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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S OFFICIAL COST-OF-LIVING INDEX advanced from 179.7 to 181.8 between March 1 and April 2. Nearly one-half of this increase of 1.2 per cent, or 2.1 points, was accounted for by butter which moved to higher levels during the latter half of March and the early part of April, and then dropped sharply.

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GENERAL WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX NUMBER, on the base 1935-39=100, rose in March to 241.8 from 238.5 in the preceding month and 201.5 in March last year.

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FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS rose to a higher level in March, the index number, on the base 1935-39=100, reaching a new high of 280.8 as compared with the previous peak of 272.0 in February, and 252.4 in March last year.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ended April 23 rose to 83,823 cars -- a new record for the period -- as compared with 75,281 in the same week last year, a gain of 11.3 per cent.

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PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY by central electric stations rose to an all-time monthly peak in March, amounting to 4,911,861,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 4,185,643,000 in March last year. During the first three months of the year, 14,072,117,000 kilowatt hours were produced as against 12,046,648,000 in the same period of 1950.

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CANADA'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL COUNTRIES in March were valued at \$290,200,000, a rise of 27 per cent over \$228,200,000 for March a year ago. This brought the cumulative total for the first three months of the year to \$809,200,000 from \$648,900,000 a year earlier, a rise of 25 per cent.

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EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES rose 23 per cent in March to \$190,210,000 from \$154,311,000 in the same month last year, and in the first quarter the aggregate value increased to \$529,586,000 from \$414,008,000, or by 28 per cent.

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DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM moved upwards in value in March for the second successive month, rising almost one-third from \$30,120,000 to \$39,655,000, and in the first quarter the value increased from \$109,101,000 to \$113,294,000.

THERE'S A JOB TO BE DONE IN '51

HELP CANADA COUNT

9TH DECENNIAL CENSUS

JUNE, 1951

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX UP
2.1 POINTS AT APRIL 1

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced from 179.7 to 181.8 between March 1 and April 2. Nearly one-half of this increase of 1.2 per cent, or 2.1 points, was accounted for by butter which moved to higher levels during the latter half of March and the early part of April, and then dropped sharply.

The balance of the increase was largely due to other foods, clothing, home-furnishings and miscellaneous items. The food index rose from 233.9 to 238.4. There were numerous but slight increases in foods other than butter, although decreases were registered for eggs, pork, and fresh vegetables.

The clothing index moved from 196.3 to 198.8, following advances in men's wear and footwear. Increases throughout homefurnishings were sufficient to raise the index of homefurnishings and services from 188.6 to 190.7.

The miscellaneous index advanced from 137.8 to 138.8 as a result of higher indexes for personal care, transportation and theatre admissions. Higher prices in some centres for coke and electricity raised the fuel and light index from 146.5 to 146.7. Rents were not surveyed during April and the rent index remained unchanged at 137.6. (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
April 2, 1951	181.8	238.4	137.6	146.7	198.8	190.7	138.8
March 1, 1951	179.7	233.9	137.6	146.5	196.3	188.6	137.8
April 1, 1950	164.0	204.5	132.7	138.0	181.2	166.4	132.3

DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN FIRST QUARTER
RISE 25 PER CENT IN VALUE

Canada's sales of domestic produce abroad in March again rose sharply in value over a year earlier, with increases in the value of shipments to the United States, United Kingdom, other Commonwealth countries as a whole, Latin America and Europe. Higher prices accounted for part of the increase but there was also a substantial gain in volume of goods.

Domestic exports to all countries in March were valued at \$290,200,000, a rise of 27 per cent over \$228,200,000 for March a year ago. The month's advance followed gains of 17 per cent in February and 23 per cent in January. This brought the cumulative total for the first three months of the year to \$809,200,000 from \$548,900,000 a year earlier, a rise of 25 per cent.

Exports to the United States rose 23 per cent in March to \$190,210,000 from \$154,311,000 in the same month last year, and in the first quarter the aggregate value increased to \$529,586,000 from \$414,008,000, or by 28 per cent. About three quarters of the increase in exports to all countries in the first quarter was in shipments to the United States. Shipments to the United States accounted for 65.5 per cent of all exports in March as compared with 67.6 per cent a year ago, and in the quarter the proportion was 65.4 per cent compared with 63.8 per cent.

The month's rise in the value of exports to the United States was common to all nine main commodity groups except chemicals and allied products. Wood and paper group -- largest of the nine -- moved up most sharply to \$95,570,000 from \$78,160,000. Non-ferrous metals advanced to \$26,039,000 from \$21,904,000, animals and animal products to \$19,002,000 from \$17,207,000, iron and products to \$16,459,000 from \$12,213,000, and non-metallic minerals to \$9,116,000 from \$6,012,000.

Domestic exports to the United Kingdom moved upwards in value in March for the second successive month, reversing the downward trend of the past year. The month's total rose almost one-third from \$30,120,000 to \$39,655,000, and in the first quarter the value increased from \$109,101,000 to \$113,294,000.

Sharp gains in wood and paper and non-ferrous metals accounted for the increased value of shipments to the United Kingdom in March, the former rising steeply to \$8,814,000 from \$1,453,000, and the latter to \$11,383,000 from \$6,477,000. Other groups were lower in value. The leading agricultural and vegetable products section fell to \$15,574,000 from \$17,788,000 and in the quarter to \$44,648,000 from \$55,983,000.

Domestic exports to the rest of the Commonwealth rose in value in March to \$20,300,000 from \$12,300,000, and in the quarter to \$50,400,000 from \$39,300,000, with increases to all areas in both periods. There were marked gains in the month in the value of shipments to the Union of South Africa, India and Australia, while India accounted for a major part of the quarter's gain.

Taken by main geographic groups, shipments to Commonwealth countries in America in March rose to \$2,947,000 from \$2,779,000, to those in Africa to \$4,072,000 from \$1,617,000, Asia to \$8,095,000 from \$4,532,000, and Oceania to \$5,119,000 from \$2,829,000.

Exports to Latin American countries rose in March to \$11,985,000 from \$7,706,000 a year earlier, and in the quarter the aggregate value advanced 73 per cent to \$36,691,000 from \$21,215,000. Shipments were higher in both periods to the majority of the larger markets.

Foreign countries in Europe purchased Canadian merchandise in March to the value of \$17,144,000 as against \$12,345,000, bringing the first-quarter total to \$47,061,000 from \$37,137,000. Shipments to Belgium and Luxembourg, Italy, Ireland, Norway, and Switzerland were higher both in the month and three months, but were smaller to the Netherlands and Spain.

Exports to the remaining foreign countries fell slightly in the month to \$10,019,000 from \$10,512,000, but were higher in the three months at \$28,491,000 against \$23,947,000. There were marked increases both in the month and quarter to Japan and the Philippine Islands.

Eight of the nine main groups of commodities moved higher in value in March as compared with the corresponding month last year. Wood and paper -- consistently by far the largest of the nine -- rose in value to \$112,100,000 from \$82,300,000, with particularly large gains in planks and boards, pulpwood, wood pulp and newsprint paper.

The agricultural and vegetable products group advanced to \$54,900,000 from \$45,300,000. There were substantial increases in wheat, wheat flour, sugar and products, alcoholic beverages, and rubber, and declines in fruits and seeds. Animals and animal products as a group moved slightly higher to \$25,184,000 from \$24,406,000, with cattle, fish and fishery products and furs higher, and hides and skins, bacon and hams, and other meats lower in value.

Mainly due to sharp increases in the value of exports of ferro-alloys, farm machinery and implements, other machinery, and automobiles and parts, the iron and products group of exports rose in value to \$26,522,000 from \$19,706,000.

Boosted by larger values for aluminum, lead, nickel and zinc, the non-ferrous metals and products group rose sharply to \$43,962,000 from \$33,324,000. With asbestos, chief item of the group up sharply, the non-metallic minerals group rose in value to \$11,976,000 from \$8,625,000.

The fibres and textiles group advanced in March to \$2,714,000 from \$1,723,000, but chemicals moved down to \$8,656,000 from \$9,608,000, due to a decline in fertilizer exports. The miscellaneous commodities group rose to \$4,158,000 from \$3,225,000. (2)

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX AGAIN HIGHER IN MARCH

The general wholesale price index number, on the base 1935-39=100, rose in March to 241.8 from 238.5 in the preceding month and 201.5 in March last year. Increases over the preceding month were recorded in each of the eight sub-group indexes except non-ferrous metals which declined 1.1 points. Largest gain of 12.5 points was shown in textile products, followed by animal products with a rise of 7.9 points.

Miscellaneous fibre products, rayon yarn, domestic raw wool, imported raw wool, worsted yarn, hosiery and knit goods, wool blankets, wool cloth and carpets were among the increases in the textile products group. There were advances in all components of the animal products group with the exceptions of raw furs, cured meats and oils and fats. Most pronounced gains were in steers, fresh meats, beef and veal carcass, dressed fowl, milk and its products, and butter and eggs.

Sub-group indexes were as follows in March, those for February being in brackets: vegetable products, 220.6 (219.0); animal products, 302.4 (294.5); textile product, 327.1 (314.6); wood products, 289.0 (286.5); iron products, 201.5 (201.4); non-ferrous metals, 174.4 (175.5); non-metallic minerals, 169.3 (168.3); chemical products, 184.8 (183.1).

The index number of wholesale farm product prices for March was 264.2, a gain of 10.9 points over February, and 37.3 points above March, 1950. The field products index stood at 181.2 as compared with 177.9 in February and 187.8 a year earlier, while the animal products index was 347.2 against 329.2 in February and 266.0 in March last year. (3)

PRICES OF BUILDING MATERIALS

Prices of both general and residential building materials continued to move upward in March, according to the index numbers compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the month's rise bringing each to a level approximately 25 per cent above March, 1950.

The Bureau's price index number of general building materials, on the base 1935-39=100, rose 4.1 points to 291.5 from 287.4 in February. It was the fourth successive monthly increase since a two-month recession in this index in October and November last year. At the new level the index is 58.2 points above the standing of 233.3 in March, 1950.

The residential building materials index, on the same base, climbed 7.7 points to 282.6 for March from 274.9 for February. Since a slight recession in March a year ago this index has shown an uninterrupted monthly rise for an aggregate advance of 55.6 points in the 12 months. Among the principal components, there were increases in March in the indexes for lumber and its products, which reached a new high of 420.5; cement, sand and gravel; plumbing and heating equipment; lath, plaster and insulation; and roofing material. The index for paint and glass was slightly lower, while other principal component indexes were unchanged. (3)

CHEQUES CASHED 14 PER
CENT HIGHER IN MARCH

Financial transactions in the form of cheques cashed continued to rise in March, amounting to \$8,829,639,000 as compared with \$7,730,054,000 in March last year, a gain of 14 per cent. This raised the cumulative total for the first three months of the year to \$25,814,820,000 against \$21,036,876,000 a year earlier, or by 22.7 per cent. Increases were recorded in each of the five economic areas both in the month and first quarter.

Cheques cashed in the Atlantic Provinces recorded the largest percentage gain in March, rising 30.6 per cent to \$252,962,000 from \$193,637,000, followed by British Columbia with an increase of 26.9 per cent to \$782,083,000 from \$616,132,000. The aggregate for Quebec rose 17.6 per cent to \$2,779,404,000 from \$2,363,287,000, Ontario to \$3,765,672,000 from \$3,403,949,000, or by 10.6 per cent, and the total for the Prairie Provinces was up 8.4 per cent to \$1,249,519,000 against \$1,153,048,000. (4)

PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY
AT MONTHLY PEAK IN MARCH

Production of electric energy by central electric stations rose to an all-time monthly peak in March, the month's output amounting to 4,911,861,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 4,185,643,000 in March last year. During the first three months of the year, 14,072,117,000 kilowatt hours were produced as against 12,046,648,000 in the same period of 1950.

Consumption of primary power in March increased to 4,396,480,000 kilowatt hours from 3,800,633,000 a year earlier, and in the cumulative period rose to 12,746,955,000 kilowatt hours from 11,018,040,000. Gross exports to the United States totalled 200,900,000 kilowatt hours compared with 175,805,000 in March last year, and in the first quarter amounted to 558,204,000 kilowatt hours against 455,401,000 in 1950. (5)

FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS AT NEW PEAK IN MARCH

Farm prices of agricultural products rose to a higher level in March and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index number, on the base 1935-39=100, reached a new high of 280.8 as compared with the previous peak of 272.0 in February, and 252.4 in March last year. The advance in this year's March index was due to a continued rise in livestock prices and increased prices for dairy products, poultry and eggs. A slight gain was also registered for grains, due to higher prices in eastern Canada and British Columbia.

As compared with February there were increases in all provincial indexes. The index for Ontario showed the largest gain of 11.6 points in the month to 314.3 from 302.7, followed by Quebec with a point increase of 9.9 to 301.8 from 291.9, and Manitoba up 9.8 points to 279.3 from 269.5.

The index for Prince Edward Island advanced to 203.1 from 199.9, Nova Scotia to 219.6 from 216.4, New Brunswick to 230.0 from 224.1, Saskatchewan to 236.5 from 229.3, Alberta to 283.3 from 275.5, and British Columbia to 271.2 from 266.8. (Mem. 1)

CROP CONDITIONS IN CANADA Moisture and temperature conditions in the Prairie Provinces are extremely good, with seeding well under way in some southern sections, according to the Bureau's first report on 1951 crop conditions. Field work should be general in all areas by the middle of May. Backward weather during April hampered prairie field work in Quebec and much of Ontario, but operations should be quite general in Quebec by next week and rapid progress was made in Ontario during the past week, particularly on light, well-drained soils. In the Maritimes, the season is fairly early this year, although little seeding has been done as yet. Little winterkill has been reported in the eastern provinces. Dry conditions prevailed in southern British Columbia during April but recent rains have somewhat relieved the situation. Prospects are good in the Peace River block.

Soil moisture conditions in the Prairie Provinces are the best in years, while above-normal temperatures during the past week have promoted drying. Seeding is well under way in some southern areas of Manitoba and Alberta and should become quite general in all three provinces by the middle of the month. Those crops which could not be harvested last fall wintered fairly well in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and southern Alberta and losses should not be great. A substantial part of the crop in central Alberta, however, which was left in the fields last fall, is sprouting and losses may be fairly high.

Frequent, heavy rains practically prevented any work on the land in Ontario during April and as a result spring seeding of grains will be completed at a relatively late date this year. However, ideal weather during the first week in May, with temperatures in the seventies, permitted a considerable amount of seeding to be done on higher and well-drained soils. Indications are that seeding will be general throughout most of the province during the present week if good weather continues. Fall wheat, fall rye, and hay and clover came through the winter with little loss, although fall wheat was damaged during April in some areas due to excessive rainfall. Both pastures and fall-sown crops have benefited from the excellent weather prevailing since April 28, and prospects for these crops are good. Fruit trees and small fruits also came through the winter in generally excellent condition and there is an abundance of fruit buds on most varieties.

Reports from Quebec indicate that cool, wet weather during April hampered nearly all seeding operations. During the past few days cultivation has started in some areas and a few farmers have been able to plant potatoes and sow oats on high, well-drained soils. Given favourable weather conditions, cultivation and seeding should become more general next week. With few exceptions pastures and meadows appear to have wintered well. Warmer weather is needed to promote growth.

In the eastern areas of Prince Edward Island work on the land has started but elsewhere in the province no seeding has been done. Meadows and pastures are promising with a good percentage of white clover appearing in the latter. Reports indicate a reduction in potato acreage this year. In Nova Scotia the season is well advanced except in northern and eastern sections where unusually cold weather has prevailed during the last two weeks. In the Annapolis Valley meadows and pastures are promising but soil moisture is low, and better than average rains will be required to assure a normal hay crop. Tree fruits wintered well with the exception of peaches and sweet cherries, which are showing fruit bud injury. In New Brunswick cold weather still prevails. Some early potatoes have been planted in Carleton County and in the Grand Lake area. A considerable reduction in acreage is looked for this year. Winter killing of clover is variable but it is still too early to estimate the extent of the injury. Orchard and small fruits are promising.

Dry weather prevailed in the southern area of British Columbia during most of April and crops suffered considerably. In addition, heavy frosts did extensive damage in the fruit-growing areas. Rains during the past two weeks relieved the drought situation to some extent. Pastures in the southern areas show the effects of the prolonged dry spell but recent rains are expected to improve the outlook. Seeding operations in these areas are well advanced. In the Peace River and Central Interior districts seeding is just beginning and soil moisture supplies are reported to be good. In the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island districts the strawberry crop is expected to be lighter than that of last year. In the Okanagan Valley, apples, apricots and cherries have suffered considerable frost damage, but peaches and pears show little injury. (6)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF MARGARINE Production of margarine in April declined to 9,540,000 pounds from 10,837,000 in the preceding month, but was above last year's corresponding figure of 7,190,000 pounds. Cumulative total for the first four months of the year amounted to 39,766,000 pounds as against 34,903,000 in the similar period of 1950. Stocks of margarine at the beginning of May amounted to 3,846,000 pounds as compared with 3,002,000 on April 1, and 4,107,000 on May 1 last year. (Mem. 2)

PRODUCTION OF BUTTER AND CHEESE LOWER IN APRIL Production of creamery butter in April amounted to 16,865,000 pounds, a decline of 13 per cent from last year's April total of 19,444,000 pounds, and in the first four months of the year the output was 42,155,000 pounds, a decrease of 16 per cent from 50,295,000 in the like period of 1950.

Cheddar cheese production was down to 3,668,000 pounds from 4,864,000 a year earlier, or by 25 per cent, and in the four-month period fell to 8,442,000 pounds from 10,045,000, or 16 per cent.

Production of ice cream rose 14 per cent in the month to 1,813,000 gallons from 1,594,000 in April last year, and in the four months advanced 16 per cent to 5,605,000 gallons from 4,812,000.

The month's output of concentrated milk production was 12 per cent higher, amounting to 34,999,000 pounds as compared with 31,351,000 a year ago, and in the January-April period totalled 90,345,000 pounds against 83,359,000 in 1950, a rise of eight per cent. (7)

STOCKS OF BUTTER AND CHEESE Stocks of creamery butter on May 1 amounted to 9,943,000 pounds, slightly above the April 1 total of 9,785,000 pounds, but down sharply from 28,457,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of cheddar cheese fell to 17,895,000 pounds from 20,043,000 on April 1, and 33,883,000 on May 1 last year.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on May 1 totalled 3,910,000 pounds compared with 2,373,000 on April 1, and 6,868,000 on May 1 last year, while holdings of skim milk powder amounted to 2,549,000 pounds against 1,779,000 at the beginning of April, and 3,592,000 a year ago.

May 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, rose to 303,000 cases from 240,000 on April 1, but were below last year's total of 539,000 cases. Holdings of poultry meat declined to 10,054,000 pounds from 11,794,000 on April 1, and 14,464,000 on May 1, 1950. (Mem. 3)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF PROCESS CHEESE IN APRIL Production of process cheese in April amounted to 3,109,000 pounds, a decrease of 15 per cent from the March figure of 3,648,000 pounds, but was two per cent above the 3,059,000 pounds produced in April last year. Cumulative output for the first four months of this year was 13,449,000 pounds, an increase of six per cent over last year's corresponding total of 12,661,000 pounds.

Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of April totalled 1,172,000 pounds as compared with 1,136,000 at the end of March and 1,157,000 on April 30, 1950.

CHAIN STORE SALES HIGHER IN MARCH Chain store sales were substantially higher in March this year than last. Outstanding increases among the six trades for which figures are available were 34 per cent for variety chain stores, 33 per cent for both chain food and shoe stores, 29 per cent for hardware, and 23 per cent for women's clothing stores. Chain drug stores reported a moderate increase of six per cent. Stocks of five of the six trades were higher on March 1. It should be taken into account that Easter Buying occurred in March this year but was spread over March and April in 1950. (8)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES Department store sales increased five per cent during the week ending April 28 over the corresponding week last year. There were increases in all sections of the country except the Maritimes where the decline was 15 per cent. The advance in Saskatchewan was 11 per cent, Alberta 10 per cent, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba each seven per cent, and British Columbia one per cent.

CANADA-U.S. TRAVEL BY PLANE, RAIL, BUS AND BOAT IN FEBRUARY Non-resident entries from the United States by plane and rail were more numerous in February than in the same month last year, but there were fewer entries by bus and boat. Canadian traffic returning from the United States in the month was increased for all four means of travel.

Non-resident entries from the United States by plane increased to 9,298 from 7,549, by rail to 29,877 from 26,847, but entries by bus fell to 12,397 from 12,442, and boat to 1,163 from 1,545. Canadians returning by plane rose to 9,351 from 5,936, by rail to 29,937 from 28,560, bus to 31,509 from 27,641, and by boat to 3,080 from 2,661. (9)

SALES OF TELEVISION AND RADIO RECEIVERS Sales of television receivers were up sharply again in February and there was a moderate rise in the sales of radios, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Producers' sales of television receivers in the month totalled 4,509, more than four times as large as last year's February sales of 1,098, and the value at list prices rose to \$2,387,408 from \$424,141. Radio sales totalled 56,848 units valued at \$4,852,796 compared with 46,597 at \$3,682,439.

Sales of television sets in the Windsor area in February totalled 2,240 valued at \$1,131,042, and in the Toronto-Hamilton area numbered 1,616 units at \$922,825. In the Niagara Peninsula, 500 sets were sold for a total of \$255,405, and sales in all other sections of Canada numbered 153 at \$78,136. All but seven sets were sold in Ontario in February last year.

Radio sales were higher in all provinces in February except Saskatchewan. In Ontario, 29,659 sets were sold compared with 25,653 a year ago, and in Quebec totalled 8,995 compared with 7,876. Sales in Manitoba totalled 4,320 compared with 2,582, the Maritimes 4,132 compared with 3,278, British Columbia 3,984 compared with 2,563, Alberta 3,670 compared with 2,821, Saskatchewan 1,598 compared with 1,637, and Newfoundland 490 compared with 387. (10)

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL Canadian production of iron and steel moved sharply higher in March and the first three months of this year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Pig iron production in the month amounted to 220,603 net tons as compared with 179,449 in the same month last year, bringing the total for the first three months of the year to 610,855 tons compared with 527,081 a year earlier.

March output of ferro-alloys totalled 19,451 tons compared with 12,652 in March, 1950. First-quarter total was 57,444 tons compared with 32,265.

Production of steel ingots and castings in the month amounted to 314,826 tons as compared with 294,303 in March last year, and in the quarter aggregated 905,859 tons compared with 842,375 tons. (Mem. 4)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF IRON CASTINGS AND CAST IRON PIPES Production and shipments of iron castings and cast iron pipes and fitting were higher in February than in the corresponding month last year. The month's output amounted to 78,300 tons as compared with 58,600 in February last year, and the shipments totalled 47,500 tons as against 36,600. Pig iron used by foundries during the month amounted to 49,300 tons compared with 31,500, while consumption of scrap iron and steel was slightly lower at 40,000 tons against 40,100. (Mem. 5)

PRODUCTION OF NAILS, STEEL WIRE AND WIRE FENCING IN FEBRUARY Production of wire nails was slightly higher in February this year than last, while the month's output of steel wire and wire fencing was lower. Production in February of wire nails amounted to 6,598 tons as compared with 6,549 a year earlier, steel wire 27,574 tons compared with 27,770, and wire fencing 1,652 tons compared with 1,978. (Mem. 6)

SALES OF ELECTRIC STORAGE BATTERIES Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers were higher in March and the first three months of the year than in the same periods of 1950. The month's sales amounted to \$1,585,290 as compared with \$1,207,072 in March last year, raising the cumulative total for the first quarter to \$4,713,566 as against \$3,448,853 in the similar period of 1950. (Mem. 7)

PRODUCTS MADE FROM CANADIAN CLAYS Producers' sales of products made from Canadian clays was sharply higher in January this year than in the corresponding month of 1950. The month's sales amounted to \$1,685,450 as compared with \$1,101,288.

Sales were as follows in January, totals for January last year being in brackets: building brick, \$1,079,982 (\$690,688); structural tile, \$228,793 (\$203,539); drain tile, \$50,695 (\$27,811); sewer pipe, \$163,599 (\$68,385); fire-clay blocks and shapes, \$33,334 (\$26,114); pottery, \$33,426 (\$23,814); other clay products, \$95,621 (\$60,937). (11)

PRODUCTION OF LEATHER FOOTWEAR Canadian production of leather footwear was higher in February and the first two months of the year than in the same periods of 1950. The month's output amounted to 2,966,713 pairs as compared with 2,842,335 in February last year, a rise of four per cent. In the cumulative period, 5,778,650 pairs were produced, an increase of eight per cent over last year's corresponding total of 5,351,421 pairs. (Mem. 8)

OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES Operating revenues of Canadian railways in January rose to a new record for the month of \$81,568,392, an increase of 33.7 per cent over last year's January figure of \$61,011,954, while operating expenses increased 14.5 per cent to \$73,309,942 from \$64,029,070. Freight revenues for the month amounted to \$67,325,425 as compared with \$48,175,036 in January last year, and passenger revenues rose to \$6,027,833 from \$5,756,990.

Revenue freight carried during the month totalled 13,974,112 tons, a gain of 30.9 per cent, while revenue miles advanced 37.5 per cent with average haul up from 339 to 356 miles. Revenue passengers were 84,799 fewer at 2,440,463 but mileage increased 3.5 per cent as journeys lengthened from 80 to 86 miles.

Total payroll for the month climbed to \$46,159,368, an advance of 16 per cent or \$6,367,994, while employees numbered 177,149, an increase of 6,853 or four per cent. (12)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ended April 28 rose to 83,823 cars -- a new record for the period -- as compared with 75,281 in the same week last year, a gain of 11.3 per cent. Previous peak for the week was 76,033 cars in 1947. Cumulative loadings for the first 17 weeks of the year also rose to a high level, reaching 1,285,121 cars against 1,174,550 a year earlier, and compares with the previous high of 1,251,412 in 1948. (Mem. 9)

PACK OF APPLES AND
APPLE PRODUCTS IN 1950

The commercial pack of apples and apple products was sharply higher in 1950 than in the preceding year, according to preliminary figures. The pack of apples rose to 276,517 dozen cans from 187,750 in 1949, and the net weight of contents advanced to 16,276,372 pounds from 12,222,366.

The pack of applesauce in 1950 amounted to 507,572 dozen cans as compared with 472,223 in 1949, and the net weight of contents totalled 6,948,226 pounds against 6,357,897. Pack of canned apple juice declined to 1,602,948 dozen cans from 1,928,852, and the net weight of contents to 35,461,682 pounds from 39,502,955. (Mem. 10)

BROOM, BRUSH AND MOP INDUSTRY

Gross value of products manufactured by the broom, brush and mop industry of Canada in 1949 was \$14,832,000, an increase of nine per cent over the preceding year's figure of \$13,619,000. Production of paint brushes in 1949 numbered 516,441 dozen valued at \$4,078,116, brushes for household use 592,828 dozen worth \$1,318,432, tooth brushes 322,875 dozen at \$456,144, and corn brooms, 257,737 dozen valued at \$2,430,530. Output of mops of all kinds in the year totalled 252,770 dozen with a value of \$1,419,645. (13)

BUTTON, BUCKLE AND FASTENER INDUSTRY

Gross value of products manufactured by the button, buckle and fastener industry of Canada in 1949 totalled \$8,006,000, a decline of 11 per cent from the preceding year's value of \$9,036,000. Zipper fasteners -- the most important item -- were manufactured to the value of \$4,331,000, moulded buttons \$996,000, plastic buttons \$686,000, metal buttons \$388,000, and celluloid buttons \$339,000. (14)

MACHINE SHOPS INDUSTRY

Gross value of products manufactured by the machine shops industry of Canada in 1949 amounted to \$28,162,000 as compared with \$25,345,000 in the preceding year. Five hundred and forty-six plants were in operation during the year giving employment to 6,027 persons who were paid \$12,840,000 in salaries and wages as against 514 establishments employing 5,739 workers earning \$11,784,000 in 1948. Cost of materials used was \$8,465,000 compared with \$7,409,000. (15)

SUMMARY REPORT ON STOCKS OF FOOD
COMMODITIES IN COLD STORAGE

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics released a summary of revised data on the stocks of food commodities held in dairy factories, public cold storage warehouses and other storage and wholesale establishments such as meat packing plants and the central warehouses of chain and department stores, as at the first business day of each month during 1950. (16)

PAPER BOX AND BAG INDUSTRY The paper box and bag industry of Canada established new records in 1949 for the tenth consecutive year. Value of products of the industry rose 13 per cent over the preceding year, employment increased three per cent, and salaries and wages advanced 13 per cent. Cost of materials used in the process of manufacture rose 13 per cent.

Gross value of products manufactured during the year amounted to \$120,322,000 as compared with \$106,226,000, and the net value -- amount added by manufacture -- was \$47,334,000 compared with \$41,510,000. Process supplies were valued at \$72,114,000 compared with \$63,924,000. Employees totalled 12,763 compared with 12,357, and their salaries and wages aggregated \$25,513,000 compared with \$22,566,000.

Set-up boxes, folding boxes, corrugated boxes, and fibreboard boxes were produced to the value of \$86,778,158 as compared with \$76,328,233, paper bags \$21,526,069 compared with \$19,628,669, and other products including mailing tubes, paper pails, waxed paper, envelopes, and tags and labels were valued at \$7,184,822 compared with \$6,229,452. (17)

FISHERIES PRODUCTION OF NOVA
SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK IN 1949

Fisheries production of Nova Scotia in 1949 was valued at \$35,040,000, a decrease of three per cent from the preceding year's total of \$36,168,000, and the value for New Brunswick was \$17,428,000, a decline of 13 per cent from \$20,120,000, according to special compilations prepared by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Landings in Nova Scotia amounted to 364,332,000 pounds, a decline of three per cent, and New Brunswick's total was down 16 per cent to 189,235,000 pounds.

The marketed value of cod in Nova Scotia -- largest revenue producer -- totalled \$12,203,000, a decline of 11 per cent from the \$13,777,000 sold in 1948. The marketed value of other principal kinds of fish were as follows, figures for 1948 being in brackets: lobsters, \$6,815,000 (\$6,525,000); haddock, \$3,680,000 (\$4,380,000); herring, \$2,288,000 (\$1,903,000); mackerel, \$1,994,000 (\$1,385,000); halibut, \$1,288,000 (\$710,000); hake, \$1,208,000 (\$1,157,000); and pollock, \$1,031,000 (\$1,353,000).

Lobster -- the leading fishery of New Brunswick -- had a marketed value of \$5,018,000, an increase of eight per cent over the preceding year, and the cod fishery was 12 per cent higher at \$1,838,000. The value of sardines fell to \$4,379,000, or by 39 per cent, and herring to \$2,310,000, or nine per cent.

SHEET METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY Sheet metal products were manufactured in Canada in 1949 to the value of \$156,717,000, an increase of three per cent over the 1948 total of \$152,561,000, according to the annual review of the industry by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There were 275 plants in the industry during the year, 11 more than in the preceding year. These establishments employed a monthly average of 16,414 people and their earnings amounted to \$39,305,000 compared with 17,346 workers with salaries and wages of \$37,109,000 in 1948. (18)

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, April -- Preliminary -- (10 cents).
2. Trade of Canada: Summary of Domestic Exports, March (20 cents).
3. Prices and Price Indexes, March (20 cents).
4. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, March (10 cents).
5. Central Electric Stations, March (10 cents).
6. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
7. Dairy Factory Production, April (10 cents).
8. Chain Store Sales and Stocks, March (10 cents).
9. Travel Between Canada and the United States, March (20 cents).
10. Radio Receiving Sets, February (25 cents).
11. Products Made from Canadian Clays, January (15 cents).
12. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways in Canada, January (10 cents).
13. Broom, Brush and Mop Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
14. Button, Buckle and Fastener Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
15. The Machine Shops Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
16. Stocks of Food Commodities in Cold Storage and Other Warehouses, 1950 (25 cents).
17. Paper Box and Bag Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
18. The Sheet Metal Products Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
19. The Stone Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
20. The Wheat Review, April (20 cents).
21. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings, February (25 cents). (Summarized in D.B.S. Weekly Bulletin, No. 16, dated Saturday, April 21, 1951).

Memoranda

1. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, March (10 cents).
 2. Margarine Statistics, April (10 cents).
 3. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, May 1 (10 cents).
 4. Production of Pig Iron and Steel, March (10 cents).
 5. Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipes and Fittings, February (10 cents).
 6. Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, February (10 cents).
 7. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, March (10 cents).
 8. Production of Leather Footwear, February (10 cents).
 9. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
 10. Pack of Apples and Apple Products from the 1950 Crop (10 cents).
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