30 weeks of this year were 2,185,832 cars as compared with 2,169,912 in the corresponding period of 1949. (18)

PASSENGERS CARRIED BY TRANSIT SYSTEMS IN APRIL Passengers carried by Canadian transit systems in April totalled 130,850,353, showing a decrease of 4.4 per cent from last year's April volume. Urban systems carried 122,555,494 passengers during the month compared with 127,762,525 a year earlier, while interurban service had 8,294,859 fares compared with 9,105,475.

With higher fare tariffs general, transit receipts improved on urban systems from \$8,346,476 in April last year to \$9,030,706, up 8.2 per cent despite the drop in patronage of four per cent. Interurban revenues eased from \$3,224,147 to \$3,141,570. (19)

SHIPMENTS OF PREPARED STOCK AND POULTRY FEEDS IN MAY Shipments of prepared stock and poultry feeds and concentrates in May this year amounted to 2,375,174 cwt. as compared with 2,228,233 in the preceding month and 2,541,542 in the corresponding month last year. The month's shipments of feeds totalled 2,060,602 cwt. compared with 1,926,445 in April and 2,231,103 a year earlier, while shipments of concentrates amounted to 314,572 cwt. against 301,788 in April and 310,439 last year. (20)

FISHERIES OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND IN 1948 Landings of fish in Prince Edward Island in 1948 amounted to 306,825 cwt., a decline of three per cent from the preceding year, but the landed value was up 17 per cent to \$2,201,057. The marketed value rose 25 per cent to \$3,634,376 from \$2,897,284, lobsters at \$2,256,548, cod at \$319,381, hake at \$247,810, and smelts at \$205,633 being the principal kinds.

The equipment used in the primary operations of catching and landing the fish in 1948 was valued at \$2,166,222, an increase of 15 per cent over 1947. The vessels and boats accounted for \$755,360 or 35 per cent of the total, and nets and other gear, including premises, for \$1,410,862 or 65 per cent. The number of persons employed during the year was 4,306 as against 4,857. (21)

PRINTING TRADES IN 1948 Total production in the printing trades of Canada -- printing, publishing, lithographing, engraving, stereotyping, electrotyping and trade composition -- reached a value of \$307,346,000 in 1948, showing an increase of \$43,714,000 or 17 per cent over the preceding year's total of \$263,632,000. There were 2,496 establishments in the industry -- 38 more than in 1947 -- giving employment to an average of 54,541 persons as compared with 52,096, and their salaries and wages totalled \$119,088,000 as against \$101,612,000.

Of the total production in 1948, \$279,326,000, or 91 per cent, consisted of printed matter and other products, the remainder of \$28,020,000, consisting of trade-work, sub-contracts, and other services rendered. Both groups showed substantial gains over the corresponding figures for 1947, the increases amounting to 16.4 per cent and 18.5 per cent, respectively.

Periodicals, valued at \$121,352,000, accounted for 43.4 per cent of the value of printed matter and other products; daily newspapers alone, contributing \$94,103,000. The value of periodicals was made up of \$82,357,000 received for advertising, and \$38,995,000 received for subscriptions and sales of publications. Only periodicals printed in the publishers' own plants are included in these figures.

Other products were valued at \$157,974,000, including \$18,370,000 for printed and bound books, \$26,713,000 for other printed advertising, \$6,085,000 for bound blank books, \$99,632,000 for miscellaneous printed goods and printed stationary, and \$7,173,000 for other products. (22)

CANADIAN MALE POPULATION
SLIGHTLY OUTGROWING FEMALE

Canada's male population increased slightly more in number than the female population during the past year, while the number of persons 60 years of age and over rose somewhat more than the number of children under five but less than the number of children under 10.

According to calculations of the age and sex distribution of the population of Canada (excluding the territories) by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, there were 7,030,300 males at June 1 this year compared with 6,881,800 12 months earlier, while females totalled 6,790,700 compared with 6,643,200. In the year the excess of males over females rose from 238,600 to 239,600.

The past year was the third in which the number of males has risen more than the number of females. Before 1948 the female population was gaining on the male, the excess of males over females dropping each year from 291,700 at the time of the 1941 Census to 222,800 in 1947. Nineteen years ago, the 1931 Census showed 370,200 more males in the nine provinces.

The Bureau's estimates show males exceeding females in all five-year age groups under 80. From 80 upwards there are 88,000 females to 80,500 males. All age groups increased in number this year over 1949, except the male and female 20-24 years groups and the male 25-29 years group.

Compared with last year, the number of children under five years increased 2.6 per cent from 1,549,700 to 1,589,700 and the number under 10 by 3.7 per cent from 2,806,800 to 2,910,300. At the same time, persons 60 years old and over rose in number from 1,527,400 to 1,576,000, or by 3.2 per cent. The number of children under five this year is 58 per cent greater than in 1939 and 48 per cent above the 1931 number, while the population over 60 is 44 per cent larger than in 1939 and 81 per cent above 1931.

Canada's male population of military age, in spite of decreases in those 20 to 29 years old, is substantially larger this year than in 1949 and is very much greater than at the start of the second World War. Taking only the classified age groups, the Bureau's estimate shows 1,655,900 from 20 to 34 inclusive this year as compared to 1,640,700 last year and 1,399,200 in 1939, and 2,562,400 from 20 to 44 as against 2,527,100 and 2,123,700, respectively. In the 11 years from 1939 the number from 20 to 34 has thus increased by 256,700 and from 20 to 44 by 438,700.

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. Price Movements, July (10 cents).
2. World Price Movements, Second Half of 1949 (25 cents).
3. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, June (25 cents).
4. The Employment Situation at the Beginning of June, Together with Payrolls (25 cents).
5. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
6. The Wheat Review (25 cents).
7. Dairy Factory Production, July (10 cents).
8. Central Electric Stations, June (10 cents).
9. Births, Marriages and Deaths, May (10 cents).
10. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, June (10 cents).
11. Motor Vehicle Shipments, June (10 cents).
12. Primary Iron and Steel, May (25 cents).
13. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, May (15 cents).
14. Copper and Nickel Production, May (15 cents).
15. Gold Production, May (10 cents).
16. Iron and Steel and Their Products, Preliminary, 1949 (10 cents).
17. Production of Leather Footwear, May (10 cents).
18. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
19. Transit Report, April (10 cents).
20. Shipments and Inventories of Prepared Stock and Poultry Foods, May (25 cents).
21. Advance Report on the Fisheries of Prince Edward Island, 1948 (10 cents).
22. The Printing Trades, 1948 (35 cents).
23. The Men's Factory Clothing Industry, 1948 (40 cents).
24. The Women's Factory Clothing Industry, 1948 (40 cents).
25. Canadian Statistical Review, July (35 cents).

Memoranda

1. Second Estimate of Fruit Production and Final Estimate for 1949 (10 cents).
 2. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, August 1 (10 cents).
 3. Margarine Statistics, July (10 cents).
 4. Production of Iron and Steel, June (10 cents).
 5. Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipes and Fittings, June (10 cents).
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