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

CANADA'S OFFICIAL COST-OF-LIVING INDEX declined 0.5 points between December 1, 1949 and January 3, 1950. This placed the index at 161.0 as compared with 159.6 a year ago, and 148.3 for January, 1948. At the January 3 level, the index was 59.7 per cent above August, 1939.

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CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS in December numbered 150,480, up over the November figure of 124,889, and above the 114,506 in December, 1948.

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THE TREND OF INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT at the beginning of December was slightly downward for the second successive month, when the 20,798 employers co-operating in the monthly survey reported 0.2 per cent fewer employees. This loss was accompanied by a similar decline in weekly salaries and wages.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES increased seven per cent during the week ending January 28 over the corresponding week last year.

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PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY by central electric stations reached an all-time record total of 46,673,214,000 kilowatt hours in 1949, rising almost five per cent over the preceding year's total of 44,568,849,000.

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STOCKS OF CANADIAN WHEAT IN STORE or in transit in North America at midnight on January 26 amounted to 157,922,000 bushels as compared with 161,472,600 on the corresponding date last year.

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STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER on February 1 amounted to 46,494,000 pounds as compared with 56,084,000 on January 1 and 27,673,000 on the corresponding date last year. Production in January totalled 9,567,000 pounds, showing a small increase over a year earlier.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS for the week ending January 28 totalled 64,033 cars as against 72,216 cars a year ago. Track blockages and storms in the far west prolonged the disruption of traffic while the scarcity of snow delayed lumbering operations in the eastern forests.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX DOWN  
0.5 POINTS AT JANUARY 3

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index declined 0.5 points between December 1, 1949 and January 3, 1950. This placed the index at 161.0 as compared with 159.6 a year ago, and 148.3 for January, 1948. At the January 3 level, the index was 59.7 per cent above August, 1939.

As has been the case for several months, the largest contribution to the decrease in the total index from December 1 was made by foods which dropped 2.5 points to 199.4. This marked the first time the food index has been under 200 since May, 1949. Within the food group, a drop of 16 cents in the average retail price of eggs accounted for most of the change. Among other food items, an average decrease of two cents in pork prices was partially offset by a rise of 0.7 cents in beef and veal. Lamb increased nearly two cents, while lard and shortening declined 0.5 cents on the average. Fresh vegetables rose fractionally, sugar increased 0.5 cents and coffee 5.4 cents.

The clothing index declined from 183.7 to 183.3, reflecting slight but scattered decreases. Homefurnishings and services dropped 0.1 points to 167.0 as decreases in blankets, dishes and laundry soap overbalanced increases in telephone and laundry rates. Fuel and light increased 0.4 points to 135.6, following moderate advances in coke prices in some Ontario centres.

The index of miscellaneous items showed the largest change, except for foods, advancing 1.1 points to 131.6. This increase largely reflected the results of annual surveys of certain commodities and services which are characteristically stable in price. Prices and rates of this nature contributing to the rise were drugs, hospital charges, doctors' and dentists' fees, newspaper rates and barbers' fees. In addition, tobacco costs were up slightly. Rents were not surveyed during January and the index remained unchanged at 125.0. (1)

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

	Com- bined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Cloth- ing	Home Furnish- ings and Services	Miscel- aneous
January 3, 1950 .....	161.0	199.4	125.0	135.6	183.3	167.0	131.6
December 1, 1949 .....	161.5	201.9	125.0	135.2	183.7	167.1	130.5
January 3, 1949 .....	159.6	202.2	121.7	130.0	181.9	167.0	126.6

CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE  
BENEFITS HIGHER IN DECEMBER

Claims for unemployment insurance benefits in December numbered 150,480, up over the November figure of 124,889, and above the 114,506 in December, 1948. Initial and renewal claims, representing mainly new cases of recorded unemployment, rose sharply to 139,406 from 114,888 in November and 105,939 a year ago.

As compared with December, 1948, increased claims were recorded in all provinces except Prince Edward Island. Quebec's total was up from 36,028 to 50,494, Ontario from 29,641 to 41,453, British Columbia from 21,186 to 23,235, Nova Scotia from 6,442 to 8,159, Manitoba from 6,421 to 7,581, New Brunswick from 5,049 to 6,779, Alberta from 4,605 to 6,390, Saskatchewan from 4,153 to 5,303. Prince Edward Island fell from 981 to 964. Benefit claims in Newfoundland in December 1949 totalled 122.

In December, benefit payments amounted to \$7,181,001 for 3,066,888 compensated days as against \$5,048,373 for 2,178,130 days in November and \$3,592,155 for 1,687,-804 days in December, 1948. (2)

SMALL DECLINE IN INDUSTRIAL  
EMPLOYMENT AT DECEMBER 1

The trend of industrial employment at the beginning of December was slightly downward for the second successive month, when the 20,798 employers co-operating in the Bureau's monthly survey reported 0.2 per cent fewer employees. This loss was accompanied by a similar decline in the weekly salaries and wages.

Based on the 1926 average as 100, the general index number of employment at December 1, 1949, stood at 201.5 as compared with 202.0 in the preceding month, and 204.3 at December 1, 1948, when the all-time maximum for that date was recorded. The index of payrolls, based on June 1, 1941 as 100, stood at 224.4 as compared with 224.8 at November 1, and 219.0 at December 1, 1948. Per capita weekly earnings showed little change, averaging \$43.82 as compared with \$43.80 at November 1, and \$42.23 a year earlier.

Improvement in employment at December 1 as compared with a month earlier was shown in the Maritime Provinces. The general situation in Alberta showed little change, while declines were indicated in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

Logging and retail trade showed seasonally heightened activity at December 1, and there was a small advance in communications. On the other hand, curtailment as compared with a month earlier was reported in manufacturing as a whole, and in mining, transportation, construction and maintenance, hotels and restaurants and laundries and dry-cleaning plants. For the most part, these changes were seasonal in character.

In manufacturing, the general reduction in the index of employment amounted to 1.1 per cent; there were similar percentage losses in the durable and the non-durable groups. Within these categories, the most noteworthy declines took place in the food, lumber, pulp and paper and iron and steel groups; in some cases, they were seasonal. Expansion also of a seasonal nature, was reported in tobacco manufacturing. (3)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

Feb. 2, 1950      Jan. 26, 1950      Jan. 5, 1950  
(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

(106 Common Stocks) .....	118.6	117.5	120.1
82 Industrials .....	112.7	111.6	114.2
16 Utilities .....	124.9	123.3	125.8
8 Banks .....	143.6	142.8	143.8

Mining Stock Price Index

(30 Stocks) .....	91.7	91.1	94.4
25 Golds .....	73.3	73.1	76.8
5 Base Metals .....	128.2	126.5	129.0

OUTPUT OF CENTRAL ELECTRIC STATIONS  
AT A RECORD HIGH LEVEL IN 1949

Production of electric energy by Canada's central electric stations reached an all-time record total of 46,673,214,000 kilowatt hours in 1949, rising almost five per cent over the preceding year's total of 44,568,849,000. During the past 21 years the annual output has almost tripled, production in 1928 amounting to 15,900,000,000 kilowatt hours.

Output of primary power in 1949 rose to 43,455,082,000 kilowatt hours from 41,958,541,000 in the preceding year, and secondary power to 3,218,132,000 kilowatt hours from 2,610,308,000. Consumption of primary power in 1949 increased to 42,102,584,000 kilowatt hours from 40,606,749,000, and secondary to 2,839,940,000 kilowatt hours from 2,303,987,000. Net exports to the United States during the year were up to 1,730,690,000 kilowatt hours from 1,658,113,000.

In December, the output of electric energy rose to 4,039,795,000 kilowatt hours from 3,694,696,000 in the corresponding month of 1948, and the consumption of primary power was up to 3,746,898,000 kilowatt hours from 3,415,014,000. Net exports to the United States were lower in the month, amounting to 104,368,000 kilowatt hours compared with 138,225,000.

Quebec's output in the year rose to 25,612,599,000 kilowatt hours from 24,646,289,000 in 1948, while in Ontario the total rose to 12,166,042,000 kilowatt hours from 11,678,680,000. For British Columbia the total was 3,707,604,000 kilowatt hours (3,398,198,000 in 1948), Manitoba 2,163,517,000 (2,053,041,000), Saskatchewan 844,983,000 (789,480,000), Alberta 792,513,000 (717,501,000), Nova Scotia 714,734,000 (678,400,000), New Brunswick 652,485,000 (590,244,000), and Prince Edward Island 18,737,000 (17,016,000).

During the year the stations reporting to the Bureau -- which produce about 98 per cent of all station output -- added some 470,000 horse power to installed capacity. A number of large developments which are well advanced will add about 1,500,000 horse power within the next two years so that new output records are indicated throughout the 1950's. Rural electrification was particularly active in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba during 1949.

Statistics for Newfoundland, which are not included in the 1949 data, add 272,050 horse power to the Canadian total to raise installed capacity to 11,622,668 horse power at the end of the year. Central electric stations in Newfoundland averaged about eight million kilowatt hours monthly. Thus production in that province should add some 100 million kilowatt hours yearly to the present published totals of central electric stations in the other nine provinces. (4)

PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER  
AND CHEESE IN JANUARY

Production of creamery butter in January amounted to 9,867,000 pounds, showing a small increase over last year's corresponding total of 9,830,000 pounds.

Output in Quebec was down 17.6 per cent, Saskatchewan 7.8 per cent, and Manitoba 0.1 per cent, but the remaining provinces recorded increases.

There was a sharp rise in the production of cheddar cheese in January, the total rising to 1,647,000 pounds from 724,000 a year earlier. Output in Ontario rose from 471,000 pounds to 1,201,000, Quebec from 34,000 pounds to 168,000, and Alberta from 122,000 pounds to 181,000.

Production of ice cream moved seven per cent lower in the month from 959,000 gallons to 890,000. Output of concentrated milk products was also lower, amounting to 14,998,000 pounds compared with 16,452,000, a decrease of 8.8 per cent. (5)

STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Stocks of creamery butter on February 1 amounted to 46,494,000 pounds as compared

with 56,084,000 on January 1 and 27,678,000 on the corresponding date last year. Cheese stocks totalled 41,217,000 pounds compared with 44,230,000 on January 1 and 31,258,000 a year earlier.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on February 1 amounted to 24,079,000 pounds as compared with 35,322,000 at the beginning of January and 13,992,000 on the same date last year, while the holdings of skim milk powder were lower, totalling 3,985,000 pounds compared with 5,528,000 on January 1 and 7,044,000 a year ago.

February 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, amounted to 207,000 cases compared with 158,000 on January 1 and 280,000 on February 1, 1949. Holdings of poultry meat decreased to 25,075,000 pounds on February 1 from 26,755,000 on January 1, but were above last year's February 1 figure of 15,046,000 pounds. (Mem. 1)

STOCKS OF BUTTER AND  
CHEESE ON FEBRUARY 1

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on February 1 amounted to 33,386,000 pounds as compared with 39,973,000 on January 1 and 16,507,000 on the corresponding date last

year. Stocks of cheese totalled 28,321,000 pounds compared with 30,697,000 on January 1 and 21,171,000 on February 1, 1949.

Stocks of creamery butter were as follows by cities on February 1, figures for the same date last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 1,608 (2,238) pounds; Montreal, 10,015 (5,795); Toronto, 7,921 (2,910); Winnipeg, 8,493 (1,520); Regina, 726 (157); Saskatoon, 211 (184); Edmonton, 2,302 (841); Calgary, 941 (441); Vancouver, 1,169 (2,421). (Mem. 2)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS  
OF MARGARINE

Production of margarine in January amounted to 7,996,000 pounds as compared with 6,902,000 in the preceding month and 1,030,000 in the corresponding month last year. Stocks

at the first of February were 1,356,000 pounds as compared with a revised total of 2,012,000 for January 1.

Stocks were as follows by regions, revised totals for January 1 being in brackets: Maritimes, including Newfoundland, 289,000 (321,000) pounds; Ontario, 1,027,000 (931,000); Manitoba, 151,000 (233,000); Saskatchewan, 86,000 (115,000); Alberta, 76,000 (178,000); British Columbia, 227,000 (234,000). (Mem. 3)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF  
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on January 26 amounted to 157,922,000 bushels as compared with 160,346,800 a week earlier, and 161,472,600 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week totalled 1,352,000 bushels compared with 1,116,000 a year ago, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 244,261,900 bushels as against 242,092,900 in the same 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 January 26, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: oats, 456,100 (506,100) bushels; barley, 186,200 (618,000); rye, 67,200 (111,400); flaxseed, 7,000 (24,700).

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending January 26 amounted to 2,358,100 bushels compared with 3,036,600 in the corresponding week last year, bringing the total for the crop year to date to 88,617,900 bushels against 71,613,500 in the similar period of 1948-49. (6)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES  
UP SEVEN PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales during the week ending January 28 increased seven per cent over the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures. All provinces participated in the rise except British Columbia, while sales in Manitoba remained unchanged. Sales in Ontario showed the highest percentage gain, advancing 13 per cent, followed by Quebec up 10 per cent, the Maritime Provinces six per cent, Saskatchewan five per cent, and Alberta two per cent. In British Columbia, a decline of three per cent was recorded.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS  
HIGHER IN NOVEMBER

There were more births, marriages and deaths in Canada in November than in the same month of 1948, while in the first 11 months of the year, births were higher and marriages and deaths lower.

Births in the month numbered 27,845 as compared with 26,877 in November, 1948, increases being recorded for Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. During the 11 months ending November, births amounted to 321,518, an increase of 1.7 per cent over the 1948 total of 316,182.

Marriages during November advanced to 12,188 from 10,101 a year earlier, all provinces showing increases except the Maritimes, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Alberta. In the cumulative period, marriages declined 1.5 per cent, totalling 113,127 as against 114,886 in the similar period of 1948.

Deaths in November numbered 10,353 as compared with 9,462 a year ago, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and Alberta showing the only declines. In the 11 months, deaths decreased slightly, amounting to 108,424 as against 108,448 in the like period of 1948. (7)

PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER  
EAST OF THE ROCKIES

Production of sawn lumber east of the Rockies was down almost 20 per cent in November from the same month in 1948, while in the first 11 months of the year there was an increase of six per cent. In the month, decreases were recorded for all provinces except Prince Edward Island and Manitoba, while in the 11 months, estimates for Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Alberta were lower.

The month's output amounted to 37,603,000 feet as compared with 46,703,000 in November, 1948, bringing the cumulative total for the 11-month period to 1,475,-311,000 feet as against 1,389,586,000 in the similar period of 1948.

Estimated production for the month was as follows, totals for November, 1948 being in brackets (figures in thousands): Prince Edward Island, 260 (115); Nova Scotia, 4,020 (5,310); New Brunswick, 1,562 (1,978); Quebec, 14,956 (15,131); Ontario, 11,017 (17,388); Manitoba, 74 (63); Saskatchewan, 14 (265); Alberta, 5,700 (6,453). (8)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF  
LUMBER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia in November amounted to 264,344 M feet board measure as compared with 244,563 M in the corresponding month of 1948, an increase of 7.5 per cent. Shipments during the month totalled 231,862 M feet as compared with 209,654 M, a rise of 9.6 per cent.

During the first 11 months of the year, 2,630,648 M feet board measure were produced as compared with 2,662,525 M in the like period of 1948. Shipments during the period aggregated 2,508,330 M feet as compared with 2,554,973 M in the 11 months of 1948. (9)

SALES OF RADIO RECEIVERS

Sales of radio receiving sets were lower in October for the second month in succession. Despite these declines, cumulative sales for the first 10 months of the year were sharply above the same period of 1948. Ontario was the only province to show increased sales in the month, while in the 10 months, sales were higher in all but Quebec and British Columbia.

In October, Canada-wide sales amounted to 71,967 sets with a value of \$6,336,289 as compared with 76,460 units at \$6,429,882 a year earlier. In the 10 months, sales aggregated 532,880 units at \$39,696,785 compared with 428,391 at \$36,205,797 in the same period of 1948.

Sales for the month were as follows by provinces, totals for October 1948 being in brackets: Newfoundland, 478 (-) units; Maritimes, 5,104 (5,234); Quebec, 11,940 (18,758); Ontario, 35,981 (29,250); Manitoba, 4,630 (5,167); Saskatchewan, 3,717 (4,667); Alberta, 4,921 (6,159); British Columbia, 5,196 (7,225). (10)

SALES OF CLAY PRODUCTS  
LOWER IN OCTOBER

Producers' sales of products made from Canadian clays decreased three per cent in October from the same month in 1948, while in the first 10 months of the year, an increase of six per cent was recorded. The month's sales amounted to \$1,692,000 as compared with \$1,737,800 in October, 1948. During the 10 months ending October, sales totalled \$14,788,000 against \$14,018,000 in the similar period of 1948.

Sales were as follows in October, figures for October, 1948 being in brackets: building brick, \$977,000 (\$973,400); structural tile, \$219,900 (\$223,300); drain tile, \$108,000 (\$106,600); sewer pipe, \$178,400 (\$209,400); fireclay blocks and shapes, \$39,800 (\$26,100); pottery, \$61,400 (\$122,900); other clay products, \$107,300 (\$76,200). (11)

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON URBAN AND INTERURBAN LINES IN OCTOBER

The number of passengers carried by transit companies in October totalled 135,973,000, little changed from the 136,047,000 shown for the corresponding month of 1948. Urban service transported 125,439,000, a decline of nearly 1,829,000, while interurban lines advanced to about 10,535,000 fares, a gain of 1,755,000 or 20 per cent over October, 1948.

Total revenues for both services rose from \$11,740,000 to \$13,061,000, an increase of 11 per cent, with urban lines earning \$903,000 more at \$9,074,000 -- a new monthly record -- and interurban climbing from \$3,569,000 to \$3,986,000, an advance of \$418,000. (12)

RAILWAY REVENUES LOWER IN NOVEMBER

November operating revenues of Canadian railways showed a decline of 2.6 per cent from the same month of 1948, amounting to \$78,687,800 as compared with \$80,750,400. The decline in the month was due to a fall in freight earnings which fell \$2,858,000 to \$64,695,000. Operating expenses for the month were up \$2,166,700 to \$67,469,800, and the operating income was \$9,821,800 against \$11,750,000, a drop of \$1,928,500. (13)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Revenue cars of freight loaded in Canada during the week ended January 28 totalled 64,033 compared with a revised 64,069 cars in the previous week and 72,216 cars in the same week of 1949. Track blockages and storms in the far west prolonged the disruption of traffic while the scarcity of snow delayed lumbering operations in the eastern forests. The resulting decline from last year was 8,183 cars or 11.3 per cent despite the inclusion of Newfoundland loadings in the current statistics. Recession was indicated in both eastern and western loadings, the east loading 45,880 cars against 47,897 and the west 18,153 cars compared with 24,319 cars. (14)

HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES HIGHER IN 1947

Estimated expenditures by all authorities on the construction, maintenance and administration of Canada's highway systems and rural roads, including bridges and ferries, reached a record total of \$232,500,000 in 1947, showing a sharp rise of \$88,100,000 over the preceding year's total of \$144,400,000.

Expenditures on construction of roads, bridges and ferries totalled \$124,900,000 in 1947 compared with \$80,600,000 in 1946, while outlays on maintenance amounted to \$98,400,000 compared with \$58,247,000, and on administration \$9,300,000 compared with \$5,633,000.

Total expenditures were higher in all provinces. Expenditures in Quebec rose to \$68,800,000 in 1947 from \$37,600,000, Ontario to \$68,100,000 from \$49,500,000, British Columbia to \$21,700,000 from \$9,500,000, Alberta to \$20,200,000 from \$12,000,000, New Brunswick to \$15,600,000 from \$11,800,000, Nova Scotia to \$15,000,000 from \$8,200,000, Saskatchewan to \$8,800,000 from \$6,300,000, Manitoba to \$7,000,000 from \$3,600,000, and Prince Edward Island to \$2,700,000 from \$1,500,000. Expenditures in the Yukon and Northwest Territories were up to \$4,600,000 from \$4,400,000.

Total highway mileage increased 1,528 miles during 1947 to bring the national total for all classes of roads to 554,491 miles. During this period, the mileage of surfaced roads increased from 140,049 to 145,809 miles, the 1947 total comprising 126,666 miles of gravel crushed stone surface, 8,973 miles bituminous surface, 7,651 miles bituminous pavement, 2,405 miles portland cement concrete, and 114 miles of other surfaces. Improved earth mileage was 137,493, and other earth 271,189 miles. (15)



ELECTRIC RAILWAYS IN 1948 Gross operating revenues of electric railways of Canada in 1948 moved up to \$89,310,215 from \$86,519,712 in the preceding year, and operating expenses advanced to \$38,024,727 from \$31,787,723. The net operating revenues were down to \$1,285,488 from \$4,731,989.

Passenger traffic showed a further small decline during the year, amounting to 1,309,565,795 as compared with 1,323,723,782 in 1947, and 1,344,916,773 in 1946. The tonnage of freight carried was up to 4,050,111 from 3,655,278 in 1947 and 3,506,805 in 1946. (16)

USE OF ELECTRIC POWER IN MANUFACTURING AND MINING INDUSTRIES IN 1947 The capacity of power equipment in Canada's manufacturing and mining industries showed a further increase in 1947 over the preceding year, rising to 6,776,443 horse power from 6,302,460, or by 7.4 per cent. The capacity in 1923 was 1,485,523 horse power, the increase in the 24 years amounting to 355 per cent.

The capacity of electric motors used in the manufacturing industries in 1947 increased to 5,903,630 horse power from 5,470,364 in the preceding year, and 1,315,828 in 1923. In the mining industry the capacity in 1947 was 372,813 horse power as compared with 832,096 in 1946, and 172,695 in 1923.

The ratio of electric power to total power used by manufacturing industries rose from 61.3 per cent in 1923 to 80.0 per cent in 1947, while in the same interval the ratio for the mining industries rose from 57.3 per cent to 82.8 per cent. (17)

SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY IN 1948 The value of production from Canadian shipyards in 1948 amounted to \$106,783,000, moderately lower than the preceding year's total of \$110,131,000, but somewhat above the 1946 value of \$91,851,000. The year's total was, however, sharply below the wartime peak of \$376,561,000 in 1943.

There were 76 yards in operation in 1948, including those occupied in making commercial or naval vessels and also the yards which did ship repair work or were engaged in outfitting ships for delivery. The industry employed an average of 18,399 workers in 1948 as compared with 21,119 in 1947, and their salaries and wages totalled \$44,998,000 compared with \$46,458,000. (18)

GROSS AND NET PROFIT OF RETAIL FOOD STORES Operating results of retail food stores for 1948 reveal a general decline in the proportion of net profit to sales as compared with 1946, according to the biennial survey.

Fruit and vegetable stores showed the same net profit as in 1946 but all other food stores dropped 0.3 to 0.4 per cent. Grocery, combination and meat trades operated on narrower gross margins in 1948 while fruit and vegetable stores and confectionery stores increased their gross profit. From wartime highs in net profit the food stores surveyed have turned toward pre-war levels.

Confectioneries operated on the highest average gross profits at 19.1 per cent and earned the largest average net profits at 8.5 per cent. Gross profits of grocery stores at 14.0 per cent were lowest, and the smallest net profits were earned by combination stores at 4.4 per cent. These comparisons are in ratio to net sales. In actual dollars, because of average size of business, confectionery stores earned for the proprietor the smallest net profit of \$1,839, while combination stores produced an average net profit of \$3,193. (19)

STOCKS OF CANNED FRUITS  
AND VEGETABLES HIGHER

Stocks of canned fruits and vegetables held by canners, wholesale dealers and chain store warehouses on January 1 this year rose to 5,971,800 dozen containers from 4,166,700 on the corresponding date last year. The stocks of canned vegetables totalled 20,800,000 dozen, up from 18,466,700 dozen a year ago.

There were marked increases in the stocks of canned pears, peaches, raspberries and large declines in plums and gages. Carrots and peas combined, corn, mixed vegetables, beets, and tomatoes were held in greater quantities, but stocks of 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 January 1 this year, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: blueberries, 66,474 (49,008) dozen; cherries, 338,926 (395,676); pears, 1,221,260 (653,013); peaches, 2,512,533 (1,558,168); pineapple, 265,786 (112,841); plums, gages, 372,947 (672,416); raspberries, 211,154 (65,520); strawberries, 97,851 (88,034) dozen.

Holdings of canned vegetables on January 1 included the following: asparagus, 115,510 (100,327) dozen; green or wax beans, 1,423,654 (1,928,950); baked beans, 1,448,899 (1,571,700); beets, 438,692 (303,908); carrots, 344,079 (282,718); carrots and peas combined, 462,114 (210,299); corn, 6,563,287 (2,451,016); mixed vegetables, 610,250 (383,084); peas, 4,346,267 (6,593,661); tomatoes, 4,713,956 (4,151,913).

January 1 stocks of other canned foods included: apple juice, 1,360,867 (875,789) dozen containers; infants' foods, 4,952,526 (3,996,673); jams, 372,419 (493,665); pickles, 316,766 (377,303); relishes and sauces, 324,720 (243,485); soups, 7,383,219 (9,433,545); spaghetti, 391,381 (354,096); tomato juice, 5,294,062 (6,204,120); tomato catsup, 2,284,635 (2,951,989).

VALUE OF CANNED FOODS  
TRIPLED IN 10 YEARS

Production of canned foods in Canada reached an all-time record value of \$219,552,000 in 1947, slightly above the preceding year's total of \$211,836,000, and three and one-half times as high as in 1937. The marked expansion over 1937 reflects large expansion both in the domestic and export markets. Imports, although comparatively small, were also well above the pre-war year.

The value of canned foods available for consumption -- production plus imports less exports -- in Canada in 1947 was \$156,426,000 as compared with \$139,019,000 in the preceding year and \$45,429,000 in 1937. On a per capita basis the value was \$12.43 in 1947 -- a new high -- as compared with \$11.24 in 1946, and \$4.09 in 1937.

The value of canned foods exported during 1947 was \$71,493,000, down from the 1946 total of \$74,792,000, but sharply above the 1937 value of \$19,918,000. Imports of canned foods in 1947 amounted in value to \$3,366,000, showing a marked rise over both the 1946 and 1937 values of \$1,975,000 and \$3,509,000.

There were sharp gains in the production of all kinds of canned foods in 1947 over 1937. The group totals follow, with 1937 figures in brackets: fish, \$46,965,000 (\$13,620,000); fruits, \$17,213,000 (\$5,252,000); vegetables, \$35,160,000 (\$17,118,000); meats, \$30,392,000 (\$1,318,900); soups, \$22,754,000 (\$6,022,000); other canned foods, \$26,871,000 (\$8,787,000); concentrated milk products, \$40,199,000 (\$10,078,000). (20)

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, Preliminary, January (10 cents).
2. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, December (25 cents).
3. Employment Situation, December (25 cents).
4. Central Electric Stations, December (10 cents).
5. Dairy Factory Production, January (10 cents).
6. Canadian Grain Statistics - Weekly (10 cents).
7. Births, Deaths and Marriages, November (10 cents).
8. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, November (25 cents).
9. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, November (25 cents).
10. Radio Receiving Sets, October (25 cents).
11. Products Made from Canadian Clays, October (15 cents).
12. Transit Report, October (10 cents).
13. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, November (10 cents).
14. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
15. Highway Statistics of Canada, 1947 (25 cents).
16. Electric Railways, 1948 (25 cents).
17. Use of Electric Power in Manufacturing and Mining Industries of Canada, 1947 (25 cents).
18. The Shipbuilding Industry, 1948 (15 cents).
19. Operating Results and Financial Structure of Retail Food Stores, 1948 (25 cents).
20. Canned Food Production in Canada, 1947 (15 cents).
21. Shipments and Inventories of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, November (25 cents).
22. Trade of Canada: Exports of Canadian and Foreign Produce, December and 12 Months Ended December, 1949 (25 cents).
23. The Veneers and Plywoods Industry, 1948 (25 cents).
24. The White Metal Products Industry, 1948 (25 cents).

Memoranda

1. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, February 1 (10 cents).
  2. Stocks of Canadian Butter, Cheese and Eggs in Nine Cities of Canada, February 1, 1950 (10 cents).
  3. Production and Stocks of Margarine, January (10 cents).
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