

# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

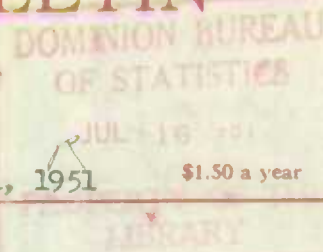
*Dominion Bureau of Statistics*

OTTAWA - CANADA

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\$1.50 a year



CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS filed in May totalled 56,430, a decline of 29 per cent from last year's May total of 71,619.

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STEEL INGOT PRODUCTION was maintained at a high level in May, the month's output amounting to 302,900 tons as compared with 301,800 in the preceding month and 283,800 in the corresponding month last year.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ended June 30 reached a new record of 86,036 cars, a gain of 13,428 cars or 18.5 per cent over the revised total of 72,608 cars in the same week last year.

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PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY by central electric stations in May crossed the five-billion kilowatt hour mark for the first time. The new monthly peak total was 5,130,278,000 kilowatt hours, up 15 per cent over last year's corresponding output of 4,425,140,000.

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NUMBER OF NEW DWELLING UNITS COMPLETED in Canada during May and the five months ending May increased over the same periods of 1950, but the number started in May was down from a year ago, lowering the total for the five months. The number under construction at the end of May also fell below a year earlier.

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LANDINGS OF SEA-FISH IN CANADA -- not including Newfoundland -- were 3.8 per cent lower in May, amounting to 142,498,000 pounds as compared with 148,136,000 in May last year. The landed value in the month, however, was 2.9 per cent higher at \$8,526,000 as against \$8,288,000.

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SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN-MADE MOTOR VEHICLES in May rose to 42,911 units from 41,060 in April and 35,281 in May last year. The month's total was the second highest on record, exceeded only by the figure of 47,779 for March this year.

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SALES OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES in May numbered 36,446 units as compared with 40,645 a year ago, a decline of 10 per cent, while the retail value of this year's May sales rose 14 per cent to \$92,573,530 from \$81,113,607 last year.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES rose one per cent in June over the corresponding month last year, according to preliminary figures.

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REVISION OF THE COST-OF-LIVING INDEX

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has made considerable progress towards the revision of the cost-of-living index. During the past several months an extensive program of revising the index to conform to post-war expenditure patterns has been underway. In taking this action the Bureau is following internationally recognized practice, which calls for thorough periodic examination of price index numbers. In Canada, this will be the fourth major revision in indexes of consumer prices since they were first published about forty years ago. Retail price series have been published relating to base periods of 1900, 1913, 1926 and the present base of 1935-1939.

Detailed expenditure records, secured in 1948 and 1949 from approximately 3,100 representative families throughout urban Canada, constitute the basis of the current revision. Tabulations of what these families told the Bureau about the kinds and quantities of goods and services they purchased are now nearly complete, and a list of items to be included in the new index is being prepared. The expenditure data being used relates to a twelve-month period when transition to a peace-time economy was reasonably complete. A survey taken earlier than 1948-1949 would have resulted in expenditures abnormally high for items formerly in short supply, and low for others not moving in normal volume.

Most of the work thus far undertaken has been in connection with analysis of expenditure records, but during the course of revision all phases of index construction will be examined. Problems such as index scope and formula, price sampling, seasonal price variation and shelter costs of homeowners will be investigated, and tests will be made wherever possible with new statistical techniques.

The new series will not be called the "Cost-of-Living Index". Its new title will likely be "Consumer Price Index", to indicate that it measures price change only. The purpose and general character of the new series will remain the same, the sole reason for changing the name being to clarify the purpose it serves. The term "cost-of-living index" has proved to be misleading to some people, although it has been generally understood to mean an index of retail price change. Along with the change in title, a more up-to-date post-war base period will be adopted in place of the present 1935-1939 base.

During the coming months, it is the Bureau's intention to seek advice concerning the index from independent experts, and as soon as sufficient progress has been made on some of the more technical details, to discuss it with interested organizations. Depending on the progress of the preparatory work and such discussions and consultations, publication will be made early in 1952.

FEWER CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS IN MAY

Initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance benefits filed in May totalled 56,430, a decline of 29 per cent from last year's May total of 71,619. At the end of the month 88,897 ordinary claimants signed the live unemployment register as against 146,453 a year earlier. The sum of \$5,660,433 was paid in respect of 2,323,200 proven unemployed days in May as against \$9,586,658 for 4,004,678 days in May last year.

There were fewer initial and renewal claims than in May last year in all provinces except Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island. Total for Quebec fell from 24,522 a year ago to 20,584, Ontario from 19,239 to 16,936, Manitoba from 8,717 to 2,670, British Columbia from 8,118 to 6,795, Nova Scotia from 3,992 to 2,948, New Brunswick from 3,249 to 2,963, Alberta from 2,305 to 1,489, and Saskatchewan from 968 to 599. Number in Newfoundland rose from 346 to 1,281, and in Prince Edward Island from 163 to 165. (1)

INCREASE IN DWELLINGS COMPLETED  
BUT NUMBER STARTED DOWN

The number of new dwelling units completed in Canada during May and the five months ending May increased over the same periods of 1950, according to the monthly estimate by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, but the number started in May was down from a year ago, lowering the total for the five months. The number under construction at the end of May also fell below a year earlier.

New units completed in May numbered 6,876 as compared to 6,171 in May last year, raising the total for the January-May period to 32,085 as against 29,441 in 1950. Completions were higher in May in Quebec, Ontario and the Prairie Provinces, and down in the other provinces. In the five months, completions were greater in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. The largest gain in both periods was in Ontario.

Starts in May totalled 11,699 units, down 1,948 units as compared to 13,647 a year ago, increases being shown only in Newfoundland and Ontario. In the five months, starts declined by 1,143 units to 28,951 as against 30,084 last year, with increases in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Ontario and Manitoba.

At the end of May there were 55,903 dwelling units under construction as against 58,130 at the same date last year. Totals were higher in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Alberta.

Completions in the five months in Ontario totalled 13,585 as against 9,925; Quebec, 10,053 as against 9,934; Prairie Provinces, 3,736 (4,678); British Columbia, 2,934 (2,723); Maritime Provinces, 1,368 (1,876); and Newfoundland, 409 (305). Starts in the period were: Ontario, 12,242 as compared to 9,306; Quebec, 9,105 (11,588); Prairie Provinces, 3,764 (4,696); British Columbia, 2,495 (2,724); Maritime Provinces, 1,031 (1,480); and Newfoundland, 314 (290). (2)

MOTOR VEHICLE SHIPMENTS  
ADVANCED IN MAY OVER APRIL

Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles in May increased moderately over April, when shipments fell off from the all-time monthly peak in March, and were substantially greater than in May last year. Most of both gains was in vehicles for sale in Canada. Shipments of vehicles from the United States were down from April but showed a small increase over a year ago, while sales of British-made vehicles declined sharply in both comparisons.

Total shipments of Canadian-made vehicles rose to 42,911 units in May compared with 41,060 in April and 35,281 units in May last year, the month's total being the second highest on record, exceeded only by the figure of 47,779 for March this year. With large gains every month over last year, cumulative shipments to the end of May this year reached 211,546 units compared to 150,382 in the same period of 1950.

Shipments of both passenger cars and commercial vehicles were larger in May than in April and May last year, but most of the total gains in both comparisons was in passenger cars. May shipments of passenger cars totalled 30,295 units as against 28,677 in April and 24,648 in May, 1950, the number for sale in Canada increasing to 27,961 in May as compared to 26,304 in April and 22,108 in May last year. In the five months, shipments of passenger cars aggregated 151,302 compared with 108,831 in the 1950 period, with 140,942 against 100,384 for sale in Canada.

Commercial vehicles shipped in May increased to 12,616 from 10,633 units a year earlier, the number for sale in Canada rising to 11,887 from 9,655. Total for the five months was 60,244 as against 41,551 units last year, the number for domestic sale rising to 56,083 compared to 38,024 units and for export to 4,161 compared to 3,527 units.

Shipments of vehicles imported from the United States increased in May to 1,962 from 1,783 a year earlier, and from January to May were up to 11,281 against 8,142 units in 1950, passenger cars gaining to 9,439 compared to 6,268 units. Preliminary figures show sales of British-made vehicles during May down to 2,901 units from 7,578 a year ago, and sales in the five months ending May of 18,903 passenger cars and 1,467 trucks and buses as compared to 24,909 and 1,769, respectively, in the same 1950 period. (3)

SALES AND FINANCING OF  
MOTOR VEHICLES IN MAY

Sales of new motor vehicles in May were down in number from last year but up in retail value, the decrease in number occurring in passenger cars. Financing of new car sales also declined in the month both in number and financed value, but the financing of used vehicles was higher both in number and amount of financing.

New motor vehicles sold in the month numbered 36,446 units as compared to 40,645 a year ago, a decline of 10 per cent, while the retail value of this year's May sales rose 14 per cent to \$92,573,530 from \$81,113,607 last year.

Cumulative sales for the five months ending May amounted to 208,858 new vehicles valued at \$499,364,312 as compared to 170,051 units retailed for \$341,-845,385 in the corresponding period of 1950, an increase of 23 per cent in number and 46 per cent in value.

Passenger car sales in May were down 15 per cent in number to 25,842 units compared to 30,436 units last year. Retail value of passenger cars sold, however, rose 11 per cent to \$67,122,786 from \$60,396,601. A special analysis of May sales by the Bureau indicates that the decline in number of passenger cars sold occurred in sales of British models, which were 65 per cent below a year ago, while sales of Canadian and American makes were up one per cent.

In the first five months this year, there were 157,979 new passenger cars retailed for \$382,050,843, gains over the same period of last year amounting to 21 per cent in number and 47 per cent in value.

Sales of new trucks and buses in May numbered 10,604 with a retail value of \$25,450,744 as compared to 10,209 at \$21,717,006 a year earlier, an increase of four per cent in number and 17 per cent in value. Cumulative sales of commercial vehicles for the five months were up 31 per cent in number and 43 per cent in value.

There were 11,314 new motor vehicles financed to the extent of \$16,717,611 in May, a decline of 16 per cent in number and 10 per cent in value from last year's May figures of 13,503 units financed for \$18,502,851. New passenger car financing accounted for this decrease, the number of passenger cars financed decreasing 28 per cent to 6,890 from 9,588 a year ago and the amount of financing 27 per cent to \$9,114,011 from \$12,477,090. New commercial vehicle financing rose 13 per cent to 4,424 units from 3,915 and the amount of financing 26 per cent to \$7,603,600 from \$6,025,761.

The number of used vehicles financed in May increased 15 per cent to 29,025 as compared to 25,173 units, while the financed value rose three per cent to \$17,073,855 from \$16,532,217. The number of used passenger cars financed was up 11 per cent to 23,162 from 20,867 units. (4)

PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY  
UP SHARPLY IN MAY

Production of electric energy by central electric stations continued to climb in May, crossing the five-billion kilowatt hour mark for the first time. The new monthly peak total was 5,130,278,000 kilowatt hours, up 25 per cent over last year's corresponding output of 4,425,140,000. With similar gains from January to April, the cumulative total for the first five months of the year rose to 24,096,-319,000 kilowatt hours from 20,541,809,000 a year earlier or by 17 per cent.

Consumption of primary power -- production less exports and secondary power -- moved up in May to 4,407,377,000 kilowatt hours from 3,803,521,000 a year earlier, and in the five months advanced to 21,379,932,000 kilowatt hours from 18,477,476,-000. Gross exports to the United States in the month rose to 231,344,000 kilowatt hours from 199,351,000, and in the five months to 997,751,000 kilowatt hours from 845,388,000.

Gains in output were shown by all provinces both in the month and five months. May output in Quebec -- largest producer -- rose to 2,776,567,000 kilowatt hours from 2,488,625,000, and in the five months to 12,583,447,000 kilowatt hours from 10,962,051,000. Production in Ontario rose in May to 1,477,398,000 kilowatt hours from 1,144,817,000, and in the five months to 6,986,877,000 kilowatt hours from 5,407,340,000. British Columbia's total increased to 364,202,000 in May from 338,-893,000, and in the January-May period to 1,846,236,000 kilowatt hours from 1,739,-912,000.

May production in Manitoba advanced to 212,703,000 kilowatt hours from 181,-392,000, bringing the five-month total to 1,159,462,000 kilowatt hours from 1,051,-264,000. Alberta's output for the month was 76,199,000 kilowatt hours as against 66,232,000, and in the five months aggregated 390,867,000 kilowatt hours against 343,844,000. In Saskatchewan, 76,078,000 kilowatt hours were produced in May compared with 70,794,000, and in the January-May period totalled 397,748,000 kilowatt hours against 370,163,000.

Production in Nova Scotia amounted to 71,736,000 kilowatt hours in May against 63,830,000, and 358,842,000 in the five months against 317,790,000. The month's output in New Brunswick was 64,267,000 kilowatt hours against 60,877,000, and for the five months totalled 314,205,000 against 298,004,000. In Newfoundland 9,322,-000 kilowatt hours were produced in May against 8,051,000, and in the five months aggregated 49,177,000 kilowatt hours against 42,995,000. (5)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES  
UP ONE PER CENT IN JUNE

Department store sales rose one per cent in June over the same month last year, according to preliminary figures. Sales in Saskatchewan showed the largest gain of 16 per cent, followed by Alberta with a rise of 11 per cent, and Manitoba and British Columbia each up four per cent. In the Maritimes, sales fell five per cent, Ontario four per cent, and remained unchanged in Quebec.

PRODUCTION OF LEATHER FOOTWEAR

Canadian production of leather footwear was 23 per cent higher in April, amounting to 3,287,061 pairs as compared with 2,680,938 in the same month last year. This raised the cumulative total for the first four months of this year to 12,477,-975 pairs, a rise of 11 per cent over last year's corresponding figure of 11,253,963. (Men. 1)

CROP CONDITIONS IN PRAIRIE PROVINCES

With some exceptions, crop prospects in the Prairie Provinces are very promising. Rain is now urgently needed in southern sections of Manitoba and is required to replenish surface moisture supplies in central and western Saskatchewan and in east-central and north-eastern Alberta. Cool, wet weather has minimized grasshopper damage in most forecast areas. Warmer weather is needed in most of Saskatchewan and Alberta to advance crop growth which is considerably later than normal.

The crop outlook continues to be generally favourable in Manitoba although rain is very urgently needed at most points in the southern half of the province, especially in the eastern portion and southeast of Brandon. Most early seeded fields are headed. Lower yields are now expected from late seedings in drier areas. Sugar beet thinning is now completed and haying has commenced. Apart from dry weather there has been a minimum of damage to crops.

Although grain crops in Saskatchewan are somewhat later than normal warmer weather during the past week greatly assisted crop development and conditions are now generally comparable with last year. Warm weather and further rains, however, are required to maintain current favourable prospects. Oats and barley are about 11 inches high and wheat averages about 14 inches, with about 58 per cent in the shot blade and five per cent headed. Subsoil moisture conditions are generally satisfactory but rains are required in central, west-central and north-western areas to replenish surface moisture supplies. Cutworm and wireworm damage, which was fairly widespread and heavier than last year, is now lessening and grasshopper damage has been slight.

Crops are still late in Alberta but conditions remain favourable in most areas. Rains last week improved prospects in the Peace River District while scattered showers have partially relieved the dry conditions which have prevailed in east-central and northeast sections during most of the season. More rain, however, is needed in these areas. Cool, wet weather and control operations have discouraged grasshopper activity. Haying is under way but not far advanced. Summerfallow conditions are generally good to excellent and live stock conditions satisfactory. Wheat stands are from six to 20 inches in height in many fields now in the shot blade. Warm weather is still the main requirement in most parts of the province. (6)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on June 28 amounted to 168,787,470 bushels as compared with 170,906,624 a week earlier, and 100,764,650 in the same week last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week aggregated 7,131,036 bushels against 4,269,763 a year earlier, bringing the cumulative total for the crop year to date to 331,897,321 bushels from 300,526,475 in the similar period of 1949-50.

Overseas expert clearances of wheat during the week ending June 28 rose sharply to 6,030,445 bushels from 3,638,745 a year ago, but in the cumulative period fell to 137,151,416 bushels from 152,781,499 in 1949-50. (Mem. 2)

OUTPUT OF CREAMERY BUTTER DOWN SEVEN PER CENT IN SIX MONTHS; ONE PER CENT IN JUNE

Canadian production of creamery butter declined seven per cent in the first six months of this year as compared with the same period of 1950, and there was a slight decrease of one per cent in June. The recession in production has been continuous for 18 months.

Output in the half year was 110,672,000 pounds as against 119,079,000, and in June totalled 40,041,000 pounds against 40,227,000. Reversing the downward trend of previous months, the domestic disappearance of creamery butter (based on preliminary figures) advanced to approximately 24,250,000 pounds as against 22,500,000 in June last year, but in the six months the total was down to 122,548,000 pounds from 124,204,000.

Half-year output of cheddar cheese fell from 39,292,000 pounds last year to 31,376,000, and in June was down from 18,302,000 pounds to 14,184,000. Ice cream production in the six months rose from 10,773,000 gallons to 11,855,000, and in June was higher at 3,300,000 gallons against 3,268,000.

Output of concentrated milk products in the six months rose from 183,101,000 pounds to 209,940,000, and in June advanced from 56,682,000 pounds to 65,864,000. (7)

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STOCKS OF BUTTER AND CHEESE Stocks of creamery butter on July 1 amounted to 32,112,000 pounds as compared with 16,298,000 on June 1, and 49,905,000 on the same date last year. Holdings of cheddar cheese totalled 26,860,000 pounds against 20,998,000 on June 1, and 38,702,000 on July 1 last year.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on July 1 rose to 36,189,000 pounds from 11,204,000 at the beginning of June, and 25,513,000 a year earlier, and the stocks of skim milk powder increased to 6,572,000 pounds from 3,886,000 on June 1, but were below last year's July 1 figure of 6,660,000 pounds.

July 1 stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, advanced to 415,000 cases from 390,000 on June 1, but fell sharply from the July 1, 1950 figure of 853,000 cases. Holdings of poultry meat declined to 7,821,000 pounds from 8,228,000 on June 1, and 11,601,000 on July 1 last year. (Mem. 3)

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PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF MARGARINE Production of margarine in June amounted to 7,380,000 pounds as compared with 7,733,000 in the preceding month, and 6,115,000 in the same month last year. Cumulative output for the first six months of this year totalled 54,879,000 pounds, almost 12 per cent above last year's corresponding figure of 49,037,000 pounds. Stocks of margarine at the beginning of July declined to 3,311,000 pounds from 3,851,000 on June 1, and 3,587,000 on July 1, 1950. (Mem. 4)

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PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF PROCESS CHEESE IN JUNE Production of process cheese in June amounted to 3,327,000 pounds, an increase of 16 per cent over the revised May figure of 2,879,000 pounds, and 33 per cent over the 2,503,000 pounds produced in June, 1950. Cumulative output for the first half of this year was 19,654,000 pounds as compared with 17,716,000 a year earlier, a gain of 11 per cent. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of June totalled 1,266,000 pounds compared with the revised figure of 1,197,000 pounds at the end of May, and 1,238,000 pounds at the end of June last year.

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STOCKS OF MEAT ON JULY 1 Stocks of meat held by packers, abattoirs, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses were lower on July 1, amounting to 62,901,000 pounds as compared with 70,219,000 on June 1, and 70,982,000 on July 1 last year.

Holdings of frozen meat on July 1 totalled 34,094,000 pounds compared with 40,767,000 on June 1, and 41,219,000 a year earlier, and the stocks of fresh meat amounted to 13,032,000 pounds against 13,757,000 at the beginning of June, and 12,778,000 on July 1, 1950.

Cured meat stocks increased to 15,775,000 pounds from 15,695,000 on June 1, but were below last year's July 1 total of 16,985,000 pounds. (Mem. 5)

LANDINGS AND LANDED VALUE OF SEA-FISH IN MAY Landings of sea-fish in Canada -- not including Newfoundland -- were 3.8 per cent lower in May, amounting to 142,498,000 pounds as compared with 148,136,000 in May last year. The landed value in the month, however, was 2.9 per cent higher at \$8,526,000 against \$8,288,000. Cumulative landings for the first five months of this year totalled 411,690,000 pounds compared with 400,932,000 in the same period of 1950, and the value aggregated \$17,427,000 against \$16,110,000.

On the Atlantic coast both the catch and landed values were lower in May than a year earlier, the largest decrease occurring in the Quebec herring fishery. Landings of all species in the month fell to 121,490,000 pounds from 132,716,000 in May last year, and the value to \$5,553,000 from \$6,080,000. Despite the decline in the month, landings and landed value were higher in the five months, the former rising to 235,966,000 pounds from 207,386,000 in 1950, and the latter to \$11,711,000 from \$11,314,000. On the East coast, the lobster catch in the five-month period totalled 21,483,000 pounds, three per cent above the 20,863,000 pounds caught a year ago, but the catch value was 9.4 per cent lower at \$3,502,000 against \$4,242,000. Landings of cod were greater both in volume and value than in 1950.

Pacific coast landings of all species in May aggregated 21,008,000 pounds with a value of \$2,973,000 compared with 15,447,000 pounds at \$2,208,000 in May, 1950. In the January-May period, the catch fell to 175,724,000 pounds from 193,546,000, while the value advanced to \$5,716,000 from \$4,796,000. (8)

OUTPUT OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GASOLINE IN APRIL Canadian production of crude petroleum and natural gasoline was 20 per cent higher in April, the month's output amounting to 2,448,894 barrels as compared with 2,045,699 in April last year. This brought the cumulative total for the first four months of this year to 10,739,236 barrels, 28 per cent above last year's corresponding figure of 8,359,718 barrels.

Alberta's output in April amounted to 2,332,108 barrels as against 1,916,589 a year earlier, and in the four months totalled 10,180,358 barrels compared with 7,930,574 in 1950. In Saskatchewan, 67,180 barrels were produced against 85,162 in April, 1950, and in the four-month period totalled 371,422 barrels against 298,510.

Production in the Northwest Territories in April rose to 36,831 barrels from 27,581 a year ago, and in the four months ending April was sharply higher at 123,753 barrels compared with 47,906. Output in Ontario in the month was down to 12,659 barrels from 15,001 in April last year, and in the January-April period to 58,865 barrels from 77,202. Production in New Brunswick was also lower in both comparisons, the month's output falling to 1,116 barrels from 1,366 in April, 1950, and in the four months declined to 4,838 barrels from 5,526. (Mem. 6)



OUTPUT OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS  
IN MARCH AND FIRST QUARTER

Canadian production of refined petroleum products increased 16.5 per cent in March over the corresponding month last year and in the first quarter advanced 14.4 per cent. Receipts of crude at the refineries were up eight per cent in the month and 19 per cent in the quarter.

Production of all petroleum products in March amounted to 8,142,256 barrels as compared with 6,989,009 a year earlier, and in the quarter totalled 24,011,965 barrels against 21,014,884. Receipts of crude in March were 7,766,865 barrels against 7,188,606, and for the quarter amounted to 24,038,208 barrels against 20,199,028.

Receipts of domestic crude were slightly lower in the month at 2,215,249 barrels against 2,262,114, but were higher in the quarter at 6,911,690 barrels against 6,064,313. Receipts of imported crude in March were up to 5,551,616 barrels from 4,926,492, and in the quarter advanced to 17,126,518 barrels from 14,134,715.

Refinery production in the Maritimes and Quebec in March rose to 3,479,319 barrels from 2,459,382, and in the quarter to 10,193,848 barrels from 8,416,729. March production in Ontario increased to 1,871,606 barrels from 1,783,679, and in the three months to 5,320,649 barrels from 5,100,463.

March production in Alberta and the Northwest Territories rose to 1,220,916 barrels from 1,259,535, and in the three months to 3,612,661 barrels from 3,367,101. Saskatchewan's total for the month was 790,191 barrels compared with 719,730 (2,573,770 in the quarter against 1,854,885); Manitoba, 136,908 barrels against 136,178 (471,653 against 393,478); and British Columbia, 644,378 barrels against 632,153 (1,843,014 barrels against 1,886,355). (9)

PRODUCTION OF STEEL INGOTS  
AT HIGH LEVEL IN MAY

Steel ingot production was maintained at a high level in May, the month's output amounting to 302,900 tons as compared with 301,800 in the preceding month and 283,800 in the corresponding month last year. This raised the cumulative total for the first five months of the year to 1,479,600 tons from 1,380,200 in the similar period of 1950. On a daily basis the average output for May was 9,772 tons against 10,059 a month earlier and 9,155 last year. (10)

PRODUCTION OF WIRE NAILS AND  
STEEL WIRE AND WIRE FENCING

Production of wire nails, steel wire and wire fencing was 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.

The month's output of wire nails in April totalled 7,075 tons as compared with 6,792 a year earlier, and in the four months amounted to 29,064 tons against 27,928 in 1950. Production of steel wire rose to 33,027 tons from 26,946 in April last year, and in the four months ending April advanced to 115,376 tons from 113,679.

Production of wire fencing aggregated 2,277 tons in April as against 1,699 in April, 1950, and was slightly higher in the January-April period at 7,736 tons compared with 7,547. (Mem. 7)

SHIPMENTS OF ASBESTOS  
UP 30 PER CENT IN MAY

Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines rose 30 per cent in May and the first five months of this year over the corresponding periods of last year. The month's shipments totalled 93,241 tons as compared with 71,772 in May, 1950, bringing the cumulative figure for the five-month period to 420,501 tons from 323,991 in the same months of 1950. Exports in May amounted to 83,235 tons compared with 73,859 a year ago, and in the January-May period totalled 403,043 tons against 309,563 in 1950. (Mem. 8)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF  
PORTLAND CEMENT IN MAY

Production of Portland cement by Canadian manufacturers was higher in May and the first five months of this year than in the same periods of 1950, while shipments were lower in the month but rose in the five months.

The month's output amounted to 1,524,840 barrels as compared with 1,444,585 in May last year, raising the cumulative total for the five months ending May to 6,928,023 barrels from 6,382,005 in 1950. Shipments in May aggregated 1,880,084 barrels against 2,134,881 a year earlier, and in the January-May period amounted to 6,588,551 barrels compared with 6,193,228. (Mem. 9)

PRODUCTION OF GYPSUM WALLBOARD,  
LATH AND SHEATHING IN MAY

Production of gypsum wallboard in May amounted to 19,023,988 square feet, lath 20,070,908 square feet, and sheathing 1,339,246 square feet. During the first five months of this year, 98,616,905 square feet of wallboard were produced, lath 104,336,951 square feet, and sheathing 2,838,414 square feet. (Mem. 10)

CANAL TRAFFIC IN MAY  
GREATER THAN IN 1950

Freight moving through Canadian canals during May advanced to 3,698,216 tons, a gain of 2.5 per cent over last year's May total of 3,609,322 tons and the largest volume since 1942 when a total of 3,946,215 tons was recorded. Gains over a year earlier were shown on the Sault Ste. Marie and St. Lawrence canals, while volume on the Welland eased slightly due mainly to lighter corn and coal movements.

Freight through both United States and Canadian Sault locks during May grossed 16,352,113 tons, well above the average volume for the month over the last 10 years. The advance over May last year was nearly 2,840,000 tons or 21 per cent, with the gain confined to eastbound traffic which rose from 10,901,243 to 14,362,571 tons. Westbound volume declined 621,489 tons to 1,989,442 tons, due to reduced soft coal shipments. Eastbound traffic was featured by gains in pulpwood, iron ore, and stone, and the addition of western crude oil, which totalled 209,462 tons against none in May last year. Wheat was lighter and the movement of other grain eased.

Traffic volume on the Welland Ship canal was slightly under a year earlier, with a total of 1,820,426 tons against 1,872,166 tons. Gains were shown in the movement of barley, rye, wheat, pulpwood, paper, coke, iron ore and sand, while corn, oats, flour, gasoline and petroleum, sugar, woodpulp, coal and miscellaneous freight were down.

May was an active month on the St. Lawrence canals with traffic at 1,468,693 tons, up 10.5 per cent over May last year. (11)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ended June 30 reached a new record of 86,036 cars, a gain of 13,428 cars or 18.5 per cent over the revised total of 72,608 cars in the same week last year. For the first half of the current year, revenue freight loaded at Canadian stations rose to 2,049,525 cars -- a new peak for the period -- against 1,867,071 in the same weeks last year, and compares with the previous high in 1948 when loadings to July 3 were 1,934,305 cars. (Mem. 11)

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON URBAN AND INTERURBAN TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Traffic volume on transit systems across Canada continued lower in March, the total number of passengers on urban and interurban lines being 138,653,000, a decline of 6,460,000 or four per cent from the same month last year. Urban services had 130,303,155 fares against 136,317,468 in March last year, while interurban passenger traffic eased from 8,795,513 to 8,349,996.

Fare advances helped to offset declining traffic and total receipts rose to \$13,194,712, up \$298,459 or 2.3 per cent over March, 1950. Urban earnings were slightly lower at \$9,741,441 against \$9,851,815, but interurban receipts gained \$408,833 to \$3,453,271. (12)

DOMESTIC ELECTRICITY SERVICE COSTS

Domestic electricity service costs averaged higher in 1950 than in the three previous years, but were below earlier years, according to index numbers compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The all-Canada figure, on the 1935-39 base as 100, was 90.01 compared with 85.67 in 1949, 85.35 in 1948, 84.78 in 1947, and 102.99 in 1941.

There were increases over the preceding year in the indexes for Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, and Saskatchewan, and declines in Manitoba and British Columbia. Indexes for Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Alberta were unchanged.

The index for Nova Scotia advanced from 78.27 in 1949 to 87.40, Quebec from 84.19 to 84.64, Ontario from 81.65 to 90.78, and Saskatchewan from 96.98 to 97.98. Manitoba's index fell from 97.71 to 97.35, and that for British Columbia from 102.25 to 102.23. The index for Prince Edward Island at 77.32, New Brunswick at 85.35, and Alberta at 67.80 were unchanged. (13)

SALES OF PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS

Sales of pest control products by Canadian registrants in 1950 were valued at \$15,427,717, a gain of 8.5 per cent over the 1949 total of \$14,202,290, according to returns received from about 468 registrants estimated to account for at least 95 per cent of the total sales of these products in Canada.

Three of the six groups covered in this survey reported a substantial increase in sales in 1950 as compared with a year earlier. Sales of household and industrial insecticides showed the largest gain, advancing 28.4 per cent to \$2,342,597 from \$1,824,897 in 1949. Weedicides were up 23.2 per cent to \$5,762,669 compared with \$4,676,403, and livestock treatments were 16.5 per cent higher at \$623,626 compared with \$535,437.

Sales of disinfectants declined 9.2 per cent to \$1,869,976 from \$2,042,446 in 1949, agricultural dusts and sprays were down 5.8 per cent to \$4,661,416 from \$4,946,010, and rodenticides fell 5.5 per cent to \$167,433 from \$177,097. (Mem. 12)

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. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, May (25 cents).
2. New Residential Construction, January 1 to May 31, 1951 (25 cents).
3. Motor Vehicle Shipments, May (10 cents).
4. Sales of New Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Financing, May (25 cents).
5. Central Electric Stations, May (10 cents).
6. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
7. Dairy Factory Production, June (10 cents).
8. Canadian Fisheries Statistics, May (30 cents).
9. Refined Petroleum Products, March (25 cents).
10. Steel Ingots, May (10 cents).
11. Summary of Canal Traffic, May (10 cents).
12. Transit Report, March (10 cents).
13. Index Numbers of Cost of Electricity for Domestic Service, 1950 (25 cents).
14. The Fur Goods and Fur Dressings Industries, 1949 (25 cents).
15. Annual Report on Current Benefit Years Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, Calendar Year 1948 (40 cents).
16. Imports for Consumption -- Detailed Report -- (50 cents).

Memoranda

1. Production of Leather Footwear, April (10 cents).
  2. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
  3. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, July 1 (10 cents).
  4. Margarine Statistics, June (10 cents).
  5. Stocks of Meat, Lard and Tallow, July 1 (10 cents).
  6. Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas and Manufactured Gas, April (10 cents).
  7. Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, April (10 cents).
  8. Asbestos, May (10 cents).
  9. Cement and Cement Products, May (10 cents).
  10. Gypsum Products, May (10 cents).
  11. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
  12. Sales of Pest Control Products by Canadian Registrants, 1950 (25 cents).
  13. Salt, May (10 cents).
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