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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S OFFICIAL COST-OF-LIVING INDEX increased slightly from 181.8 to 182.0 between April 2 and May 1. This advance of 0.2 points or 0.1 per cent was principally due to increases in clothing, homefurnishings and miscellaneous items, which were largely offset by a decline in the food index.

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INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT in the major non-agricultural industries was moderately higher at the beginning of April, the advance index, on the base 1939=100, at 173.2, being 0.5 per cent above March 1, and 8.9 per cent higher than at April 1 last year.

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ESTIMATED TOTAL OF SALARIES AND WAGES and supplementary labour income in February amounted to \$741,000,000, unchanged from the preceding month, but \$98,000,000 or 15 per cent above the corresponding month last year.

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CANADA'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS in April were valued at \$295,200,000, a rise of almost 44 per cent over last year's April total of \$205,500,000. Cumulative total for the four months ending April was \$1,104,400,000 against \$854,400,000, a rise of 29 per cent in value.

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SECURITY TRANSACTIONS between Canada and other countries continued at a high level in March, aggregating \$102,900,000 as compared with \$123,600,000 in the preceding month and \$54,400,000 in the corresponding month last year.

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INDEX NUMBER OF FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS in April was estimated at 279.9, down 1.2 points from the all-time high of 281.1 recorded a month earlier, but substantially above last year's April figure of 254.7.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ended May 26 totalled 79,979 cars -- a new record for the week -- as compared with 72,758 in the corresponding week last year.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES rose five per cent during the week ending May 26 as compared with the corresponding week last year.

THERE'S A JOB TO BE DONE IN '51

HELP CANADA COUNT

9TH DECENNIAL CENSUS

JUNE, 1951



COST-OF-LIVING INDEX
SHOWS SMALL APRIL RISE

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index increased slightly from 181.8 to 182.0 between April 2 and May 1. This advance of 0.2 points or 0.1 per cent was principally due to increases in clothing, homefurnishings and miscellaneous items, which were largely offset by a decline in the food index. This index moved from 238.4 to 235.4 as a sharp drop in the price of butter was only partially counterbalanced by scattered increases in other foods, the most important of which were eggs and beef. Decreases were also registered by pork, oranges and cabbage.

The index of clothing prices advanced from 198.8 to 201.5 following increases in men's clothing and footwear. Increases were general in the homefurnishings and services group and the index advanced 4.2 points to 194.9. Within this group, furnishings, floor coverings and electrical equipment showed the most important changes.

The fuel and light index declined 0.5 points to 146.2. Seasonal decreases in anthracite coal in eastern Canada were partially balanced by higher electricity rates in British Columbia. An increase in the miscellaneous index of 1.9 points to 140.7 was largely due to higher prices for tires, cigarettes and tobacco. Rents were not surveyed during April and the index remained 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
May 1, 1951	182.0	235.4	137.6	146.2	201.5	194.9	140.7
April 2, 1951	181.8	238.4	137.6	146.7	198.8	190.7	138.8
May 1, 1950	164.0	204.6	132.7	137.5	180.8	166.4	132.3

EXPORTS SHARPLY HIGHER IN APRIL
WITH GAINS TO ALL MAIN AREAS

Exports of Canadian produce were again sharply higher in value in April than last year, with increases recorded for all main geographic areas of the world, and particularly large gains in shipments to the United States, the United Kingdom, Latin American countries, and foreign countries in Europe.

Domestic exports to all countries in April were valued at \$295,200,000, a rise of almost 44 per cent over last year's April total of \$205,500,000. The April gain was the largest so far this year, comparing with increases of 27 per cent in March, 17 per cent in February, and 23 per cent in January. Most of the month's increase was due to larger volume, which appears to have been about one-fourth greater than in the same month last year.

Cumulative total for the four months ending April was \$1,104,400,000 against \$854,400,000, a rise of 29 per cent in value. More than one-half of this increase seems to have been due to a rise in the volume of exports.

Shipments to the United States were one-third higher in value in April at \$183,184,000 as against \$137,792,000 a year earlier, and in the first four months of the year rose 29 per cent to \$712,770,000 from \$551,800,000. Exports to the United States accounted for 62 per cent of exports to all countries in April as against 67 per cent a year earlier, and in the four months the proportion was 64.5 per cent, unchanged from a year ago.

There were large increases in all nine main classes of exports to the United States in April. Wood and paper products as a group -- largest of the nine -- rose to \$90,818,000 from \$71,524,000; but due to proportionately larger gains in several of the remaining groups, the wood and paper section accounted for less than half the month's total value as compared with more than half in April, 1950.

Exports of non-ferrous metals and products in April to the United States rose in value to \$24,726,000 from \$20,343,000 in April last year, animals and animal products to \$19,513,000 from \$14,513,000, iron and products to \$15,634,000 from \$11,257,000, agricultural and vegetable products to \$15,451,000 from \$8,466,000, and non-metallic minerals and products to \$7,878,000 from \$5,244,000.

Shipments to the United Kingdom rose in April for the third successive month, amounting to \$41,721,000 as compared with \$25,795,000 a year earlier. As a result of the three-month gain, the cumulative total to the end of April rose to \$155,015,000 from \$134,896,000 a year ago.

Gains over a year earlier were shown for eight of the nine principal commodity groups of exports to the United Kingdom. However, the rise in overall value was largely due to a sharp rise in the non-ferrous metals group to \$13,299,000 from \$5,884,000, and in wood and paper products to \$10,191,000 from \$1,288,000. The agricultural and vegetable products group -- usually the largest of the nine -- fell in value to \$13,279,000 from \$15,421,000.

Domestic exports to all other Commonwealth countries rose in value in April to \$19,596,000 from \$14,542,000 in the corresponding month last year, with gains to all geographic areas. Shipments to Commonwealth countries in America advanced to \$2,866,000 from \$2,289,000, Africa to \$4,689,000 from \$3,824,000, Asia to \$6,591,000 from \$5,285,000, and Oceania to \$5,367,000 from \$3,115,000.

Among individual countries there were increased shipments to Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Union of South Africa, India and Pakistan, Federation of Malaya, Australia and New Zealand.

April exports to countries of Latin America rose in value to \$14,321,000 from \$11,937,000, with larger shipments to Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Venezuela, and smaller exports to Argentina and Panama.

There was a sharp rise in the overall value of exports to foreign countries in Europe to \$19,538,000 from \$7,011,000. Gains were general among individual countries with most marked increases to Belgium and Luxembourg, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, and Switzerland.

Shipments to the remaining group of foreign countries were more than doubled in value at \$15,526,000 as against \$7,136,000 a year earlier. Exports to Japan at \$7,737,000 accounted for approximately one-half of the total to this group of countries, up sharply from \$1,185,000. There were marked increases to the Philippine Islands and Turkey, and a moderate gain to Israel. Exports to Egypt were down steeply.

Eight of the nine main commodity groups moved up in value in April over the same month last year, advances in wood and paper, agricultural and vegetable products, iron and products, and non-ferrous metals being particularly noteworthy. The miscellaneous group was the exception to the rise.

The wood and paper products group, by far the largest of the nine, rose 45 per cent in value to \$110,000,000 from \$75,800,000. All main commodities of the group were higher in value, advances being large for planks and boards, wood pulp, and newsprint paper.

Agricultural and vegetable products -- second largest of the main groups -- advanced in value to \$52,956,000 from \$37,385,000, a moderate gain in wheat, and large proportionate increases in wheat flour, alcoholic beverages, rubber, seeds and tobacco accounting for most of the rise.

Non-ferrous metals as a group rose to \$47,509,000 from \$28,545,000, with marked increases in aluminum and products, copper and products, lead and products, nickel, and zinc and products. Non-metallics rose to \$11,574,000 from \$7,422,000, with asbestos and artificial crude abrasives accounting for most of the gain.

Sharp gains in ferre-alloys, rolling-mill products, farm implements and machinery, other machinery, and automobiles were the most important factors in raising the total for the iron products group to \$29,294,000 from \$19,485,000. Chemicals as a group rose to \$10,489,000 from \$6,953,000.

Animals and their products as a group were exported to the value of \$25,100,000 as against \$20,200,000 a year earlier. There were increased exports of live cattle, fish and fishery products, furs, and meats.

The fibres and textiles group total rose to \$2,692,000 from \$1,235,000, and the miscellaneous total fell to \$5,529,000 from \$8,458,000, mainly as a result of reduced exports of ships and vessels. (2)

CHEQUES CASHED AGAINST INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

Cheques cashed against individual accounts were more than one-fifth higher in April and the first four months of this year than in the corresponding periods of 1950, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Gains were common to each of the five economic areas.

The Prairie Provinces had the largest proportionate rise of 27 per cent in April to \$1,525,466,000 from \$1,199,836,000 a year earlier, and in the four months the total was up 18 per cent to \$5,352,772,000 from \$4,535,188,000. Total for Ontario was up 23 per cent in both periods, rising in April to \$3,969,292,000 from \$3,222,832,000, and in the cumulative period to \$15,007,332,000 from \$12,251,900,000.

Quebec's April total was \$2,491,914,000 against \$2,181,341,000, and for the four months aggregated \$10,456,394,000 against \$8,573,674,000, for respective increases of 14 per cent and 22 per cent. The month's gain in British Columbia was 24 per cent to \$803,987,000 from \$650,917,000, and in the four months the rise was 31 per cent to \$3,110,399,000 from \$2,377,317,000.

Cheques cashed in the Atlantic Provinces in April amounted to \$226,538,000 against \$188,016,000, and in the four months aggregated \$905,120,000 against \$741,739,000. The respective gains were 21 per cent and 22 per cent. (3)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT UP
MODERATELY AT APRIL 1

Industrial employment in the major non-agricultural industries was moderately higher at the beginning of April, according to preliminary figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The advance industrial composite index, on the base 1939=100, at 173.2, was 0.5 per cent above March 1, and 8.9 per cent higher than at April 1 last year. The increase at April 1 this year was contra-seasonal in the experience of recently preceding years.

Weekly payrolls disbursed by the larger industrial establishments rose one per cent as compared with March 1, and were 17.6 per cent above April 1, 1950. The general average of weekly wages and salaries reached \$48.42 -- a new maximum -- as compared with \$48.19 at March 1, and \$44.77 at April 1 last year.

Hightened activity as compared with March 1 was recorded in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Quebec, the losses in the last two areas amounting to 1.1 per cent and 0.5 per cent, respectively. Increases in the other regions varied from 0.2 per cent in Alberta and 0.6 per cent in Manitoba, to 2.3 per cent in British Columbia and 3.5 per cent in Nova Scotia.

There was improvement in manufacturing, and in many of the principal non-manufacturing classes with the exception of logging, which showed a seasonal decline. In manufacturing, the index stood at 188.4, an increase of 1.1 per cent over March 1, and 9.5 per cent above April 1 last year. The index of larger factory payrolls rose by 2.1 per cent in the month, and was 19.4 per cent over a year earlier. The advance figure of per capita weekly earnings in manufacturing was \$50.04 compared with \$49.56 at March 1, and \$45.91 at April 1, 1950. (4)

LABOUR INCOME IN FEBRUARY

Estimated total of salaries and wages and supplementary labour income in February amounted to \$741,000,000, unchanged from the preceding month, but up \$98,000,000 or 15 per cent above the corresponding month last year.

Labour income in manufacturing advanced to \$259,000,000 from \$219,000,000 in February last year; in utilities, transportation, communication, storage and trade to \$195,000,000 from \$173,000,000; and in finance services, including government, to \$157,000,000 from \$147,000,000.

The total for agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping and mining increased to \$61,000,000 from \$46,000,000, construction to \$45,000,000 from \$39,000,000, and supplementary labour income to \$24,000,000 from \$20,000,000. (5)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
UP FIVE PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales rose five per cent during the week ending May 26 as compared with the same week last year. All provinces shared in the advance except the Maritimes where a decline of seven per cent was recorded. Sales in Saskatchewan were 15 per cent higher, Quebec and Manitoba each 10 per cent, Alberta seven per cent, Ontario three per cent, and British Columbia one per cent.

SALES AND PURCHASES OF SECURITIES
BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

Security transactions between Canada and other countries continued at a high level in March, aggregating \$102,900,000 as compared with \$123,600,000 in the preceding month and \$54,400,000 in the corresponding month last year. This raised the cumulative total for the first three months of the year to \$338,800,000 from \$130,200,000 in the like 1950 period.

Sales to all countries in March amounted to \$55,900,000 as against \$70,800,000 in February and \$29,300,000 a year earlier, and purchases totalled \$47,000,000 as against \$52,800,000 in February and \$25,100,000 in March last year. First quarter sales aggregated \$189,400,000 compared with \$67,800,000 in the 1950 period, and purchases were \$149,400,000 as against \$62,400,000.

Sales to the United States in March amounted to \$51,400,000 as against \$64,500,000 in January and \$28,200,000 a year ago, and the purchases totalled \$44,700,000 against \$49,300,000 in the preceding month and \$22,600,000 in March last year.

March sales to the United Kingdom were \$500,000 as against \$700,000 in February and \$500,000 in March last year, and the purchases were \$1,100,000 against \$2,300,000 in the preceding month and \$2,100,000 a year earlier. Sales to all other countries in the month were \$4,000,000 compared with \$5,600,000 in February and \$700,000 a year ago, and the purchases amounted to \$1,200,000, unchanged from February, and \$400,000 last year. (6)

DWELLINGS COMPLETED AND STARTED
HIGHER TO END OF FEBRUARY

Both the number of dwelling units completed and started during February and the first two months this year increased over the corresponding 1950 periods, but the number under construction at the end of February was down from a year earlier.

New dwellings completed during February totalled 6,712 as compared with 4,815 in February last year, bringing the number for the first two months this year to 13,662, a gain of 2,367 over the 11,295 completed in January and February, 1950.

Dwellings started in February rose to 2,966 from 2,694 last year, and in the two months to 5,737 from 4,846. The number of dwelling units under construction at the end of February is estimated at 51,534 as compared with 52,918 a year earlier.

Completions in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia were substantially higher in the first two months this year than in 1950 and up moderately in Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, but fell off in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the three Prairie Provinces. Starts were higher in Ontario and British Columbia, down somewhat in Quebec and about the same in other regions.

Completions in Ontario rose to 5,210 in the two months from 3,658; in Quebec to 4,738 from 3,857; British Columbia to 1,368 from 1,017; Newfoundland to 211 compared to only one; and Prince Edward Island to 147 as against 50. Total for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick declined to 556 from 781 and for the Prairie Provinces to 1,432 from 1,931.

Starts in Ontario increased to 2,839 compared to 2,210 but declined in Quebec to 1,599 as against 1,715. In British Columbia they nearly doubled to 729 compared with 372 last year. Ontario had the largest number under construction on February 28 at 24,215 (23,585 a year earlier), Quebec being next with 14,859 (14,984), British Columbia and Alberta following with 5,846 (7,166), and 5,803 (4,309), respectively. (7)

MOTOR SALES RISE IN APRIL
BUT FINANCING FALLS OFF

New motor vehicle sales continued at a high level in April, but recently-introduced credit regulations were largely responsible for a curtailment in the expansion of new car financing by sales finance and acceptance companies.

Sales of new motor vehicles in April totalled 46,169 units valued at \$114,194,090 as compared with 37,084 sold for \$74,109,040 in the corresponding month last year, and in the four months ended April there were 172,412 sold for a total of \$406,790,800 compared with 129,406 at \$259,731,800 a year earlier.

New passenger car sales in April increased to 34,927 units from 28,258 and the value rose to \$88,240,146 from \$55,528,441. In the four-month period, 97,210 were sold for \$226,687,911 as compared with 72,462 for \$143,753,354.

Only a slight gain of one per cent was registered in the number of new vehicle sales financed in April, but there was a rise of four per cent in financed value. In the month 12,330 new vehicles were financed for \$17,521,218 as compared with 12,250 financed for \$16,856,412 in April, 1950. For the first time in many months, the financing of passenger car sales fell below the same month of the preceding year, being down seven per cent in number to 8,451 from 9,058, and eight per cent in financing to \$11,075,922 from \$11,998,844.

The number of used vehicle sales financed rose eight per cent from 22,044 in April last year to 23,894, but the financed value was down to \$14,616,541 from \$14,785,089. (8)

TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA-U.S.
BY RAIL, BUS, BOAT AND PLANE

Non-resident entries from the United States by rail, bus and plane were more numerous in March than in the same month last year, but there were fewer entries by boat. Canadian traffic returning from the United States was higher in each category.

Entries from the United States by rail advanced to 27,563 from 24,518 in March last year, by bus to 19,159 from 13,885, by plane to 10,880 from 8,657, but entries by boat fell to 1,613 from 1,743. Canadians returning by rail rose to 43,781 from 31,014, bus to 41,497 from 35,584, boat to 3,628 from 3,404, and plane to 13,468 from 7,872. (9)

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

The April index number of farm prices of agricultural products, estimated by the Bureau at 279.9, is 1.2 points below the all-time high of 281.1 recorded a month earlier, but it rose substantially above last year's April figure of 254.7.

This lowering of the April figure represents the first decline in the index since October, 1950, when it stood at 248.8. Since that time livestock prices have risen steadily and have been largely responsible for pushing the index to the new high levels of February and March.

The decline in the April index was caused by a lowering of livestock prices, especially hogs, and dairy products. Slight gains were registered for grains, potatoes, poultry and eggs. (Mem. 1)

CROP CONDITIONS IN PRAIRIE PROVINCES With some exceptions, seeding is now completed in the Prairie Provinces. A small proportion of coarse grains particularly remains to be seeded in scattered areas of all three provinces. Most crops are growing well but development has been somewhat retarded by cold weather during the past week. Rain is now needed in much of Manitoba and in southern and central areas of Saskatchewan. Some soil drifting has occurred in drier districts but damage from pests has been light to date.

Light rains over the week-end in Manitoba have helped temporarily to relieve dry surface soil conditions in some areas. General rains, warm weather and less wind would greatly improve the crop outlook. Late-seeded crops are germinating unevenly and hay crops and pastures are showing adverse effects. Conditions of cereal crops, excepting fall rye, still range from fair to satisfactory, especially early seeded fields which are able to draw upon fairly adequate subsoil moisture. Early seeded wheat is well stood. Grasshoppers are hatching fairly freely with the weather too cool for control measures.

Wheat seeding is practically completed in Saskatchewan, while the percentage of coarse grains seeded ranges from 85 in southern and central districts to 70 in the north. About 70 per cent of the flaxseed is also seeded. Subsoil moisture conditions are good but winds are drying the topsoil, causing some drifting. General rains are required to promote germination and growth, particularly in central and southern areas. Damage from frost has been slight and the cool weather has delayed the grasshopper hatch.

Seeding is now completed in most sections of Alberta. The season, however, is still backward in areas near the foothills, in some parts of central and west-central Alberta and in the Spirit River section of the Peace River country. In these districts most of the wheat is seeded with a portion of the coarse grain crop still to go in the ground. Moisture conditions are generally excellent but warmer weather is needed in most areas to promote growth. Minor frost damage has been reported in the Calgary-Claresholm areas. (10)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on May 24 amounted to 170,533,039 bushels, sharply above last year's corresponding total of 111,911,749 bushels. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week totalled 4,106,765 bushels as against 1,871,265 a year earlier, raising the aggregate for the crop year to date to 292,425,630 bushels from 278,673,975 in the similar period of 1949-50.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending May 24 amounted to 2,984,224 bushels compared with 4,187,854 a year ago, and in the cumulative period totalled 110,708,192 bushels against 131,261,299.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending May 24, totals for the same date last year being in brackets: oats, 1,798,509 (438,076) bushels; barley, 937,002 (216,937); rye, 65,398 (60,387); flaxseed, 23,412 (2,853). (Mem. 2)

MILK PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION Milk production in Canada in 1950 fell to the lowest point in ten years, amounting to 16,436,988,000 pounds. The 1950 level was reached in three separate stages. The first recession occurred in 1946, the second in 1948 and the third in 1950. The decline in pounds for each of these years amounted to 700,000,000, 500,000,000, and 400,000,000, respectively. With the exception of 1947 and 1949, the downward trend was continuous, and during the last five years a decline of approximately 1,200,000,000 pounds was recorded.

Significant changes in milk utilization also took place in the course of the past decade. This was indicated in both the absolute quantities, and the proportions or percentages of milk used for the different purposes in relation to the total supply. Briefly, there was a definite shift from factory-made butter and cheese to concentrated milk products, ice cream and fluid sales. Less milk was utilized for dairy butter, but this was offset by an increase in quantities of milk fed to live stock and used in farm homes.

Between 1941 and 1945 there was a sharp increase in milk utilized for factory production of butter and cheese, but by 1950 quantities of milk required for these purposes were 1,000,000,000 pounds or 13.5 per cent less than in 1941. The proportion of milk used in relation to total production fell from approximately 51 per cent in 1941 to 44 per cent in 1950. On the other hand, ice cream and concentrated milk products, which had taken only 4.5 per cent of the milk supply in 1941 increased to seven per cent in 1950; and between 1941 and 1950 the total quantity of milk represented in these products had advanced 64 per cent.

The proportion of milk production used on farms remained unchanged at 23 per cent although the percentage used for dairy butter had declined from 12 per cent in 1941 to seven per cent in 1950. Fluid sales, however, showed a gradual increase, and in 1950 4,000,000,000 pounds were required in place of a little more than 3,000,000,000 pounds in 1941.

Butter production in 1950 amounted to 310,500,000 pounds, a decline of 24,500,000 pounds from the preceding year. Domestic disappearance of butter amounted to 326,000,000 pounds, advancing 9,000,000 pounds between 1949 and 1950. Margarine production at 94,000,000 pounds increased nearly 20,000,000 pounds from 1949. Per capita disappearance of butter remained at 23.5 pounds, while that of margarine advanced from 5.3 to 6.8 pounds per capita.

Cheese production fell to 96,000,000 pounds in 1950, a reduction of 21,000,000 pounds in the year and the domestic disappearance of approximately 50,000,000 pounds represented a reduction of more than 4,500,000 pounds from 1949. The per capita disappearance of cheddar cheese was 3.6 pounds in 1950 compared with 4.0 pounds in 1949. Evaporated milk production at 257,000,000 pounds rose 25,500,000 over the preceding year, while the per capita disappearance increased from 14.7 pounds to 17.3. (11)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER
AND CHEESE ON JUNE 1

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on June 1 amounted to 6,719,000 pounds as compared with 4,207,000 on May 1, and 20,331,000 on June 1 last year. Holdings of cheddar cheese totalled 9,739,000 pounds as against 8,755,000 on May 1, and 22,786,000 a year earlier. Creamery butter stocks were as follows by cities on June 1, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 300 (379) pounds; Montreal, 1,976 (2,902); Toronto, 1,580 (4,798); Winnipeg, 767 (8,251); Regina, 123 (756); Saskatoon, 230 (298); Edmonton, 816 (2,040); Calgary, 182 (585); Vancouver, 745 (872). (Mem. 3)

PRODUCTION OF CRUDE PETROLEUM IN MARCH

Canadian production of crude petroleum was slightly higher in March than in the corresponding month last year, but with sharp gains in both January and February, the aggregate for the first quarter of this year was almost one-third above the similar period of 1950.

All-Canada total for March was 2,493,478 barrels as compared with 2,443,218 a year earlier, and in the first quarter totalled 8,290,342 compared with 6,314,019. Production of natural gas in March rose to 8,014,467 M cubic feet from 6,619,406 M, and in the quarter aggregated 24,825,331 M against 22,836,483 M.

Alberta's output of crude petroleum in March amounted to 2,331,079 barrels as against 2,330,066 a year earlier, and for the quarter totalled 7,843,250 barrels against 6,013,985. March output in Saskatchewan was 101,317 barrels against 79,309, and in the quarter amounted to 304,242 barrels against 213,348.

Output in the Northwest Territories rose in March to 50,406 barrels from 13,074, but was down in Ontario to 9,453 barrels from 19,355, and in New Brunswick to 1,223 barrels from 1,414. (Mem. 4)

OUTPUT OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN FEBRUARY

Canadian production of refined petroleum products increased seven per cent in February this year over the corresponding month last year, and the receipts of crude were 19 per cent higher, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Production of all petroleum products in February amounted to 7,199,000 barrels as compared with 6,701,000 a year earlier. Crude receipts at refineries totalled 7,919,000 barrels as compared with 6,681,000. Receipts of domestic crude rose 13.6 per cent to 2,288,000 barrels from 2,013,000, and imported crude increased 21 per cent to 5,631,000 barrels from 4,668,000.

Venezuela and the United States accounted for the bulk of Canada's crude petroleum imports in February, receipts from the former amounting to 2,758,900 barrels as compared with 1,712,000, and from the latter 1,856,700 barrels against 1,892,000. Receipts from Arabia were 807,500 barrels against 965,200, Trinidad 112,700 barrels against 98,000, and Borneo 95,000 barrels against nil. (12)

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL HIGHER IN APRIL

Canadian production of iron and steel was sharply higher in April and the first four months of the year than in the corresponding periods of 1950. Pig iron production in the month amounted to 211,112 net tons as compared with 188,143 in April last year, bringing the total for the first four months to 821,967 tons as against 715,224 in the same period last year.

April output of ferro-alloys totalled 19,552 net tons compared with 11,743 a year earlier. In the four-month period, 76,996 tons were produced as against 44,008 a year ago.

Combined production of steel ingots and castings in April amounted to 312,005 net tons as compared with 279,320 in the same month last year. Output in the month included 301,764 tons of steel ingots compared with 272,936 a year ago, and 10,241 tons of steel castings against 6,384. In the January-April period, output of steel ingots totalled 1,176,677 tons compared with 1,096,439, and 41,187 tons of steel castings were produced against 25,256. (13 and Mem. 5)

PRODUCTION AND SALES OF STOVES
AND WARM AIR FURNACES IN MARCH

Canadian manufacturers produced 46,443 stoves of all kinds in March as compared with 42,763 in the same month last year, and 8,102 warm air furnaces as against 4,615. Factory sales of stoves in the month totalled 42,461 units valued at \$4,093,620 as compared with 38,372 at \$3,328,293, and the sale of furnaces amounted to 6,842 units with a value of \$1,155,251 against 3,142 at \$398,828 in March last year. (Mem. 6)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF
PORTLAND CEMENT IN MARCH

Production and shipments of Portland cement by Canadian manufacturers both were higher in March and the first three months of the year than in the same periods of 1950. The month's output amounted to 1,408,965 barrels as compared with 1,302,820 in March last year, and in the first quarter totalled 3,911,037 barrels against 3,664,520.

Shipments in March aggregated 1,380,200 barrels compared with 1,252,931 a year earlier, raising the total for the three months ending March to 3,174,982 barrels from 2,676,057 in the similar period of 1950. (Mem. 7)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS
OF SALT HIGHER IN MARCH

Canadian production of salt advanced in March and the first three months of the year over the corresponding periods of 1950. The month's output amounted to 71,918 tons as compared with 62,158 in March last year, raising the cumulative total for the first quarter to 214,932 tons from 177,070 in the same period last year. Shipments in March rose to 68,941 tons from 61,882 in March last year, and in the three months to 209,521 tons from 175,380. (Mem. 8)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ended May 26 totalled 79,779 cars -- a new record for the week -- as compared with 72,758 in the corresponding week last year. Cumulative loadings for the first 21 weeks of the year reached 1,623,029 cars -- also a new high for the period -- as against 1,473,314 in the same weeks last year. (Mem. 9)

CIVIL AVIATION IN DECEMBER

Revenues of Canadian air carriers in December totalled \$3,632,772, an increase of 23 per cent over the December, 1949 figure of \$2,964,705. Passenger fares rose from \$1,847,400 to \$2,374,300, while mail receipts declined \$15,828 to \$596,726.

Expenses in December were appreciably higher, increasing from \$3,235,378 to \$4,368,602, or by 36 per cent. Aircraft operation and maintenance expenses amounted to \$2,580,461, a gain of \$911,576, while ground expenses rose \$204,118 to \$1,014,989, and traffic increased from 4408,968 to 4498,910. (14)

CANAL TRAFFIC AT PEAK
FOR RECENT YEARS IN 1950

Tonnage of freight through Canadian canal systems during the 1950 season of navigation reached a modern record of 27,439,076 tons, a gain of 3,065,324 tons or 12.6 per cent over 1949. This was the largest volume for any year since 1914. Including United States locks of the Sault Ste. Marie canals, which constitute an essential link in the Great Lakes canal system, the grand total of all canal freight during the year was 131,333,875 tons compared with 118,260,007 in 1949, a rise of 11 per cent. (15)

SLAUGHTERING AND MEAT
PACKING INDUSTRY IN 1949

The output of the slaughtering and meat packing industry of Canada in 1949 reached a new peak value of \$697,950,000, slightly above the previous high of \$689,746,000 in 1948. This increase can be attributed to higher prices as the total number of animals slaughtered decreased by 0.6 per cent, all classes showing slight decreases in the numbers killed during the year. The cost value of animals slaughtered was \$480,609,000 compared with \$486,631,000.

Among the fresh and frozen meats sold during the year was beef to the value of \$227,946,000 compared with \$207,458,000 in 1948; pork, \$87,571,000 compared with \$76,480,000; veal, \$29,768,000 compared with \$27,073,000; and mutton and lamb, \$12,010,000 compared with \$12,864,000. Cured meat sales included bacon and sides to the value of \$56,097,000 compared with \$76,831,000, hams at \$24,566,000 compared with \$24,123,000, bologna and weiners \$24,340,000 compared with \$22,498,000, cooked meats \$20,458,000 compared with \$16,987,000, and all kinds of canned meats \$19,011,000 compared with \$22,513,000. (16)

MACARONI AND KINDRED PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

Gross value of production of the macaroni and kindred products industry in 1950 amounted to \$7,101,000 as compared with \$5,903,000 in the preceding year. Production of macaroni, spaghetti, vermicelli, noodles, etc., in the industry amounted to 63,081,000 pounds with a selling value of \$6,894,000 as compared with 57,811,000 pounds at \$5,773,000 in 1949. (17)

FUR PRODUCTION UP
SLIGHTLY IN 1949-50

Raw furs produced in Canada in the season 1949-50 -- excluding Newfoundland -- were valued at \$23,184,000, slightly above the figure of \$22,899,900 in 1948-49. The number of pelts taken during the year was 7,377,500, wild life accounting for 6,762,000, and ranch-raised animals for the remaining 614,600. (Mem. 10)

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT INDUSTRY

Gross value of products manufactured by the musical instrument industry of Canada in 1949 amounted to \$6,280,000, an increase of 30 per cent over the preceding year's figure of \$4,831,000. There were 27 plants in operation during the year, one more than in 1948. These establishments furnished employment for 1,180 persons who were paid \$2,414,000 in salaries and wages against 1,108 employees earning \$2,035,000. Cost of materials used totalled \$2,324,000 compared with \$1,667,000. (18)

STATISTICAL HANDBOOK OF
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics released Part I of a statistical handbook of agricultural statistics. Running to 186 pages, this first part is devoted entirely to field crops, and contains historical data for Canada and each of the provinces on area, yield, value, supply and disposition of principal field crops. In most instances statistics are shown for each commodity for all years from 1908-09 to the present.

It is anticipated that sections dealing with special crops, live stock and animal products, and farm finance statistics will be released at a later date. Copies of Part I of this handbook may be obtained on application to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at \$1.50 each. (Ref. Paper 1)

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, May (10 cents).
2. Trade of Canada: Domestic Exports -- Summary Bulletin -- April (20 cents).
3. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, April (10 cents).
4. Advance Statement on Employment and Weekly Earnings at April 1 (10 cents).
5. Estimates of Labour Income, January and February, 1951 (10 cents).
6. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, March (10 cents).
7. New Residential Construction, February (25 cents).
8. Sales of New Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Financing, April (25 cents).
9. Travel Between Canada and the United States, April (20 cents).
10. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
11. Dairy Statistics, 1950 (25 cents).
12. Refined Petroleum Products, February (25 cents).
13. Steel Ingots, April (10 cents).
14. Civil Aviation, December (10 cents).
15. Canal Statistics, 1950 (25 cents).
16. Slaughtering and Meat Packing Industry and the Sausage and Sausage Casings Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
17. The Macaroni and Kindred Products Industry, 1950 (15 cents).
18. The Musical Instrument Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
19. Canadian Statistical Review, April (35 cents).
20. The Dairy Factory Production, 1949 (50 cents).
21. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings, March (25 cents). (Summarized in D.B.S. Weekly Bulletin, No. 21, dated Saturday, May 26, 1951).

Memoranda

1. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, April (10 cents).
2. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
3. Advance Preliminary Statement on Butter, Cheese and Eggs, June 1 (10 cents).
4. Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas and Manufactured Gas, March (10 cents).
5. Production of Pig Iron and Steel, April (10 cents).
6. Stoves and Furnaces, March (10 cents).
7. Cement and Cement Products, March (10 cents).
8. Salt, March (10 cents).
9. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
10. Fur Production, 1949-50 (25 cents).

Reference Paper

1. Handbook of Agricultural Statistics -- Part I -- Field Crops (\$1.50).
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