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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

DOLLAR VOLUME OF WHOLESALE SALES was 23 per cent higher in April and the first four months of the year than in the same periods of 1950. The general unadjusted index, on the base 1935-39=100, was 340.9 for April, 333.6 for March, and 278.3 for April last year.

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COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES for the eight regional cities rose moderately between April 2 and May 1, higher prices for items included in the clothing, homefurnishings and services and miscellaneous series indexes being mainly responsible for the advances.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ended June 22 totalled 83,278 cars as compared with 79,996 in the preceding week, and 79,108 in the same week last year.

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PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY by central electric stations was one-fifth higher in April, amounting to 4,895,491,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 4,070,021,000 in April last year.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN CANADA -- not including Newfoundland -- continued to rise in April, totalling \$75,057,000 as compared with \$67,453,000 in the same month of 1950, a gain of 11 per cent. Cumulative sales for the first four months of the year rose to \$264,297,000, up 13 per cent over last year's figure of \$234,750,000.

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STARTS AND COMPLETIONS OF NEW DWELLING UNITS both were lower in number in March than a year earlier, but with increases in January and February, totals for the first quarter of this year moved above those a year earlier. There was a slight decline in the number under construction at the end of March.

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FACTORY SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN-MADE MOTOR VEHICLES in April totalled 41,060 units, 14 per cent below the all-time monthly peak of 47,779 in March, and compares with 26,386 in the same month last year. Cumulative shipments for the first four months of the year rose to 168,635 units from 115,101 in the like period of 1950.

THERE'S A JOB TO BE DONE IN '51

HELP CANADA COUNT

9TH DECENNIAL CENSUS

JUNE, 1951



COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES
FOR EIGHT REGIONAL CITIES

Cost-of-living indexes for the eight regional cities rose moderately between April 2 and May 1, higher prices for items included in the clothing, homefurnishings and services and miscellaneous series indexes being mainly responsible for the advances. An increase in electricity rates at Vancouver was reflected in a higher index for fuel and lighting. Food costs at all centres were lower, due largely to sharp recessions in butter prices from the preceding month. Meats were firmer at all centres except Vancouver, while eggs registered seasonal advances.

Composite city indexes for April and May 1951 and May 1950 are shown in the following table. The indexes show changes in retail prices and services in each city. They do not indicate whether it costs more or less to live in one city than another.

The following table comprises the latest city cost-of-living indexes:

	<u>May 1, 1950</u>	<u>April 2, 1951</u> (August 1939=100)	<u>May 1, 1951</u>
Halifax	155.5	169.2	169.4
Saint John	159.4	176.9	177.4
Montreal	166.2	186.3	187.2
Toronto	160.6	178.3	178.6
Winnipeg	159.3	175.6	175.7
Saskatoon	164.7	178.9	179.0
Edmonton	160.4	174.7	175.3
Vancouver	166.2	182.6	182.9

WHOLESALE TRADE ADVANCED 23 PER CENT
IN APRIL AND FOUR-MONTH PERIOD

Dollar volume of wholesale sales was 23 per cent higher in April and the first four months of the year than in the same periods of 1950. The general unadjusted index, on the base 1935-39=100, was 340.9 for April, 333.6 for March, and 278.3 for April last year. Value of inventories in the nine lines of trade surveyed at the end of April was also 23 per cent above a year earlier.

Automotive parts and accessories and hardware dealers led in the rate of sales increase in the month as well as in the January-April period, the former trade rising 54 per cent over April last year, and the latter by 42 per cent. Stocks on hand at the end of the month were up 33 per cent in value in the automotive trade and 24 per cent in the wholesale hardware trade.

Sales of tobacco and confectionery and dry goods wholesalers advanced 26 per cent and 25 per cent, respectively, while inventories in these trades rose 12 per cent and 20 per cent in value. Fruit and vegetable wholesalers' sales were two per cent lower in April than a year ago, while stocks on hand at the end of April were six per cent higher. (1)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
UP 11 PER CENT IN APRIL

Department store sales in Canada -- not including Newfoundland -- continued to rise in April, totalling \$75,057,000 as compared with \$67,453,000 in the same month of 1950, a gain of 11 per cent. Cumulative sales for the first four months of the year rose to \$264,297,000, up 13 per cent over last year's corresponding figure of \$234,750,000. Increased sales were recorded in all regions in the month except the Maritimes.

Ladies' apparel and accessory department sales rose to \$22,941,000 in April from \$22,065,000 a year ago, homefurnishings to \$5,358,000 from \$4,550,000, hardware and housewares to \$5,167,000 from \$4,061,000, food and kindred products to \$4,749,000 from \$4,716,000, furniture to \$4,275,000 from \$3,733,000, and major appliances to \$4,239,000 from \$2,713,000. Sales of men's clothing amounted to \$2,827,000 against \$2,811,000, men's furnishings \$2,652,000 against \$2,439,000, linens and domestics \$2,202,000 against \$1,797,000, sporting goods and luggage \$2,165,000 against \$1,912,000, boys' clothing and furnishings, \$2,158,000 against \$2,141,000, and piece goods \$2,121,000 against \$1,971,000.

Toiletries, cosmetics and drug department sales totalled \$1,525,000 compared with \$1,330,000 in April, 1950, smallwares \$1,416,000 compared with \$1,286,000, men's and boys' shoes \$1,336,000 compared with \$1,184,000, jewellery \$1,209,000 compared with \$1,000,000, radio and music \$932,000 compared with \$746,000, china and glassware \$830,000 compared with \$729,000, stationery, books and magazines \$805,000 compared with \$836,000, and photographic equipment and supplies \$186,000 compared with \$165,000.

Sales were as follows by provinces in April, totals for April last year being in brackets (figures in thousands): Maritimes, \$4,998 (\$5,212); Quebec, \$12,338 (\$11,268); Ontario, \$27,794 (\$25,085); Manitoba, \$11,442 (\$9,713); Saskatchewan, \$3,822 (\$3,214); Alberta, \$5,125 (\$4,399); British Columbia, \$9,538 (\$8,562). (2)

CHAIN STORE SALES AND
STOCKS IN APRIL

Sales of food stores, women's clothing stores and hardware stores were higher in April than in the same month last year, while shoe, drug and variety store sales were lower. Stocks advanced for each of the six types of chain stores except shoe.

The food store group had sales totalling \$48,688,000, an increase of 18.1 per cent over last year's April sales of \$41,226,000. Sales of women's clothing stores rose slightly to \$2,999,000 from \$2,996,000, while hardware store sales climbed 31.8 per cent to \$1,045,000 from \$793,000.

Variety store sales fell three per cent to \$11,434,000 from \$11,786,000 in April last year, shoe stores to \$2,630,000 from \$2,875,000, or by 8.5 per cent, and drug store sales were 1.6 per cent lower at \$2,159,000 against \$2,194,000. (3)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ended June 22 totalled 83,278 cars as compared with 79,996 in the preceding week, and 79,108 in the same week last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Cumulative loadings for the first 22 weeks of the year amounted to 1,706,324 cars, an increase of 10 per cent over last year's corresponding total of 1,552,422 cars. (Mem. 1)

STARTS AND COMPLETIONS OF NEW DWELLING UNITS IN MARCH AND FIRST QUARTER

Starts and completions of new dwelling units both were lower in number in March than a year earlier, but with increases in January and February, totals for the first quarter of this year moved above those of a year earlier. There was a slight decline in the number under construction at the end of March.

New dwellings completed during March totalled 5,859 as compared with 6,578 in the corresponding month last year, with increases in all regions except Ontario and British Columbia. The total for the first quarter of this year was higher at 19,521 as compared with 17,873 in the same period of 1950.

Starts in the month were 4,064 as against 4,169 a year earlier, only Ontario showing an increase. In the three-month period, starts totalled 9,801 against 9,015. Number under construction at the end of March was 49,294 compared with 50,161 last year.

In the three months both completions and starts were higher in Ontario, and British Columbia, but there were declines in the three Prairie Provinces. Completions were higher in Quebec, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, but there were fewer starts. In Nova Scotia completions were down but starts increased, and in New Brunswick there were declines in both starts and completions.

Completions in Ontario increased in the three months to 7,887 from 5,770 a year earlier, Quebec to 6,612 from 6,509, British Columbia to 1,942 from 1,471, Newfoundland to 220 from 82, and Prince Edward Island to 171 from 99. Total for Alberta was down to 1,178 from 1,690, Manitoba to 540 from 775, Saskatchewan to 269 from 367, Nova Scotia to 594 from 590, and New Brunswick to 308 from 520.

Starts in Ontario rose in the three months to 4,846 from 3,466, British Columbia to 1,109 from 916, and Nova Scotia to 177 from 157. Quebec's total was down to 2,922 from 3,572, Alberta to 413 from 472, New Brunswick to 100 from 130, Newfoundland to 154 from 161, Manitoba to 63 from 84, Saskatchewan to 13 from 43, and Prince Edward Island to four from 14. (4)

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS HIGHER IN MARCH

Births, marriages and deaths were higher in March and the first three months of the year than in the corresponding periods of 1950, according to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Births in March numbered 30,475 as compared with 28,993 a year earlier, bringing the cumulative total for the three months ending March to 84,091 from 81,231 in 1950. Gains were recorded in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Saskatchewan both in the month and three-month period.

Marriages in March increased to 5,205 from 4,610, and in the three months totalled 16,353 against 16,061. In the month advances were recorded in all provinces except Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and in the first quarter were higher in New Brunswick, Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia.

Deaths in March numbered 12,275 as against 10,330 in March, 1950, raising the three-month total to 33,461 from 29,958 a year ago. Alberta was the only province to register a decline in the month, but in the three months totals were lower in Nova Scotia and British Columbia. (5)

CROP CONDITIONS ACROSS CANADA Recent rains and more seasonable temperatures have improved the crop outlook in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, while in Alberta moisture supplies are ample but warmer weather is required to promote growth.

Development of early seeded fields is normal in Manitoba and hay, pastures and late seeded crops will benefit greatly by the rains. Rapid advancement is also expected in Saskatchewan, where depleted surface moisture was retarding the development of late seeded crops particularly. Wheat seeding is practically completed in all areas of Alberta with two to eight inches of growth showing. Coarse grains seeding is well advanced except in the extreme southwest, in the Brooks area and in some central and east-central sections. Warmer weather is now needed to promote growth which has been backward to date in many districts. Wireworms and cutworms have been causing some damage in Saskatchewan and Alberta, but cool weather has retarded development of grasshopper populations in all three of the Prairie Provinces.

The weather in British Columbia during the past two weeks has been generally warm with some scattered showers. Hay crops are spotty with cutting under way in some areas. Rain is needed on the Island, in the North Okanagan and Kamloops areas and around Prince George. Light hay crops are anticipated in these sections, but cereals are still doing well in most districts of the province. Strawberries in coastal regions are now moving in volume and vegetable crops are progressing satisfactorily. Cutworms have caused considerable damage in some localities.

Growing conditions throughout most of Ontario have been generally excellent during the past two weeks. Fall wheat is now headed in the southern part of the province and promises at least an average crop. Spring grain is making rapid progress after a rather late start and prospects for the hay crop are excellent. Ensiling of hay has already commenced and all haying operations are expected to be early this year. Planting of late-sown crops is practically completed and harvesting of early truck crops is well under way. Moisture conditions are reported to be excellent in eastern Ontario, but rain is needed in northern and parts of the western and southern sections. Insect damage to date has been fairly well localized.

Seeding is nearly finished in the province of Quebec and crops appear to be progressing favourably. Warmer weather is needed throughout the province and some areas require rain. Cool nights have retarded cereal growth and light frosts in scattered sections have caused some slight damage. The hay crop promises to be abundant throughout the province with the possible exception of some localities south of Montreal. Orchards and vegetable gardens are in better-than-average condition. Tobacco and other industrial crops are progressing normally.

Completion of seeding has been delayed in the Maritimes during the past two weeks due to wet weather. Pastures, hay and early seeded crops are making excellent progress. Some frost damage has occurred to small fruits in the Annapolis Valley but prospects for the apple crop are good. The outlook for stone fruits is poor. (6)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on May 31 amounted to 169,751,039 bushels, slightly below last year's corresponding total of 170,333,039 bushels. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week were more than double at 9,970,314 bushels as against 4,076,129 a year earlier, and in the cumulative period totalled 455,695,550 bushels compared with 410,083,555 in the same period of 1949-50.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending May 31 amounted to 4,605,143 bushels compared with 4,144,802 a year ago, and the aggregate for the crop year to date was 115,313,335 bushels as against 135,406,101 in 1949-50. (Mom. 2)

PRODUCTION OF BUTTER AND
CHEESE LOWER IN MAY

Production of creamery butter in May amounted to 28,476,000 pounds, slightly below last year's May total of 28,557,000 pounds, while in the first five months of the year output fell 10 per cent, totalling 70,631,000 pounds as against 78,852,000 in the like period of 1950.

Cheddar cheese production was down to 8,731,000 pounds from 10,945,000 in May last year, or by 20 per cent, and in the five-month period declined to 17,192,000 pounds from 20,990,000, or eight per cent.

Production of ice cream in May rose eight per cent in the month to 2,915,000 gallons from 2,693,000 a year earlier, and in the five months advanced 14 per cent to 8,555,000 gallons from 7,505,000.

The month's output of concentrated milk production was 25 per cent higher, amounting to 53,731,000 pounds as compared with 43,060,000 in May, 1950, and in the January-May period totalled 144,076,000 pounds against 126,419,000 in 1950, a rise of 14 per cent. (7)

FIELD SITUATION IN CANADA

Supplies of oats and barley -- the major Canadian food grains -- show a considerable improvement over the situation existing a year ago. Farm-held stocks of oats at March 31 were estimated at 193,100,000 bushels as against 124,800,000 a year ago, while barley stocks on farms were up from 46,300,000 bushels to 72,600,000. The relative increase in stocks in off-farm positions is even more pronounced. Visible supplies of oats on May 10 this year were 33,000,000 bushels, more than three times as large as in the two preceding years, while commercial barley stocks, at 36,100,000 bushels, were more than twice as large as in 1950 and 1949.

In the case of both farm and off-farm stocks there is a fairly heavy concentration in western Canadian positions. About 72 per cent of total farm-held oat stocks and 95 per cent of farm barley stocks at March 31 were in the three Prairie Provinces. On a proportional basis, this year's commercial stocks of oats and barley in western country elevators at May 10 do not differ markedly from a year ago. In both years approximately 45 per cent of the commercial oat supplies were in western country elevators while this year's proportion of barley in these positions, at 37 per cent, was somewhat higher than last year's 31 per cent. However, in terms of actual bushels, country elevators held more oats and almost as much barley as the entire commercial supplies of these grains in the two preceding years. (8)

STOCKS OF BUTTER AND CHEESE Stocks of creamery butter on June 1 amounted to 16,109,000 pounds as compared with 10,184,000 on May 1, and 32,179,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of cheddar cheese totalled 20,733,000 pounds as against 18,017,000 on May 1, and 37,207,000 on June 1 last year.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on June 1 rose to 11,440,000 pounds from 4,415,000 at the beginning of May, and 10,652,000 a year earlier, while the stocks of skim milk powder increased to 3,735,000 pounds from 2,361,000 on May 1, but were below last year's June figure of 5,401,000 pounds.

June 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, aggregated 392,000 cases compared with 307,000 on May 1, and 767,000 on June 1 last year. Holdings of poultry meat declined to 8,258,000 pounds from 10,214,000 on May 1, and 12,711,000 on June 1, 1950. (Mem. 3)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF MARGARINE Production of margarine was lower in May, amounting to 7,733,000 pounds as compared with 9,540,000 in April, and 8,019,000 in the same month last year. Despite the decline in the month, cumulative output for the first five months of the year rose to 47,499,000 pounds from 42,922,000 in the similar period of 1950. Stocks of margarine at the beginning of June totalled 3,359,000 pounds as against 3,845,000 on May 1, and 3,196,000 on June 1 last year. (Mem. 4)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF PROCESS CHEESE IN MAY Production of process cheese in May amounted to 2,874,000 pounds, eight per cent below the preceding month's figure of 3,109,000 pounds, but 13 per cent over the 2,552,000 pounds in May, 1950. Cumulative output for the first five months of the year was 16,323,000 pounds, a rise of seven per cent over the 15,213,000 pounds produced in the same period of 1950.

Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of May totalled 1,193,000 pounds compared with 1,172,000 at the end of April, and 1,071,000 at the end of May last year.

STOCKS OF MEAT ON JUNE 1 Stocks of meat held by packers, abattoirs, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses on June 1 amounted to 70,495,000 pounds as compared with 67,636,000 on May 1, and 74,705,000 on the corresponding date last year.

Holdings of frozen meat on June 1 rose to 40,811,000 pounds from 40,103,000 on May 1, but were below last year's June total of 44,054,000 pounds, while stocks of fresh meat amounted to 14,054,000 pounds compared with 13,595,000 on May 1, and 15,036,000 a year ago. Cured meat stocks increased to 15,630,000 pounds from 13,938,000 at the beginning of May, and 15,615,000 on June 1 last year. (Mem. 5)

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, on June 1 amounted to 22,547,000 pounds as compared with 24,416,000 on May 1 and 17,393,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, totalled 7,908,000 pounds as against 10,438,000 on May 1, and 5,129,000 on June 1 last year. (Mem. 6)

STOCKS OF RAW AND REFINED SUGAR Refinery stocks of raw sugar were slightly lower at the end of April than on the corresponding date last year, while holdings of refined were higher. Stocks of raw sugar amounted to 69,843,000 pounds as compared with 71,113,089, and refined stocks totalled 238,812,893 pounds against 159,891,744.

The amount of refined sugar manufactured during April was 67,028,691 pounds compared with 64,510,047 a year earlier. Receipts of raw sugar decreased to 73,308,136 pounds from 74,883,440, while the moltings and sales rose to 71,918,645 pounds from 69,640,223. (9)

PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY UP ONE-FIFTH IN APRIL Canadian production of electric energy by central electric stations was one-fifth higher in April than in the corresponding month last year, the month's output amounting to 4,895,491,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 4,070,021,000. This raised the cumulative total for the first four months of the year to 18,966,041,000 kilowatt hours from 16,116,669,000 in the like period of 1950, a rise of 17.6 per cent.

Consumption of primary power in April advanced 18 per cent to 4,227,187,000 kilowatt hours from 3,655,915,000 a year earlier, and in the first four months of the year to 16,972,555,000 kilowatt hours from 14,673,955,000, or by 15.6 per cent.

Gross exports of electric energy to the United States in April rose to 208,203,000 kilowatt hours from 190,634,000 in April last year, and in the four months to 766,407,000 kilowatt hours from 646,035,000. (10)

MOTOR VEHICLE SHIPMENTS IN APRIL Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles in April fell 14 per cent below the all-time monthly peak reached in March, but continued to rise over a year earlier. Both passenger cars and commercial vehicles were shipped in greater numbers than in April last year.

There were 41,060 passenger cars and commercial vehicles shipped in April as compared with 47,779 in March, and 26,386 in the same month last year, bringing the cumulative total for the first four months of the year to 168,635 units from 115,101 in the like period of 1950.

Shipments of passenger cars in the month advanced to 28,677 units from 18,875 a year ago, and commercial vehicles rose to 12,383 units from 7,511. In the four-month period, 121,007 passenger cars and 47,628 commercial vehicles were shipped as compared with respective totals of 84,183 and 30,918 a year earlier.

Vehicles for sale in Canada accounted for 37,651 of the month's total as compared with 24,104 in April, 1950, and in the January-April period aggregated 157,177 units against 106,635. Vehicles for export numbered 3,409 compared with 2,282, and in the four months totalled 11,458 units compared with 8,466. (11)

SALES OF ELECTRIC STORAGE BATTERIES April sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers rose in value to \$1,621,900 from \$1,040,000 a year earlier, and in the four months ended April to \$6,335,500 from \$4,488,800 in the same period of 1950. (Item 7)

PRODUCTION OF WASHING MACHINES AND
ELECTRIC REFRIGERATORS IN MARCH

than in the same periods of 1950, according to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Canadian manufacturers produced more washing machines and household electric refrigerators in March and the first three months of the year

The month's output of domestic-type washing machines was 29,903 units as compared with 20,592 a year earlier, and in the three months ended March totalled 87,625 against 65,536, a gain of 34 per cent. Factory shipments amounted to 29,525 compared with 21,608 in March last year, and in the quarter aggregated 84,837 against 61,110.

Production of electric refrigerators in March rose to 35,401 units, 32 per cent above the March, 1950 output of 26,795, bringing the cumulative total for the first quarter to 102,251 units, sharply above the 66,020 units produced in the same period of 1950. Factory shipments were also higher in both periods, increasing to 33,426 units in the month from 28,173, and in the three months to 98,617 units from 65,829. (Mem. 8)

SHIPMENTS OF PRIMARY SHAPES
SHARPLY LOWER IN MARCH

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 266,769 net tons in March as compared with 358,956 in the same month last year. This year's March shipments included 318 tons of semi-finished shapes, 15,778 tons of structurals, 20,218 tons of plates, 22,039 tons of rails, 9,692 tons of tie plates and track material, 49,902 tons of hot rolled bars, 20,985 tons of pipes and tubes, 26,357 tons of wire rods, 32,351 tons of black sheets, 10,408 tons of galvanized sheets, 10,627 tons of castings, and 43,841 tons of other rolled products. The amount of producers' interchange was 150,089 tons in March as against 111,798 a year earlier. (12)

COPPER, NICKEL AND ZINC OUTPUT
UP IN MARCH; SILVER AND LEAD LOWER

Canadian production of copper, nickel and zinc was higher in March than in the corresponding month last year, while output of silver and lead moved lower. Cumulative figures for the first three months of the year show gains for each of the five metals.

Canadian production of copper, nickel and zinc was higher in March than in the corresponding month last year, while output of silver

The month's output of copper amounted to 24,286 tons as compared with 22,234 in March last year; nickel, 11,434 tons compared with 9,291; lead, 12,632 tons compared with 13,080; zinc, 25,997 tons compared with 25,021; and silver, 1,754,661 fine ounces compared with 1,767,822.

First-quarter totals for the five metals were as follows, totals for the same period of 1950 being in brackets: copper, 67,379 (66,693) tons; nickel, 31,997 (29,072) tons; lead, 40,731 (33,602) tons; zinc, 76,924 (71,430) tons; and silver, 5,358,218 (4,348,921) fine ounces. (Mem. 9 and 10)

PRODUCTION OF STEEL WIRE, WIRE
FENCING AND NAILS IN MARCH

Production of wire fencing was lower in March and the first three months of the year than in the same periods of 1950, while output of wire nails was higher. Output of steel wire advanced in the month but declined in the three months. March output of steel wire amounted to 31,255 tons compared with 31,697 a year ago, wire fencing 1,837 tons compared with 1,872, and wire nails 7,571 tons compared with 7,488. First quarter output of steel wire totalled 92,349 tons against 86,733, wire fencing 5,459 tons against 5,848, and wire nails 21,989 tons against 21,136. (Mem. 11)

Production of wire fencing was lower in March and the first three months of the year than in the same periods of 1950, while output of wire nails was

SHIPMENTS OF ASBESTOS 27 PER CENT HIGHER IN APRIL

Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines in April totalled 86,767 tons, an increase of 27 per cent over last year's corresponding total of 68,730 tons. During the first four months of the year, 327,260 tons were shipped as against 252,219 in the similar period of 1950, a gain of 30 per cent.

Exports during the month amounted to 89,040 tons as compared with 55,700 in April last year, bringing the aggregate for the four months to 319,808 tons from 235,674 a year earlier. (Mem. 12)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF SALT HIGHER IN APRIL

Production and shipments of salt were both higher in April and the first four months of the year over the corresponding periods of 1950. The month's output amounted to 69,069 tons compared with 59,040 in April last year, raising the cumulative total for the four months to 284,001 tons from 236,110 in the similar period last year. Shipments in April rose to 66,397 tons from 55,555 a year earlier, and in the January-April period to 275,918 tons from 230,935. (Mem. 13)

PRODUCTION OF MINERAL WOOL

Production of mineral wool in April comprised 11,805,879 square feet of batts, 619,422 cubic feet of granulated wool, and 170,279 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool. Stocks of batts at the end of April amounted to 2,977,299 square feet, granulated wool, 432,197 cubic feet, and bulk or loose wool 111,789 cubic feet. (Mem. 14)

SALES OF PAINTS AND VARNISHES IN APRIL

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which account for all but a small percentage of the all-Canada total rose in April to \$9,749,300 from \$7,103,800 in the corresponding month last year, and in the four months the value rose to \$33,884,400 from \$24,617,700 a year earlier. (Mem. 15)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF GYPSUM WALLBOARD AND LATH

Production of gypsum wallboard in April amounted to 20,146,259 square feet, while the output of lath totalled 21,585,519 square feet. During the first four months of the year, 79,592,917 square feet of wallboard were produced, and the output of lath amounted to 84,266,043 square feet.

Shipments of wallboard in the month totalled 19,535,004 square feet, bringing the cumulative figure for the four months to 79,605,339 square feet. In April, 21,531,955 square feet of lath were shipped, and in the four-month period aggregated 83,964,238 square feet. (Mem. 16)

LEATHER FOOTWEAR PRODUCTION INCREASED IN MARCH

Leather footwear production rose in March to the highest level in two years, amounting to 3,412,300 pairs as against 2,966,700 in the preceding month and 3,211,600 in the corresponding month last year. There were increases also in January and February, and the cumulative total for the first three months of the year advanced to 9,190,900 pairs from 8,573,000 a year ago, or by seven per cent. (Mem. 17)

CANAL TRAFFIC UP SHARPLY IN APRIL Tonnage of cargo through all Canadian canals was up sharply in April this year over last, rising 72 per cent to a total of 1,980,673 tons. The season of navigation opened on April 8 on the St. Lawrence, two days earlier than last year, the Welland on March 29, one day sooner, while the Sault was delayed a week later to April 30 to permit completion of repairs to the retaining dam. United States locks at the Sault, however, were opened on April 2 or 20 days earlier than last year.

Total freight through the Sault Ste. Marie canals -- Canadian and United States locks -- totalled 8,025,132 tons as compared with only 144,382 in April last year and 12,030,022 tons in 1949. Eastbound traffic aggregated 6,965,856 tons against 25,695 in April last year and westbound totalled 1,059,276 tons against 118,687.

April was the opening month for the movement of Canadian crude oil from the outlet of the Prairie pipeline at Superior, Wisconsin, to the refineries at Sarnia.

An active month was reported on the Welland Ship canal as 1,536,514 tons of freight were locked compared with 838,725 in April last year, and 1,425,684 tons in April, 1949. Traffic on the St. Lawrence canals totalled 436,806 tons in April compared with 285,457 a year ago, and 511,244 in the same month of 1949. (14)

TUBERCULOSIS INSTITUTIONS IN CANADA There was an increase of nine per cent in the number of tuberculous patients admitted to sanatoria and other hospitals which had facilities for their care and treatment in 1948 as compared with 1947, according to the annual report on tuberculosis institutions released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The total number of admissions during the year was 16,326, of whom 15,278 were tuberculous, the latter figure being up 1,308 over the preceding year. New cases admitted to sanatoria in 1948 numbered 9,541, accounting for 58.4 per cent of total admissions, and 4,231 or 25.9 per cent were re-admissions. Reviews and transfers accounted for the remainder.

There were 15,116 tuberculous discharges and deaths during the year, of whom 13,066 were discharged and 2,050 died while hospitalized. Those discharged whose condition was arrested or apparently arrested numbered 3,345 or 25.6 per cent of the total, and the quiescent totalled 3,856 or 29.5 per cent of the total. Number cured on discharge was 136.

The daily average number of patients under care in sanatoria and tuberculosis units rose to 13,243 from 12,125 in 1947, and the total days' care increased to 4,783,604 from 4,432,187. Bed capacity of these institutions was 14,512 as against 14,355 in 1947.

There were 522,882 examinations given at tuberculosis clinics in 1948, and 1,613,496 persons were examined for tuberculosis by mass surveys conducted by various tuberculosis and health organizations. Of a total of 249,295 first examinations held in clinics in 1948, 10,910 or 4.4 per cent were found to have tuberculous condition. (14)

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. Wholesale Trade, April (10 cents).
2. Department Store Sales and Stocks, April (15 cents).
3. Chain Store Sales and Stocks, April (10 cents).
4. New Residential Construction, January 1 to March 31, 1951 (25 cents).
5. Births, Marriages and Deaths, March (10 cents).
6. Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada (10 cents).
7. Dairy Factory Production, May (10 cents).
8. Coarse Grains Quarterly, May (25 cents).
9. The Sugar Situation, April (10 cents).
10. Central Electric Stations, April (10 cents).
11. Motor Vehicle Shipments, April (10 cents).
12. Primary Iron and Steel, March (25 cents).
13. Summary of Canal Traffic, April (10 cents).
14. Annual Report of Tuberculosis Institutions, 1948 (50 cents).
15. The Cordage, Rope and Twine Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
16. The Iron Castings Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
17. The Machinery Industry, 1949 (25 cents).
18. Trade of Canada: Exports -- Detailed Summary -- March (50 cents).
19. Trade of Canada: Imports -- Detailed Summary -- March (50 cents).

Memoranda

1. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
 2. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
 3. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, June 1 (10 cents).
 4. Margarine Statistics, May (10 cents).
 5. Stocks of Meat, Lard and Tallow, June 1 (10 cents).
 6. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, June 1 (10 cents).
 7. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, April (10 cents).
 8. Domestic Washing Machines and Electric Refrigerators, March (10 cents).
 9. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, March (10 cents).
 10. Copper and Nickel Production, March (10 cents).
 11. Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, March (10 cents).
 12. Asbestos, April (10 cents).
 13. Salt, April (10 cents).
 14. Mineral Wool, April (10 cents).
 15. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, April (10 cents).
 16. Gypsum Products Industry, April (10 cents).
 17. Production of Leather Footwear, March (10 cents).
 18. Oils and Fats, April (10 cents).
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