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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS rose in December to \$289,900,000 from \$285,500,000 in December, 1949, and estimated total imports advanced to \$266,200,000 from \$215,400,000. Domestic exports to the United States rose to \$191,500,000 as against \$159,800,000, and to the United Kingdom declined to \$39,600,000 compared to \$49,900,000. Estimated imports from the United States amounted to \$182,600,000 as compared to \$151,000,000, and from the United Kingdom to \$32,000,000 as against \$20,800,000.

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INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT, weekly payrolls and average weekly wages and salaries were at new peak levels at the beginning of November.

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CANADA'S RETAIL TRADE increased 10 per cent in November over the corresponding month in 1949, and aggregate sales for the first 11 months of 1950 increased six per cent over the level of the corresponding period of 1949.

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DOLLAR VOLUME OF WHOLESALE SALES in November declined four per cent from October, but was seven per cent higher than in November, 1949. Cumulative sales for the first 11 months of the year rose five per cent above the volume in the corresponding period of 1949.

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PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON AND STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS moved higher in November and the first 11 months of 1950 compared with the same periods of 1949, while output of ferro-alloys was larger in the month but smaller in the cumulative period.

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FACTORY SHIPMENTS OF CANADIAN-MADE MOTOR VEHICLES in November advanced to 30,322 units, up 54 per cent over the same month of 1949, and for the 11 months totalled 360,098, up 36 per cent.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ending January 13 reached a record total of 78,708 cars, nearly 20 per cent over last year's corresponding total of 65,667 cars.

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FREIGHT TRAFFIC THROUGH CANADIAN CANALS in November advanced to a new record for the month at 3,280,000 tons, an increase of 31 per cent over the November, 1949 total of 2,504,563 tons.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF
FOREIGN TRADE IN DECEMBER

A summary of foreign trade figures for December released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shows a small advance in Canada's total domestic exports to \$289,900,000 from \$285,500,000 in December, 1949, and an increase in estimated total imports to \$266,200,000 compared to \$213,400,000. Domestic exports to the United States rose to \$191,500,000 as against \$159,800,000, and to the United Kingdom declined to \$39,600,000 compared to \$49,900,000. Estimated imports from the United States amounted to \$182,600,000 as compared to \$151,000,000, and from the United Kingdom to \$32,000,000 as against \$20,800,000.

The import figures are only preliminary and therefore subject to revision. Final and detailed figures of imports will not be available for about three weeks. Those for exports will be issued in a few days.

The preliminary figures on the month's foreign trade are summarized in the following table:-

	<u>December, 1949</u>		<u>December, 1950</u>	
	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Foreign</u>	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Foreign</u>
	(Millions of Dollars)			
<u>Exports -</u>				
United Kingdom	49.9	0.3	39.6	0.4
Other Commonwealth countries	26.8	0.1	17.0	0.2
United States	159.8	1.9	191.5	2.8
Other foreign countries	49.0	0.4	41.8	0.2
Total, all countries	<u>285.5</u>	<u>2.7</u>	<u>289.9</u>	<u>3.6</u>
<u>Imports -</u>				
United Kingdom	20.8		32.0	
Other Commonwealth countries	9.3		19.6	
United States	151.0		182.6	
Other foreign countries	32.3		32.0	
Total, all countries	<u>213.4</u>		<u>266.2</u>	

** Estimate only. Subject to revision.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

	<u>Jan. 18, 1951</u>	<u>Jan. 11, 1951</u> (1935-39=100)	<u>Dec. 21, 1950</u>
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
(106 Common Stocks)	158.9	155.2	148.4
82 Industrials	157.7	154.2	146.6
16 Utilities	152.8	147.5	143.6
8 Banks	157.5	156.7	152.6
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
(30 Stocks)	104.1	99.3	89.6
25 Golds	73.1	67.6	60.7
5 Base Metals	166.6	163.8	148.2

HEAVY CANADIAN BUYING ABROAD
PRODUCES IMPORT SURPLUS IN NOVEMBER

Canada's merchandise imports continued at buoyant levels during November, showing another substantial gain in value and volume over a year earlier and increasing slightly over the record October figure to reach a new all-time peak. Purchases were up over a year earlier from the United States, United Kingdom, and each main area of the other Commonwealth and foreign countries.

Commodity exports in the month, on the other hand, declined in value from October and were only fractionally higher than in November, 1949, with gains to the United States, Latin America and Europe largely offset by decreases to the United Kingdom, and the other Commonwealth and foreign countries.

Net result of the month's trade was a substantially larger import surplus on overall account than recorded in October and import surpluses with the United States, United Kingdom, other Commonwealth countries and other foreign countries as a group.

Total imports in November were valued at \$327,900,000, up from \$320,600,000 in October and 37 per cent above the value of \$239,600,000 for November, 1949. Domestic and foreign exports totalled \$296,400,000 as compared to \$318,900,000 in October and \$295,500,000 a year earlier. The result was an import balance of \$31,500,000 compared to the small debit balance of \$1,700,000 for October and an export surplus of \$55,900,000 in November, 1949.

With November imports showing the seventh consecutive monthly increase and the eighth in the year, total imports in the 11 months were up 14 per cent to \$2,908,000,000 from \$2,547,800,000 in the corresponding period of 1949, while total exports increased slightly less than five per cent to \$2,863,600,000 as compared to \$2,734,200,000. At the end of November there was an aggregate import surplus of \$44,400,000 in contrast with an export surplus of \$186,400,000 for the first 11 months of 1949.

Imports from the United States in November rose to a new peak value of \$214,800,000 from \$208,300,000 the previous month and were 32 per cent above the previous year's November value of \$162,700,000. Total export shipments across the border were valued at \$195,100,000, down moderately from \$207,400,000 in October but up from \$173,600,000 a year earlier. There was thus an increased debit balance of \$19,700,000 as against a debit balance of only \$900,000 the previous month and the exceptional export surplus of \$10,900,000 in November, 1949.

Aggregate imports from the United States in the 11 months rose eight per cent to \$1,948,200,000 from \$1,800,900,000 for the like 1949 period, while total exports, with gains in every month, rose 36 per cent to \$1,856,200,000 from \$1,362,300,000. The import surplus thus fell sharply to \$92,000,000 from \$438,500,000.

Imports from the United Kingdom were again up substantially in value to \$40,200,000 as compared to \$26,500,000 the previous November, and total domestic and foreign exports again sharply lower at \$38,800,000 as against \$57,200,000, producing an import surplus of \$1,400,000 in contrast with an export balance of \$30,700,000 a year earlier. In the 11 months, imports from the United Kingdom increased nearly 30 per cent in value from \$286,700,000 to \$372,200,000, and total exports dropped about one-third from \$659,100,000 to \$432,600,000, the credit balance for the period dropping to \$60,400,000 from \$372,400,000.

Imports by Countries

There were increases in the value of each of the nine main commodity groups of imports from the United States both in the month and 11 months. Largest gains in the month were recorded for the iron products and non-metallic minerals group, and in the 11 months for non-metallic minerals, agricultural and vegetable products, and chemicals and allied products.

November imports from the United States of iron and its products -- largest of the groups -- were valued at \$73,860,000 as compared with \$53,191,000 a year earlier, followed by non-metallic minerals at \$45,905,000 compared with \$34,438,000, fibres and textiles at \$19,688,000 compared with \$11,515,000, agricultural and vegetable products at \$19,430,000 compared with \$17,384,000. Chemicals and allied products increased to \$12,897,000 from \$11,232,000, non-ferrous metals to \$13,453,000 from \$11,829,000, wood and paper to \$8,985,000 from \$7,646,000, animals and animal products to \$6,138,000 from \$4,177,000, and miscellaneous commodities to \$14,414,000 from \$11,316,000.

Purchases from the United Kingdom were higher in seven and lower in two main groups both in the month and 11 months. In November there were declines only in agricultural and vegetable products and non-metallic minerals, while in the cumulative period fibres and textiles and miscellaneous commodities were lower.

The iron products group of imports from the United Kingdom, which includes automobiles, principal group of the nine and up most sharply over November 1949, totalled \$15,595,000 compared with \$7,420,000. The fibres and textiles group, also substantially higher, amounted in value to \$10,320,000 compared with \$6,454,000. Non-ferrous metals were next in order with a value of \$3,180,000 compared with \$2,873,000, followed by agricultural and vegetable products at \$2,833,000 against \$3,318,000, non-metallic minerals at \$2,560,000 against \$2,764,000, miscellaneous commodities \$2,426,000 against \$1,998,000, chemicals and allied products \$1,840,000 against \$1,231,000, animals and animal products \$1,007,000 against \$614,000, and wood and paper products \$391,000 against \$259,000.

Imports from all other Commonwealth countries in November moved up to \$29,974,000 from \$18,595,000 a year earlier and in the 11 months advanced to \$221,849,000 from \$177,429,000. There were marked gains in purchases in November from British Guiana, British East Africa, Gold Coast, India, Federation of Malaya, Australia and New Zealand.

Purchases from Latin American countries rose in November for the fifth successive month, being valued at \$20,270,000 as compared with \$18,751,000 a year earlier, and in the 11 months aggregated \$197,635,000 against \$171,716,000. November imports were sharply higher from Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela, but there were lower totals for Colombia, Cuba and Mexico.

Imports from Europe were almost doubled in the month at \$15,116,000 as against \$8,340,000 a year earlier and advanced in the 11 months to \$93,955,000 as against \$78,598,000. Among the individual sources of supply there were marked increases from Belgium and Luxembourg, France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands, and a slight decline from Switzerland.

Mainly due to large purchases of petroleum and products from Arabia and the Netherlands Antilles, imports from the remaining foreign countries rose in November to \$7,235,000 from \$4,451,000, and in the 11 months to \$72,041,000 against \$30,506,000.

Imports by Main Commodities

Total imports of iron and its products, leading group among the commodities, again moved sharply higher, rising in November to \$92,900,000 from \$61,400,000 a year earlier, and in the 11 months to \$905,700,000 from \$831,500,000. There were large gains in the month in rolling-mill products, pipes, tubes and fittings, non-farm machinery, and automobiles and parts. Farm implements and machinery were lower.

Non-metallic minerals as a group moved up in value in November to \$64,100,000 from \$47,200,000, and rose to \$562,500,000 in the 11 months from \$489,300,000. Gains in coal and petroleum accounted for a large part of the increases.

Agricultural and vegetable products as a group were valued at \$52,400,000 in November as against \$45,200,000 a year earlier, and in the 11 months aggregated \$439,700,000 as against \$344,400,000 in the like period of 1949. There were gains in the month in fruits, sugar, coffee, tea, vegetable oils and rubber, and declines in alcoholic beverages and nuts.

Fibres and textiles advanced in November to a value of \$38,179,000 from \$25,443,000 a year earlier, and in the 11 months to \$329,002,000 from \$308,592,000. Raw cotton, cotton products, wool and wool products, and artificial silk were among the larger increases.

The non-ferrous metals group rose in November to \$23,900,000 from \$18,648,000, and in the 11 months to \$196,279,000 from \$159,942,000. Chemicals advanced in November to \$16,219,000 from \$13,141,000 and to \$146,272,000 in the 11 months from \$118,905,000.

Large purchases of hides and skins and animal oils and greases were main factors in raising the animals and animal products group value in November to \$11,220,000 from \$6,152,000. The 11-month aggregate rose to \$78,549,000 from \$68,747,000.

Wood and paper group in November rose in value to \$10,000,000 from \$8,300,000, and in the 11 months advanced to \$92,000,000 from \$79,500,000. The miscellaneous commodity group was valued at \$18,900,000 in November against \$14,200,000 a year earlier and in the 11 months totalled \$158,000,000 against \$147,000,000. Large items in the group were Canadian tourists' purchases, scientific equipment, and refrigerators and parts. (1 and 2)

RETAIL SALES MARKEDLY HIGHER IN NOVEMBER

Canada's retail trade increased 10 per cent in November over the corresponding month in 1949. This was the second largest increase recorded in 1950, being exceeded only by a rise of 13 per cent in August. Aggregate sales for the first 11 months of 1950 increased six per cent over the level of the corresponding period of 1949. All provinces shared in the sales advance in the month, while in the cumulative period only Saskatchewan showed a fractional decline.

Seventeen of the 20 trades reported increased sales in November. Outstanding among these was the 49 per cent gain in motor vehicle dealers' sales, indicating a continuation of the strength in consumer demand for this line of durable goods. Garage and filling stations sales were 10 per cent higher, food store sales nine per cent, fuel dealers seven per cent, and department and country general stores six per cent each.

Declines in sales in the month were recorded in jewellery store sales which were down eight per cent, while furniture store sales decreased six per cent and women's clothing three per cent.

Regionally, Manitoba and Alberta registered the largest sales gains in November with a rise of 13.6 per cent and 13.4 per cent, respectively, followed by Ontario up 10 per cent and Quebec up 9.8 per cent. Sales in British Columbia increased by 8.6 per cent, Saskatchewan 7.4 per cent, and the Maritime Provinces 3.7 per cent. (3)

WHOLESALE SALES IN NOVEMBER

Dollar volume of wholesale sales in November declined four per cent from October, but was seven per cent higher than in November, 1949. Cumulative sales for the first 11 months of the year rose five per cent above the volume in the corresponding period of 1949.

The general unadjusted index, on the base average for 1935-39=100, stood at 326.9 for November as compared with 339.4 for October and 306.7 for November, 1949.

There were increases in all provinces in November over a year earlier, the largest percentage gain being recorded in British Columbia where sales were 11 per cent higher. Increases ranging from five per cent and eight per cent were recorded for the other regions of the country.

Hardware, dry goods and automobile equipment sales, which have shown the greatest advances during the past few months, continued to lead in November. Hardware and dry goods wholesalers' sales were each 14 per cent above November, 1949, while wholesalers of automotive equipment advanced 13 per cent. Among the other trades, drug wholesalers' sales rose eight per cent; footwear and clothing, six per cent; groceries, three per cent; and fruits and vegetables, three per cent. A decline of less than one per cent was recorded by tobacco and confectionery wholesalers. (4)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND WEEKLY PAYROLLS AT NEW PEAK LEVELS

Industrial employment, weekly payrolls and average weekly wages and salaries were at new peak levels at the beginning of November, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The employment index, at 210.5, was 0.3 per cent above October 1 and 4.2 per cent higher than at November 1, 1949. The payrolls index stood at 248.1 as against 245.3 in October and 224.8 a year earlier, and weekly salaries and wages averaged \$46.39 against \$45.99 in October and \$45.80 in November, 1949.

Employment was higher than at October 1 in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan where the gains ranged from 0.4 per cent in Manitoba to 0.9 per cent in Quebec. The losses recorded in the other five older provinces were moderate; those in the Maritime area were contra-seasonal in character, while that in British Columbia conformed to the seasonal pattern. The situation in Newfoundland showed little general change. Firms in six of the 23 cities for which information is regularly segregated reported smaller staffs. The trend in the remaining centres was favourable. On the whole, the fluctuations were not large.

There was generally lessened activity in manufacturing, transportation, construction and hotels and restaurants. On the other hand, improvement was noted in logging, mining, communications and trade. The gain in logging, amounting to 16.2 per cent, was less than usual for the time of year. The index in that industry, however, was exceeded at November 1 only in the period, 1946-48, and in 1947 in a record of 30 years. The increase from October 1 in communications was contra-seasonal. The changes in the remaining classes generally followed the seasonal pattern. (5)

MAN-HOURS AND HOURLY EARNINGS

Average hourly earnings and average weekly wages of hourly-rated wage-earners in leading Canadian manufacturing industries rose to new peak levels during the week ending November 1. There were slight declines from a month earlier in aggregate hours worked and in the number of hourly-rated wage-earners.

Average hourly earnings at November 1 in all manufacturing industries amounted to 106.2 cents as compared with 105.3 cents at October 1 and 99.5 cents a year earlier, while average weekly wages stood at \$45.67 compared with \$45.17 in October and \$42.59 in November, 1949. The average work-week was 43.0 hours compared with 42.9 a month earlier and 42.8 a year ago. (6)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP 18 PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales rose 18 per cent during the week ending January 13 over the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures. There were increases in all provinces, British Columbia leading with a gain of 27 per cent. Quebec followed with a rise of 23 per cent, Ontario 21 per cent, Alberta 18 per cent, Manitoba five per cent, the Maritimes four per cent, and Saskatchewan three per cent.

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on January 19 this year amounted to 20,273,000 pounds as compared with 36,055,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings were lower in seven of the nine centres, totals for Saskatoon and Edmonton being higher. Stocks were as follows by cities on January 19, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (thousands omitted): Quebec, 1,131 (1,864) pounds; Montreal, 5,817 (11,304); Toronto, 1,552 (8,324); Winnipeg, 6,473 (8,627); Regina, 529 (756); Saskatoon, 331 (238); Edmonton, 2,835 (2,443); Calgary, 387 (1,036); Vancouver, 673 (1,461).

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF
WHEAT AND COARSE GRAINS

Marketings of wheat by farmers in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending January 11 were more than double the amounts delivered in the corresponding week last year, and with smaller overseas export clearances the visible supplies of Canadian wheat in North America were 38 per cent higher.

Marketings amounted to 3,878,629 bushels as compared with 1,903,005 a year earlier, and the overseas export clearances totalled 1,511,083 bushels as against 3,302,605, while the stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight on January 11 aggregated 224,905,599 bushels as compared with 163,155,973.

The following quantities of coarse grains were also delivered from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending January 11, totals for the same week in 1950 being in brackets: oats, 1,660,511 (515,157) bushels; barley, 1,252,110 (303,174); rye, 72,802 (45,387); flaxseed, 26,529 (1,723). (Mem. 1)

PRODUCTION OF EGGS
INCREASED IN 1950

Estimated production of eggs in Canada in the calendar year 1950 totalled 353,434,000 dozen as compared with 343,858,000 in 1949, according to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In December, 30,266,000 dozen were produced as against 30,562,000 in the same month of 1949. (Mem. 2)

MOTOR VEHICLE SHIPMENTS
UP SHARPLY IN NOVEMBER

Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles in November advanced sharply by 54 per cent over the same month of 1949, and during the first 11 months of 1950 were 36 per cent above the level of the corresponding period of the previous year.

Shipments of made-in-Canada vehicles increased in November to 30,322 units from 19,721 a year earlier, bringing the 11-month aggregate to 360,098 units from 264,713.

Shipments of Canadian-made passenger cars in the month numbered 23,420 units and of commercial vehicles 6,902 units as compared with 13,900 and 5,821 respectively in November, 1949. January-November shipments of passenger cars rose to 261,270 units from 173,927 in 1949 and of commercial vehicles to 98,828 from 90,786 units.

November shipments of Canadian vehicles for use in this country amounted to 21,433 passenger and 5,785 commercial vehicles as compared with 12,699 and 4,729 respectively in November, 1949. The January-November shipments of passenger cars for use in Canada increased to 239,584 from 158,487 units in 1949, and of commercial vehicles to 90,091 from 78,528 units.

November shipments of vehicles imported from the United States amounted to 1,106 units and in the 11 months to 4,854 units, while sales of British-made vehicles numbered 3,171 units and 62,176 units in the corresponding periods.

Shipments in the month of Canadian-made passenger cars for export rose to 1,987 units from 1,201 in November, 1949, while the 11-month total was up to 21,686 units from 15,440. Shipments of commercial vehicles for export advanced in November to 1,117 units from 1,092 a year earlier, but decreased to 8,737 units from 12,258 in the cumulative period. (7)

SALES OF RADIO AND TV SETS IN OCTOBER

Producers' sales of radio receiving sets, including television units, were higher in October and in the first 10 months of 1950 than in the corresponding periods of 1949. The overall gain was 18.5 per cent in the month and 13 per cent in the cumulative period.

Sales in October amounted to 85,293 units valued at \$8,905,431 as compared with 71,967 units at \$6,336,289 a year earlier, and in the 10 months totalled 602,276 units valued at \$52,377,008 as against 532,880 at \$39,696,785.

Sales of television sets in October continued to advance both over the preceding month and a year earlier. Increases were also recorded in sales of standard broadcast electric models, combination standard electric broadcast, frequency modulation and short wave sets, while sales of automobile sets, portable models and battery sets declined.

There were 4,293 television sets sold in the month as compared with 3,939 in September, and 874 in October, 1949. In the first 10 months of 1950 producers sold 19,183 units. Statistics on the sales of TV sets were first collected by the Bureau in September, 1949, and the total for four months, ended December of that year, was 4,163. Most of the TV sets were sold in Ontario. (8)

SHIPMENTS OF ASBESTOS IN NOVEMBER

Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines in November declined seven per cent from the all-time monthly peak reached in the preceding month, but were 16 per cent higher than in November, 1949. During the first 11 months of the year, shipments rose sharply above the similar period of 1949.

Shipments in the month amounted to 89,678 tons as compared with the peak figure of 96,610 recorded in October, and 77,354 in November, 1949, bringing the cumulative total for the 11-month period to 799,183 tons as against 512,465 in 1949. (9)

SHIPMENTS OF PRIMARY IRON AND STEEL SHAPES HIGHER IN OCTOBER

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, were higher in October, amounting to 257,802 net tons as compared with 254,682 in the preceding month. October shipments included 18,724 tons of semi-finished shapes, 19,127 tons of structurals, 15,500 tons of plates, 19,654 tons of rails, 4,224 tons of tie plates and track material, 44,555 tons of hot rolled bars, 22,048 tons of pipes and tubes, 23,903 tons of wire rods, 29,052 tons of black sheets, 8,103 tons of galvanized sheets, 6,853 tons of castings, and 12,903 tons of other rolled products. The amount of producers' interchange was 123,547 tons in October as against 123,643 in September. (10)

PRODUCTION OF GYPSUM WALLBOARD, LATH AND SHEATHING IN 1950

Production of gypsum wallboard in the full year 1950 amounted to 227,398,173 square feet, lath 218,916,263 square feet, and sheathing 5,259,144 square feet. In December, 17,396,128 square feet of wallboard were produced, 19,679,091 of lath, and 61,288 of sheathing. (Item. 3)

PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON
AND STEEL IN NOVEMBER

Canadian production of pig iron and steel ingots and castings moved higher in November and the first 11 months of 1950 compared with the same periods of 1949, while output of ferro-alloys was larger in the month but smaller in the cumulative period.

The month's output of pig iron amounted to 208,301 net tons as compared with 157,327 in November, 1949, bringing the aggregate for the 11-month period to 2,111,563 net tons as against 1,982,350 in the same months of 1949.

Production of steel ingots and castings in November totalled 289,488 net tons compared with 259,722 a year earlier. Cumulative output for the 11 months ending November totalled 3,092,889 net tons as compared with 2,922,981 in 1949.

November output of ferro-alloys increased to 16,920 net tons from 14,758 a year ago, but was lower in the 11 months at 166,234 net tons as against 199,750 in the like 1949 period. (Mem. 4)

OUTPUT OF REFINED PETROLEUM
PRODUCTS HIGHER IN OCTOBER

Canadian output of refined petroleum products increased 14 per cent both in October and the first 10 months of 1950 over the corresponding periods of 1949. Receipts of crude oil were up nine per cent in the month and 10 per cent in the cumulative period.

October production amounted to 9,518,549 barrels as compared with 8,325,642 a year earlier, bringing the 10-month aggregate to 84,004,043 barrels as against 73,796,178 in 1949. Receipts of crude oil in the month totalled 9,889,452 barrels and in the 10 months totalled 88,039,889 barrels as against 9,050,965 and 80,202,255 barrels in respective periods of 1949. (11)

SALES OF ELECTRIC STORAGE BATTERIES
HIGHER IN NOVEMBER AND 11 MONTHS

Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers were higher in November and the first 11 months of the year than in the corresponding periods of 1949. The month's sales totalled \$1,969,128, an increase of 27 per cent over the November, 1949 figure of \$1,545,928. In the January-November period, sales were nine per cent above a year earlier, amounting to \$15,721,784 as against \$14,490,080. (12)

PRODUCTION OF ASPHALT ROOFING MATERIALS

Production of asphalt shingles, mineral and surfaced roll roofing, and roll type sidings was lower in December than in the corresponding month of 1949, while the output of smooth surfaced roofing in rolls, tar and asphalt felts, and sheathing was higher. In the year 1950 the production of roll type sidings was lower than in 1949 while the output of all other types of asphalt roofing was higher.

Production of asphalt shingles in the calendar year amounted to 2,431,618 squares as compared with 2,140,395 in 1949, smooth and mineral surfaced roofing in rolls 2,088,073 squares as against 1,997,889, tar and asphalt felts 48,458 tons against 39,853, and tar and asphalt sheathing 16,903 tons against 14,609. Production of roll type sidings in 1950 totalled 371,431 squares against 390,588. (Mem. 5)

PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER
EAST OF THE ROCKIES

Production of sawn lumber east of the Rockies, excluding sawn ties, was higher in November and the first 11 months of 1950 than in the same periods of 1949. Increased production was recorded in the month in all provinces except Manitoba, while in the cumulative period totals were lower for New Brunswick, Quebec and Saskatchewan.

The month's output amounted to 83,254 M feet board measure as compared with 59,053 M in November, 1949. In the 11 months ending November, 2,500,857 M feet board measure were produced against 2,463,869 M in the same period of 1949.

Output was as follows by provinces in November, totals for the same month of 1949 being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 874 (525) M feet board measure; Nova Scotia, 12,410 (8,048); New Brunswick, 3,629 (2,251); Quebec, 26,714 (22,868); Ontario, 23,206 (16,348); Manitoba, 397 (772); Saskatchewan, 1,380 (690); Alberta, 14,644 (7,551). (13)

STOCKS OF RAW HIDES AND SKINS

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers at the end of November amounted to 357,267, a decrease of 16 per cent from 423,938 a year earlier. Calf and kip skins totalled 512,485 compared with 585,115, goat and kid skins 81,277 against 61,326, horse hides 33,040 against 23,789, and sheep and lamb skins 53,483 dozen against 49,288.

Production of cattle sole leather in the month decreased to 1,442,786 pounds from 1,749,579 in November, 1949, while output of upper leather increased to 4,207,494 square feet from 3,780,991, calf and kip skin upper leather to 1,037,561 square feet from 963,117, and glove and garment leather to 488,061 square feet from 434,092. (Mem. 5)

CANAL TRAFFIC AT RECORD FOR NOVEMBER

Freight traffic through Canadian canal systems during November advanced to a new record for the month at 3,279,726 tons, an increase of 31 per cent over the November, 1949 total of 2,504,563 tons. Commodities showing large gains in total over a year earlier included wheat, barley, pulpwood, soft coal, coke, iron ore, sand, autos and parts and petroleum.

Traffic through the combined systems of the Sault Ste. Marie canals -- Canadian and United States locks -- rose sharply to 10,876,102 tons from 3,548,422 in November, 1949. The marked advance was principally in downbound iron ore and upbound soft coal. Total tonnage eastbound was 9,037,757 tons compared with 2,369,860, while westbound volume totalled 1,178,562 tons compared with 1,836,345.

Traffic on the Welland Ship canal in November amounted to 1,666,431 tons -- a new peak for the month -- as against 1,279,347 a year ago. Volume on the St. Lawrence canals was also at a new record, the tonnage rising to 1,245,732 against 924,708 in November, 1949. (14)

RAILWAY REVENUES AT NEW MONTHLY PEAK IN OCTOBER

Operating revenues of Canadian railways reached a new monthly peak total in October of \$92,517,046, an increase of 15 per cent over the October, 1949 figure of \$80,570,413. Heavier traffic, increased freight rates and credit for mail pay contributed to the advance over the preceding year.

Freight revenues were at a new maximum for the month of \$77,109,865, an advance of \$11,118,351 over October, 1949. Passenger fares increased to \$6,005,860 from \$5,744,529. All operating expense accounts were increased with maintenance of way and structures up four per cent to \$14,104,501, and maintenance of equipment charges advanced 12 per cent to \$16,629,507. Transportation expenses totalled \$35,259,672, a gain of \$742,763. Total operating expenses amounted to \$72,355,021 -- a new record for the month -- as compared with \$69,049,604 in October, 1949.

Railway tax accruals were \$3,440,213, or \$1,931,029 above a year ago. Hire of equipment declined \$367,902 to \$743,145, while joint rents were up \$39,101 to \$164,423. The resulting operating income was \$15,814,244 against \$8,775,255 one year earlier, and the highest for any October since 1928. Operating income for the first 10 months of 1950 was \$60,203,451, sharply above the \$14,983,563 shown for the same period of 1949, and the largest since 1945 when \$90,833,052 was earned to the end of October.

Total pay roll for 184,817 employees advanced to \$44,851,613 compared with 180,725 employees earning \$41,884,772 in October, 1949. (15)

RAILWAY FREIGHT TRAFFIC IN SEPTEMBER

Revenue freight carried by Canadian railways in September amounted to 13,375,891 tons, a rise of 3.2 per cent over the 12,964,757 tons transported a year earlier, bringing the nine-month total to 103,224,387 tons, a decline of two per cent from 105,320,089 tons in the corresponding period of 1949.

Freight loaded at Canadian stations in September amounted to 9,950,170 tons, while 3,425,721 tons were received from foreign connections, of which 2,095,982 tons were imports for domestic use and 1,329,739 tons moved intransit between American points. In September, 1949 there were 10,171,654 tons loaded at Canadian stations, 1,571,625 tons from foreign connections for domestic delivery and 1,221,458 tons intransit.

The month's gain was due mainly to heavier shipments of coal, iron ore, crude petroleum, other mine products, lumber and timber, pulpwood, automobiles, petroleum oils, pig iron, iron and steel, wood pulp, other paper, canned goods and other manufactures. On the other hand, there was a marked decrease in the movement of most of the agricultural products, particularly grains, caused by later harvest, lower grades and hesitant overseas demand. (16)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ending January 13 reached a record total of 78,708 cars, nearly 20 per cent over last year's corresponding total of 65,667 cars. Twenty-seven of the 32 commodity groups showed heavier volume this year as compared with 1950. Loadings in the eastern division climbed to 51,267 cars from 44,079, while the western region rose from 21,588 cars to 27,441. Receipts from foreign connections totalled 34,308 cars, an increase of 6,286 cars over a year earlier. (17)

FEWER BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES IN FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1950 There were fewer births, deaths and marriages in Canada in the first quarter of 1950 than in the corresponding period of 1949, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The rate of natural increase was also lower.

Live births in the first three months of 1950 numbered 86,455, giving an equivalent annual rate of 25.4 per thousand population as compared with 87,732 births and a rate of 26.5 for the first quarter of 1949. Deaths totalled 31,917 with a rate of 9.4 as compared with 32,630 and a rate of 9.8. The natural increase for the quarter was 54,538 compared with 55,102 and the rate was 16.0 compared with 16.5. There were 14,607 marriages giving a rate of 4.3 as against 15,910 or a rate of 4.8.

Deaths under one year numbered 3,456 and the infant mortality rate was 40 per thousand live births as compared with 4,173 deaths and a rate of 48 for the corresponding period of 1949. Deaths under one month numbered 1,635 giving a rate of 19 per thousand live births as against 2,177 and a rate of 25. There were 105 maternal deaths as compared with 132 and the rate was 1.2 against 1.5 per thousand live births. (18)

SOAPS, WASHING COMPOUNDS AND CLEANING PREPARATIONS INDUSTRY Soaps, washing compounds and cleaning preparations were produced in Canada in 1949 to the value of \$62,398,211, a decline of eight per cent from the all-time record value of \$67,586,991 reached in 1948, according to industry totals released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. There were 143 plants in operation during the year, six less than in 1948. Employees averaged 3,637 compared with 3,351, and salaries and wages totalled \$9,373,882 compared with \$8,124,916. The cost of materials fell to \$31,029,359 from \$38,839,732, or by 20 per cent. (19)

DIRECTORY OF HOSPITALS The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has published a directory of hospitals for the year 1948. It contains detailed information on the number and types of hospitals operating throughout Canada, their bed capacity, the numbers of hospital personnel, and the extent of hospital facilities. The directory contains data on public, private and Dominion hospitals, approved schools of nursing and clinics. Statistics concerning utilization of hospital services, the movement of population, hospital revenues and expenditures are contained in the Bureau's annual reports on hospitals, mental institutions, and tuberculosis institutions. (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. Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade, November (10 cents).
2. Monthly Summary of Imports for Consumption, November (20 cents).
3. Retail Trade, November (10 cents).
4. Wholesale Trade, November (10 cents).
5. The Employment Situation at the Beginning of November, Together with Payrolls (25 cents).
6. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings Reported at the First of November (25 cents).
7. Motor Vehicle Shipments, November (10 cents).
8. Radio Receiving Sets, October (25 cents).
9. Asbestos, November (10 cents).
10. Primary Iron and Steel, October (25 cents).
11. Refined Petroleum Products, October (25 cents).
12. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, November (10 cents).
13. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, November (25 cents).
14. Summary of Canal Traffic, November (10 cents).
15. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways in Canada, October (10 cents).
16. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways of Canada, September (10 cents).
17. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
18. Births, Marriages and Deaths in Canada, First Quarter, 1950 (10 cents).
19. The Soaps, Washing Compounds and Cleaning Preparations Industry, 1949 (25 cents).

Memoranda

1. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
2. Poultry Estimates, December (10 cents).
3. Production, Shipments and Stocks of Gypsum Products, December (10 cents).
4. Production of Pig Iron and Steel, November (10 cents).
5. Asphalt Roofing, December (10 cents).
6. Statistics on Hides, Skins and Leather, November (10 cents).

Reference Paper

1. Directory of Hospitals in Canada, 1948 (75 cents).
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