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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S OFFICIAL COST-OF-LIVING INDEX rose from 172.5 to 175.2 between January 2 and February 1, 1951, the increase being largely due to higher prices for foods, clothing and homefurnishings. From August 1939 to February 1951, the increase in the cost-of-living index was 73.8 per cent.

CANADA'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS in January were valued at \$285,100,000, an increase of 29 per cent over last year's corresponding total of \$221,200,000. The total for January compares with \$289,900,000 and \$292,700,000 for December and November last year, respectively, and contrasts with the decline in last year's January value from \$285,500,000 and \$292,300,000 for December and November, 1949.

EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES in January increased nearly 43 per cent to \$186,948,000 from \$130,859,000 in January, 1950. The total was down only moderately from last December's value of \$191,500,000 and compares with a monthly average of \$168,400,000 in 1950.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM in January continued the downward trend of 1950, declining in value to \$40,054,000 as compared with \$48,608,000 in January a year ago. The value of January shipments, however, was slightly higher than the monthly average in 1950.

BENEFIT CLAIMS FILED in local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission numbered 172,269 in January this year, a decrease of five per cent from last year's January figure of 182,053.

NET SALES OF SECURITIES BY CANADA to other countries rose in 1950 to an all-time peak of \$238,400,000 as against the comparatively small total of \$6,500,000 in 1949. Previous peak figure for a year was \$191,000,000 in 1945.

CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS reached \$9,001,541,000 in January this year -- a new peak for the month -- as compared with the previous high of \$7,307,022,000 in January, 1950. Advances were recorded for each of the five economic areas.

NUMBER OF NEW DWELLING UNITS COMPLETED in Canada (excluding Newfoundland) last year totalled 87,299 as compared to 87,533 in 1949, and starts numbered 90,441 as against 89,509. The number under construction at the year end was 58,850 compared to 58,169. Including Newfoundland, for which comparable 1949 figures are not available, completions for all Canada numbered 89,015, starts 92,531, and the carryover was 60,538 units.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX ADVANCED TO 175.2

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index rose from 172.5 to 175.2 between January 2 and February 1, 1951, the increase being largely due to higher prices for foods, clothing and homefurnishings.

The food index advanced from 220.2 to 224.4, as higher prices for most foods, particularly meats and vegetables, offset seasonal declines in eggs and oranges. Clothing rose from 187.1 to 192.4 as a result of increases in men's wear, pioco goods and footwear. The index of homefurnishings and services increased from 179.8 to 185.1 following advances mainly in furniture, floor coverings and house furnishings. The fuel and light index remained practically unchanged, moving from 141.5 to 141.7. The index of miscellaneous items increased 1.2 points to 137.0, due to increases in items of personal care, tires, tobacco and hospital rates. Rents were not surveyed in February and the index remained at 136.4.

From August 1939 to February 1951, the increase in the cost-of-living index was 73.8 per cent. (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- laneous
February 1, 1951	175.2	224.4	136.4	141.7	192.4	185.1	137.0
January 2, 1951	172.5	220.2	136.4	141.5	187.1	179.8	135.8
February 1, 1950	161.6	201.3	125.0	135.9	183.0	166.4	132.1

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES

Wholesale prices of industrial materials were firmer again in February and the Bureau's composite index for 30 commodities moved up to 212.3 for the week of February 23 from 207.3 for January 26. Commodity price increases were recorded for hogs, raw rubber, raw wool, beef hides, tin, steel shapes and steel sheets. Narrow decreases occurred for wheat, oats and linseed oil. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets moved up sharply in February, the composite index closing at 160.3 for the week of the 23rd as against 155.1 for the week of January 26. Both animal and field product sub-groups were higher; the index for the former series gaining 11.3 points to 228.3, while field products moved up 1.6 points to 119.7. (1)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP
21 PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales rose 21 per cent during the week ending February 24 as compared with the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures. There were increases in all regions, Saskatchewan leading with a rise of 34 per cent, followed by Quebec and Manitoba with a 27 per cent advance in each. The increase in the Maritime Provinces was 25 per cent, British Columbia 22 per cent, Alberta 20 per cent, and Ontario 12 per cent.

CANADA'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS
AT HIGH LEVEL IN JANUARY

Canada's total domestic exports during January were substantially higher in value than a year ago and -- contrary to the customary trend -- only slightly down from the high levels of the closing months of the previous year. Most of the gain over January, 1950, was due to another marked rise in the value of shipments to the United States, but there were increases also in exports to Latin America, Europe and the remaining foreign group of countries and to Commonwealth areas except the United Kingdom and the Africa group.

Domestic exports to all countries in the month were valued at \$285,100,000, an increase of 29 per cent over \$221,200,000 for January a year ago. The total for January compares with \$289,900,000 and \$292,700,000 for December and November last year, respectively, and contrasts with the decline in last year's January value from \$285,500,000 and \$292,300,000 for December and November, 1949.

January shipments to the United States increased nearly 43 per cent to \$186,948,000 from \$130,859,000 in January, 1950. The total was down only moderately from last December's value of \$191,500,000 and compares with a monthly average of \$168,400,000 in 1950. These exports to the United States represented 66 per cent of all exports, a ratio which was even higher than the average of 64.9 per cent for the full year 1950.

There were increases in exports of all main commodity groups across the border, the largest being in the wood and paper group which rose to \$85,553,000 from \$63,957,000 a year earlier. The non-ferrous metals group also advanced sharply to \$27,973,000 from \$17,512,000, animals and animal products to \$26,933,000 from \$19,495,000, agricultural and vegetable products to \$17,036,000 from \$10,589,000, and the iron group to \$12,556,000 from \$8,053,000.

Domestic exports to the United Kingdom continued the downward trend of 1950, declining in value to \$40,054,000 as compared with \$48,608,000 in January a year ago. The value of January shipments, however, was slightly higher than the monthly average in 1950. Shipments of agricultural and vegetable products were down to \$15,286,000 compared with \$21,705,000 and animal and animal products dropped steeply to only \$2,164,000 from \$15,724,000. Partly offsetting these declines were increases in non-ferrous metals to \$12,192,000 from \$6,217,000 and in wood and paper exports to \$8,227,000 from \$2,676,000.

Aggregate value of domestic exports to the rest of the Commonwealth countries increased to \$15,999,000 as compared with \$13,141,000 a year ago. Shipments to the British West Indies (including British Guiana, Bormuda and British Honduras) showed a small advance to \$2,821,000 from \$2,512,000; to the Asia group rose more than double to \$7,007,000 from \$3,473,000 as the result of a sharp rise to India; and to the Oceania group increased to \$3,086,000 from \$2,612,000 with larger sales to Australia. Exports to the Africa group declined to \$2,978,000 from \$3,831,000, those to the Union of South Africa falling to \$2,716,000 from \$3,643,000.

January domestic exports to Latin America were more than double the value a year earlier at \$14,043,000 compared with \$6,866,000, increases being recorded in the value of exports to 17 of the 20 countries in the group and the major gains being in sales to Brazil, Colombia and Mexico. Shipments to Europe rose in value to \$16,429,000 from \$10,948,000, with increases to Belgium and Luxembourg, Germany, Italy, Ireland and Norway and declines to France and Switzerland. Exports to the remaining foreign countries advanced to \$10,362,000 from \$9,675,000, the larger gains being to Japan and the Philippine Islands.

Gains were recorded in January over a year ago in eight of the nine commodity groups, the animals and animal products group being the exception. Nearly half of the month's total gain was accounted for by exports in the wood and paper group which rose in value to \$101,330,000 from \$70,158,000 in January, 1950. This group constituted about 35.5 per cent of total exports or about the same ratio as in the year 1950. Planks and boards rose sharply to \$23,967,000 compared with \$10,486,000, wood pulp to \$23,995,000 from \$13,341,000, and newsprint to \$40,725,000 against \$38,344,000, and all other main items in the group were also higher.

Exports of agricultural and vegetable products were valued at \$56,032,000 compared with \$47,375,000, a decline in wheat to \$19,228,000 from \$23,157,000 being more than offset by gains in other grains, flour, alcoholic beverages, rubber, seeds and tobacco. The animals and animal products group declined to \$34,332,000 from \$40,404,000, bacon and hams showing a severe drop to \$994,000 from the high value of \$14,032,000 last year, while fish and fishery products increased to \$10,621,000 from \$7,474,000 and furs nearly doubling at \$6,459,000.

Exports of non-ferrous metals moved up to \$47,563,000 compared with \$23,030,000, aluminum rising sharply and substantial gains being shown by nickel, lead, zinc, and precious metals (except gold). The iron group moved up to \$19,607,000 from \$16,349,000, farm and other machinery, ferro-alloys, pigs, ingots and blooms increasing, while rolling-mill products and motor vehicles declined. The non-metals group advanced to \$9,712,000 from \$6,807,000, due mainly to increases for asbestos and abrasives, and the chemicals group to \$9,428,000 from \$7,931,000. The fibres and textiles group was valued at \$2,724,000 compared to \$1,643,000, and the miscellaneous group rose to \$4,408,000 compared with \$2,432,000, boosted chiefly by sales of ships at \$1,343,000 against nil in January last year. (2)

CHEQUES CASHED IN JANUARY
AT NEW PEAK FOR THE MONTH

\$7,307,022,000 in January, 1950.

Cheques cashed against individual accounts reached \$9,001,541,000 in January this year -- a new peak for the month -- as compared with the previous high of \$7,307,022,000 in January, 1950. Advances were recorded for each of the five economic areas.

Cheques cashed in British Columbia recorded the largest percentage gain, total for the province rising 40 per cent to \$790,931,000 from \$564,567,000 in January last year. Quebec was next with an increase of 24.5 per cent to \$2,842,553,000 from \$2,284,057,000, followed by the Prairie Provinces, up 20.9 per cent to \$1,396,938,000 from \$1,155,859,000, and Ontario with a gain of 20.6 per cent to \$3,745,389,000 from \$3,105,448,000. Total for the Atlantic Provinces rose 14.5 per cent to \$255,730,000 from \$197,111,000. (3)

SLIGHT DECLINE IN COMPLETIONS OF NEW DWELLINGS IN 1950; STARTS HIGHER

Number of new dwelling units completed in Canada (excluding Newfoundland) last year was slightly lower than in 1949, while

the number of starts was larger, according to preliminary estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The carryover of dwellings in various stages of construction at the end of the year was consequently somewhat greater than a year earlier.

New units completed during the year totalled 87,299 in the nine provinces as compared to 87,533 in 1949, and starts numbered 90,441 as against 89,509. The number under construction at the year end was 58,850 compared to 58,169. Including Newfoundland, for which comparable 1949 figures are not available, completions for all Canada numbered 89,015, starts 92,531, and the carryover was 60,538 units.

While there was comparatively little change from 1949 in building activity for Canada as a whole, there were large regional differences. Except for a slightly larger number of starts in Alberta, substantial declines were recorded in the western provinces in both starts and completions. In Quebec and the Maritime Provinces increases were generally indicated, except that completions in Nova Scotia and starts in Prince Edward Island were down from 1949. Ontario showed a small decline in 1950 for both starts and completions. The number under construction at the end of the year was higher in Quebec, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Completions in Ontario in 1950 numbered 31,318 as compared with 31,440 in the preceding year, Quebec 27,237 compared with 22,912, British Columbia 8,560 (10,272), Alberta 7,266 (9,411), Manitoba 4,612 (4,807), Saskatchewan 2,813 (3,576), Nova Scotia 2,573 (3,056), New Brunswick 2,545 (1,801), Prince Edward Island 375 (258), and Newfoundland 1,716 (not available for 1949).

Starts in Ontario in 1950 totalled 33,430 as against 34,023 in the preceding year, Quebec 28,515 against 24,196, Alberta 8,623 (8,465), British Columbia 7,536 (9,702), Manitoba 4,072 (5,039), Saskatchewan 2,904 (3,061), Nova Scotia 2,705 (2,636), New Brunswick 2,323 (2,012), Prince Edward Island 333 (375), Newfoundland 2,090 (not available for 1949).

Dwellings under construction in Ontario at the end of 1950 totalled 24,331 as compared with 23,585 at the end of 1949, and in Quebec the number was 15,421 as compared with 14,984. In British Columbia there were 6,068 as compared with 7,166, Alberta 5,606 (4,309), Nova Scotia 2,432 (2,326), Manitoba 2,198 (2,731), Saskatchewan 1,502 (1,452), New Brunswick 1,029 (1,274), Prince Edward Island 263 (292), and Newfoundland 1,688 (not available for 1949).

Final figures for 1950 will be available in the bulletin "New Residential Construction, January 1 to December 31, 1950" now in course of preparation.

NET SALES OF SECURITIES TO OTHER COUNTRIES
AT ALL-TIME PEAK LEVELS IN 1950

Net sales of securities by Canada to other countries rose in 1950 to all-time peak levels as a result of the

exceptionally heavy sales to the United States, which were concentrated in the months of August and September. While the inflow of capital from the United States was the most conspicuous feature of the year's dealings, there was an appreciable increase in net purchases from the United Kingdom. Net sales to all other countries were also higher but were only a minor portion of the total.

Net sales to all countries in the year amounted to \$238,400,000 as against the comparatively small total of \$6,500,000 in 1949. Previous peak figure for a year was \$191,000,000 in 1945. Net sales to the United States totalled \$255,700,000 compared to the small total of \$16,000,000 in 1949 and the earlier peak of \$222,100,000 in 1945. Net repurchases from the United Kingdom amounted to \$22,800,000 against \$10,800,000 in 1949, and net sales to all other countries totalled \$5,400,000 against \$1,300,000.

This large increase in the holdings of Canadian securities by non-residents in the year is unprecedented. Even the movement in August was several times that of all but a few months of heavy sales in the past years. The much increased sales in September were more comparable in size to net sales in the full 12 months of recent war and post-war years of heavy capital inflows.

Net sales of all securities to the United States in September of \$147,100,000 compared with net sales of \$170,200,000 to the United States in the whole year 1946 and \$222,100,000 in 1945. This large inflow of capital for the acquisition of outstanding securities in 1950 follows a period in which the net movement of capital in connection with those transactions had not been large.

Figures for December, included in the year-end summary, show a purchase balance of \$1,600,000 as against a sales balance of \$3,400,000 in the preceding month and \$4,500,000 in the corresponding month last year. Transactions between Canada and the United States in the month were close to equilibrium in contrast to preceding months. There was a purchase balance of \$500,000 with the United Kingdom and \$1,000,000 with other countries. (4)

The following table shows the sales and purchases of securities between Canada and other countries in 1949 and 1950:

	Sales		Purchases		Net Sales (+)	Net Purchases (-)
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
	(millions of dollars)					
United Kingdom	5.2	5.3	16.0	28.1	-10.8	-22.8
United States	225.7	546.0	209.7	290.3	+16.0	+255.7
Other countries	4.5	13.7	3.2	8.3	+ 1.3	+ 5.4
All countries	<u>235.4</u>	<u>565.0</u>	<u>228.9</u>	<u>326.8</u>	<u>+ 0.5</u>	<u>+238.4</u>

CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
BENEFITS FIVE PER CENT LOWER

Benefits claims filed at local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission numbered 172,269 in January this year, a decrease of five per cent from last year's January figure of 182,053. Declines were recorded in Ontario and British Columbia, but slight increases in the other provinces. During January, \$9,367,276 was paid for 3,788,241 unemployed days as against \$11,781,142 paid in respect of 4,925,381 days a year earlier.

Claims filed in Quebec in January totalled 50,785 as compared with 50,521 in January last year, Ontario 42,431 compared with 50,944, British Columbia 29,857 compared with 37,402, and Nova Scotia 10,626 compared with 10,299. In Manitoba there were 9,713 claims against 8,970, Alberta 9,702 against 9,375, New Brunswick 7,523 against 7,127, Saskatchewan 7,037 against 5,968, Newfoundland 2,999 against 367, and Prince Edward Island 1,596 against 1,030. (5)

CIGARETTE RELEASES AND
BEER PRODUCTION IN JANUARY

Releases of cigarettes, cigars and cut tobacco in January for consumption in Canada were higher than in the corresponding month last year but plug tobacco declined. Beer production was slightly lower but the output of new spirits advanced.

January releases of cigarettes totalled 1,518,000,000 as compared with 1,408,000,000 in January last year, and cigar releases were 17,700,000 compared with 14,100,000. Cut tobacco releases amounted to 2,326,000 pounds against 1,963,000, and plug tobacco totalled 190,000 pounds against 211,000.

Beer production in the month amounted to 456,100 barrels compared with 456,700 in January last year, and the output of new spirits was 2,400,000 proof gallons against 1,940,000. Stocks of distilled liquor at the end of January amounted to 80,590,000 proof gallons compared with 76,400,000.

TRAVEL BY RAIL, BUS, BOAT
AND PLANE IN 1950

Non-resident entries into Canada from the United States by rail, through bus, boat and plane showed an overall decline of 13 per cent in 1950 to 1,233,900 from 1,416,500 in the preceding year. The decline was due in part to the greater use of private automobiles as a means of travel. Entries by rail fell to 457,500 from 551,300, bus to 406,500 from 429,200, boat to 211,500 from 300,200, but entries by plane advanced to 158,900 from 135,700.

The volume of Canadian traffic returning from the United States by rail, through bus, boat and plane was three per cent smaller in 1950 at 1,254,000 as compared with 1,293,800. The decline in travel by rail and boat more than outweighed a higher volume of bus and plane travel. Number returning by rail declined to 498,800 from 532,100, and by boat to 66,600 from 107,700, and returns by bus rose to 577,100 from 563,300, and by plane to 111,500 from 90,700. (6)

FARM WAGES HIGHER AT MID-JANUARY

Wages paid to farm help were higher at mid-January this year than at the same time a year ago. Daily rates with board rose from \$3.63 to \$4.09, and without board from \$4.52 to \$5.11. Monthly wages with board provided advanced from \$69.04 to \$75.76, and without board from \$98.55 to \$110.08.

With board provided by the employer daily wage rates ranged from \$3.70 for Alberta to \$6.30 for British Columbia, and without board the range this year was from \$4.61 for Prince Edward Island to \$7.57 for British Columbia.

On a monthly basis wages ranged from a low of \$68.55 in Manitoba to a high of \$90.00 for British Columbia, and without board the range was from \$101.96 in Manitoba to \$141.00 for British Columbia. (Mem. 1)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on February 25 amounted to 207,800,528 bushels as compared with 211,567,052 a week earlier, and 148,818,187 on the same date last year. Deliveries from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week totalled 1,942,935 bushels against 2,172,283 a year ago, bringing the total for the crop year to date to 261,017,231 bushels compared with 250,529,852 in the same period a year ago.

Overseas export clearances in the week amounted to 2,858,010 bushels as compared with 1,718,814 a year earlier, and in the cumulative period totalled 78,997,494 bushels as against 96,971,506.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending February 25, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: oats, 911,539 (471,510) bushels; barley, 648,886 (281,056); rye, 27,727 (58,941); flaxseed, 27,680 (6,060). (Mem. 2)

EXPORTS OF COARSE GRAINS

Exports of coarse grains and flaxseed were down approximately 18 per cent during the first half of the 1950-51 crop year from the August-January period of 1949-50. Current crop year exports of these grains to January 31 were as follows, with last year's figures in brackets -- totals in millions of bushels: oats, 9.3 (12.9); barley, 10.5 (8.8); rye, 3.3 (7.7); and flaxseed, 3.0 (2.4).

The United States was the main export market for oats, barley and rye during the first half of 1950-51, taking 91 per cent of the Canadian oats, 54 per cent of the barley, and 69 per cent of the rye exports during the period. Belgium received the next largest shipments of those three grains, and was the largest purchaser of flaxseed, taking 2.2 million bushels out of a total of 3.0 million. (7)

MILK PRODUCTION LOWER IN 1950

Estimated quantity of milk produced on Canadian farms -- excluding Newfoundland -- was lower in December and the full year 1950 than a year earlier. The month's output amounted to 941,254,000 pounds, down seven per cent from the December, 1949 figure of 1,015,692,000 pounds. Cumulative total for the year was 16,436,988,000 pounds as against 16,843,345,000 in 1949. Advance indications point to a decrease of three per cent in milk production for January 1951 as compared with the same month in 1950.

Of the December total, 309,379,000 pounds or 33 per cent was utilized in factory production. Sales of fluid milk and cream, the latter expressed as milk, declined to 351,675,000 pounds from 354,110,000 a year earlier, while the aggregate for the 12-month period rose to 4,157,027,000 pounds from 4,083,753,000 in the similar period of 1949.

The dairy butter make in the year fell nine per cent, amounting to 46,897,000 pounds compared with 52,852,000 in 1949. In December, 3,957,000 pounds were produced against 4,706,000 a year earlier, a decline of 16 per cent.

Cash income from the sale of dairy products in 1950 reached a total of \$327,742,000 compared with \$351,955,000 in 1949. Fluid sales, the most important item, represented a farm cash income of approximately \$150,000,000, followed by butter-fat at \$129,000,000, cheese milk \$25,000,000, manufacturing milk \$21,000,000, and dairy butter at approximately \$2,500,000. In December, cash income amounted to \$20,609,000, a decline of about \$583,000 from December, 1949. (8)

STOCKS OF BUTTER AND CHEESE Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on March 1 amounted to 8,134,000 pounds as compared with 25,872,000 on the corresponding date in 1950. Holdings of cheddar cheese totalled 14,272,000 pounds as against 27,294,000 a year earlier. Creamery butter stocks were as follows by cities, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (in thousands): Quebec, 223 (432) pounds; Montreal, 2,419 (5,695); Toronto, 1,186 (6,763); Winnipeg, 1,521 (7,995); Regina, 117 (676¹); Saskatoon, 113 (249); Edmonton, 1,426 (2,055); Calgary, 549 (771); Vancouver, 580 (1,236). (Mem. 3)

WOOL PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES Wool production in Canada in 1950, not including Newfoundland, amounted to 9,237,000 pounds, six per cent below the 9,835,000 pounds produced in 1949. The decline from the preceding year was due to a smaller output of pulled wool. The total 1950 output was about 58 per cent of the average 1935-39 production.

Shorn wool production in 1950 amounted to 7,904,000 pounds, slightly above the 1949 figure of 7,759,000 pounds. This slight rise was due to an increase in average fleece weight. There was a marked reduction in pulled wool, the year's total amounting to 1,333,000 pounds compared with 2,076,000. This sharp decline can be accounted for in part by a 17 per cent decrease in inspected slaughter of sheep and lambs and a slight increase in the number of skins exported. (Mem. 4)

PRODUCTION OF HOUSEHOLD ELECTRIC REFRIGERATORS UP SHARPLY IN NOVEMBER Canadian manufacturers produced more household electric refrigerators in November and the first 11 months of 1950 than in the corresponding periods of 1949, while the output of domestic-type washing machines was lower.

Production of electric refrigerators in November rose to 36,096 units, more than double the November, 1949 output of 17,066, bringing the cumulative total to 315,273 units, sharply above the 163,781 units produced in the same period of 1949. Factory shipments also showed a marked rise, increasing to 36,545 units in the month from 14,974 and in the 11 months to 312,065 units from 150,129.

The output of domestic-type washing machines in November declined to 28,082 units from 32,583 a year earlier, and in the 11 months to 256,404 units from 322,723. Factory shipments amounted to 27,753 units in the month as compared with 29,666, and in the 11-month period were down to 261,924 units from 317,392. Factory stocks at the end of November were 10,211 units against 8,384 a year ago. (9)

PRODUCTION OF STEEL WIRE AND WIRE NAILS IN NOVEMBER Production of steel wire was higher in November and the first 11 months of 1950 than in the corresponding periods of 1949, while the output of wire fencing rose in the month but declined in the cumulative period. Output of wire nails was lower in both periods.

November production of steel wire amounted to 30,269 tons as compared with 28,593 a year earlier, wire fencing 1,462 tons against 1,458, and wire nails 7,605 tons against 8,325. Eleven-month output of steel wire was 312,792 tons against 297,955, wire fencing 19,064 tons against 21,041, and wire nails 79,030 tons against 81,668. (10)

PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF COKE IN 1950

Canadian production of coke from ovens and gas retorts during 1950 increased two per cent from the preceding year, amounting to 3,937,969 tons as compared with 3,867,066. In December, 342,700 tons were produced as against 320,299 in December, 1949.

Exports in the full year 1950 rose 26 per cent, totalling 345,040 tons compared with 273,112 in 1949. In December, exports amounted to 19,677 tons, sharply lower than the December, 1949 total of 33,849 tons. During the year, imports aggregated 411,876 tons, down seven per cent from the 1949 figure of 444,577 tons, while in December imports rose to 44,506 tons from 32,646 a year earlier.

Producers' stocks of oven and retort coke, excluding breeze, at the end of December amounted to 95,497 tons, of which 29,606 tons were located in the eastern provinces, 44,080 tons in Ontario and 21,811 tons in the western provinces. Stocks of breeze totalled 69,206 tons, the eastern provinces accounting for 7,237 tons, Ontario for 45,132 tons, and the western provinces for 16,837 tons.

Producers' disposed of 349,776 tons of coke in December, bringing the aggregate for the year to 4,223,303 tons. Of the 1950 total, 511,494 tons were used in coke or gas plants, 2,015,174 tons in producers' smelters, 200,166 tons for domestic use, 750,560 tons for other uses, 408,646 tons sold to dealers for resale, and 337,263 tons for export. (11)

PRODUCERS' SALES OF PRODUCTS MADE FROM CANADIAN CLAYS IN NOVEMBER

Producers' sales of products made from Canadian clays rose slightly in November over the same month of 1949, and were 16 per cent higher in the first 11 months of the year. The month's sales totalled \$2,048,049 as compared with \$1,553,847 in November, 1949, raising the aggregate for the 11-month period to \$18,939,777 as against \$16,341,881 in 1949.

Sales were as follows in November, totals for the corresponding month of 1949 being in brackets: building brick, \$1,272,324 (\$919,730); structural tile, \$236,674 (\$225,181); drain tile, \$107,568 (\$96,263); sewer pipe, \$211,127 (\$181,482); fireclay blocks and shapes, \$42,434 (\$31,338); pottery, \$43,180 (\$43,643); other clay products, \$134,742 (\$56,210). (12)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF GYPSUM PRODUCTS

Output of gypsum products in January comprised 20,102,546 square feet of wallboard as compared with 19,242,236 in the same month last year, 20,755,363 square feet of lath as against 15,397,015, and 200,346 square feet of sheathing against 53,472. January shipments of wallboard increased to 20,002,212 square feet from 18,918,664 a year ago, and lath to 20,497,365 square feet from 15,059,100. (Mem. 5)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways for the week ended February 24 totalled 76,156 cars as compared with 73,718 in the preceding week, and 70,037 in the same week of 1950. Loadings in the eastern division moved up from 46,025 cars to 52,350, while the total for the western division was slightly lower at 23,806 cars compared with 24,012. For the first eight weeks of the year, loadings stood at 588,000 cars -- a new peak for the period -- as compared with 528,800 in the same months of 1950. (13)

OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES OF
CANADIAN RAILWAYS HIGHER IN NOVEMBER

Operating revenues of Canadian railways in November reached a new high for the month at \$89,864,918, an increase of 14 per cent over the \$78,687,803 earned for the same month in 1949. Heavier freight revenues, reflecting higher rates, and a sharp rise in mail revenues incorporating the retroactive increase contributed to the advance.

Total operating expenses advanced more moderately to \$72,583,841 from \$67,469,833 in November, 1949, or by eight per cent, with maintenance of equipment up 13 per cent to \$17,313,838, and transportation expenses rising eight per cent to \$35,823,432.

Operating revenues for the first 11 months of 1950 rose to \$864,190,298 from \$809,070,438 in the same period of 1949, while operating expenses declined to \$751,483,198 from \$756,185,822, resulting in the net operating revenue of \$112,707,100 as against \$52,884,616. Operating income was \$73,764,664, nearly three times the \$24,805,369 recorded in 1949. (14)

CIVIL AVIATION REVENUES
AT NEW RECORD IN NOVEMBER

Revenues of Canadian air carriers reached a new monthly high in November, total for the month rising to \$3,427,431 from \$2,800,618 in November, 1949, a gain of 23 per cent. Expenses were considerably heavier at \$4,010,776 compared with \$3,611,340, and net operating revenues showed a seasonal loss for the month of \$583,345 against \$810,722 a year earlier. For the first 11 months of 1950, net operating revenues were \$2,009,380 compared with a loss of \$531,378 in the same period of 1949. (15)

PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER
EAST OF THE ROCKIES IN 1950

Production of sawn lumber east of the Rockies was two per cent higher in 1950 than in the preceding year, while in December output rose 23 per cent. In the year, increases were recorded in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta, while in December, the estimate for Manitoba showed the only decline from a year earlier.

Output for the calendar year 1950 amounted to 2,612,282,000 feet as compared with 2,554,640,000 in 1949, and in December stood at 111,425,000 feet as against 90,771,000 in the same month of 1949. (16)

LEATHER FOOTWEAR PRODUCTION
SIX PER CENT LOWER IN 1950

Canadian production of leather footwear amounted to 33,934,300 pairs in the calendar year 1950, a decrease of six per cent from the preceding year's total of 36,256,400 pairs. There were declines from 1949 in each of the first nine months of the year but advances in October, November and December. Total for December was 2,537,700 pairs as against 2,511,800 a year earlier. (17)

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. Preliminary Price Movements, February 1, 1951 (10 cents).
2. Monthly Summary of Domestic Exports, January, 1951 (10 cents).
3. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, January (10 cents).
4. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, December, 1950, and Review of Trade During 1950 (10 cents).
5. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, January (25 cents).
6. Travel Between Canada and the United States, January (10 cents).
7. Coarse Grains Quarterly, February (25 cents).
8. The Dairy Review, January (25 cents).
9. Domestic Washing Machines and Electric Refrigerators, November (10 cents).
10. Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, November (15 cents).
11. Coal and Coke Statistics, December (25 cents).
12. Products Made from Canadian Clays, November (15 cents).
13. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
14. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways in Canada, November (10 cents).
15. Civil Aviation, November (10 cents).
16. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, December (25 cents).
17. Production of Leather Footwear in Canada, December (10 cents).
18. New Residential Construction, January 1 to November 30, 1950 (25 cents).
19. Civil Aviation, September (10 cents).
20. Civil Aviation, October (10 cents).
21. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, 1950 (50 cents).
22. Telephone Statistics, 1949 (25 cents).
23. Asbestos Products Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
24. Trade of Canada: Articles Exported to Each Country, Calendar Year, 1950 (50 cents).

Memoranda

1. Farm Wages in Canada, January (10 cents).
2. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
3. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products in Nine Cities -- Advance Statement, March 1 -- (10 cents).
4. Wool Production and Supply, 1950 (10 cents).
5. Gypsum Products, January (10 cents).
6. Mineral Wool, January (10 cents).
7. Fluid Milk Sales, December (10 cents).

Reference Paper

1. Wholesale Price Indexes, 1913-1950 (75 cents) -- New Base Period Introduced.

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