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## --- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

REGIONAL COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES FOR NINE CITIES presented mixed changes between August 1 and September 1. Composite indexes registered increases at four centres while for four others declines occurred. The index for St. John was unchanged.

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SALES AND PURCHASES OF OUTSTANDING SECURITIES between Canada and other countries fell in July to the smallest volume of the year. Sales of \$27,200,000 and purchases of \$26,100,000 further reduced the monthly sales balance of \$1,100,000 in contrast to \$10,200,000 net sales achieved in the corresponding month last year.

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VALUE OF CHEQUES CASHED IN AUGUST was \$9,071,528,000, a steep rise of 20 per cent over last year's corresponding total of \$7,558,260,000. Cumulative total for the first eight months of this year reached a new high of \$71,919,506,000 as compared with \$62,174,494,000 in 1950, a gain of 15.7 per cent.

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PRODUCTION OF STEEL INGOTS IN AUGUST amounted to 277,752 tons, slightly above last year's total of 275,099 tons. This brought the cumulative output for the first eight months of the year to 2,307,579 tons, nearly six per cent above last year's January-August total of 2,184,189 tons.

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CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS during the week ended September 29 amounted to 87,361 cars as compared with a revised 88,535 cars in the preceding week and 90,859 in the corresponding week last year.

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LANDINGS IN THE SEA-FISHERIES OF CANADA IN AUGUST, not including Newfoundland, amounted to 170,425,000 pounds with an initial value of \$14,067,000, down 8.6 per cent in volume but 28.9 per cent higher in value than in August, 1950. In the eight months ending August, 821,706,000 pounds were landed as against 862,833,000 a year earlier, and the value was \$49,929,000 against \$43,880,000.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES fell two per cent during the week ending September 29 as compared with the corresponding week last year, declines in eastern Canada outweighing general gains in the West.

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SUPPLIES OF CANADIAN WHEAT for the 1951-52 crop year amounted to 765,700,000 bushels, comprised of carryover stocks of 186,400,000 bushels and the new crop estimated at 579,300,000 bushels on the basis of conditions at August 31.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES  
FOR NINE REGIONAL CITIES

Regional cost-of-living indexes for nine cities presented mixed changes between August 1 and September 1. Composite indexes registered increases at four centres while for four others declines occurred. The index for St. John was unchanged. Decreases were general for foods except at Montreal where a narrow increase occurred. Sharp seasonal losses were prevalent for fresh vegetables while lesser declines were noted for fresh pork, lamb and shortening. Clothing was higher at all centres except Halifax while homefurnishings and services changes were scattered. Fuel and lighting costs were unchanged to higher while the miscellaneous items indexes were unchanged except for small increases for Toronto and Winnipeg. Reflecting the results of a quarterly survey, rents moved up for seven centres but remained steady for Saint John and Saskatoon.

Indexes for the city of St. John's, Newfoundland, are shown for the first time in this table. As will be noted, they are on the base, June 1951=100. An explanation of the construction of this index is contained in D.B.S. Reference Paper Number 28 referred to in D.B.S. Weekly Bulletin No. 37 dated September 15, 1951.

Composite city indexes for September 1 and August 1, 1951 and September 1, 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.

	Sept. 1, 1950	Aug. 1, 1951	Sept. 1, 1951	Percentage Changes
				Sept. 1, 1951 - Aug. 1, 1951
		(August 1939=100)		
St. John's, Nfld. (a) ..	---	102.8	102.7	-0.1
Halifax .....	160.3	177.9	177.5	-0.2
Saint John .....	166.0	184.2	184.2	--
Montreal .....	174.7	194.8	196.0	+0.6
Toronto .....	166.1	184.5	185.4	+0.5
Winnipeg .....	164.3	182.4	182.2	-0.1
Saskatoon .....	167.8	186.0	186.2	+0.1
Edmonton .....	165.0	181.7	181.5	-0.1
Vancouver .....	170.8	189.8	190.2	+0.2

(a) Index on the base June 1951=100

CHEQUES CASHED UP 20  
PER CENT IN AUGUST

Value of cheques cashed in August was \$9,071,528,000, a steep rise of 20 per cent over last year's corresponding total of \$7,558,260,000. Substantial increases were shown in four of the five economic regions with the British Columbia total rising over 37 per cent. Quebec, the Prairie Provinces and Ontario followed in that order, with increases ranging from 22 to 16 per cent. Total for the Atlantic Provinces advanced only three per cent.

The August increase raised the cumulative total for the first eight months of this year to a new high total of \$71,919,506,000 as compared with \$62,174,494,000, or by 15.7 per cent. Payments in British Columbia jumped 23 per cent to register the largest regional advance and the Quebec total rose by more than 18 per cent. The Prairie Provinces and Ontario showed increases of nearly 14 per cent and cheques cashed in the Atlantic Provinces rose somewhat over 11 per cent.



Cheques cashed in Ontario in August totalled \$3,754,383,000 as compared with \$3,216,528,000 a year earlier, Quebec \$2,620,448,000 compared with \$2,149,016,000, Prairie Provinces \$1,633,272,000 compared with \$1,362,608,000, British Columbia \$839,455,000 compared with \$612,284,000, and the Atlantic Provinces \$223,970,000 compared with \$217,824,000. (1)

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SALES AND PURCHASES OF SECURITIES  
BETWEEN CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

Sales and purchases of outstanding securities between Canada and other countries fell in July to the smallest volume of the year. Sales of \$27,200,000 and purchases of \$26,100,000 further reduced the monthly sales balance of \$1,100,000 in contrast to \$10,200,000 net sales achieved in the corresponding month last year.

Largely as a consequence of substantial monthly sales balances during the first quarter, cumulative transactions at the end of seven months resulted in net sales of \$43,700,000, greater by 125 per cent than the net inflow for the corresponding period of 1950. It was not, however, until August and September last year that the exceptionally large inflows of capital reached their peak.

As in recent months, the July sales balance was due to sales and purchases with countries other than the United States and the United Kingdom, net transactions with the two latter countries being largely offsetting. Trade with "other countries" centred almost entirely in Canadian stocks, the sales balance amounting to \$1,100,000. Repurchases of Canadian Government bonds from the United States were appreciable, but there were net sales of corporation bonds and United States stocks. As a result, sales and purchases of all types of securities with that country were nearly in balance. All transactions with the United Kingdom totalled less than \$1,000,000, resulting in a purchase balance of \$200,000. (2)

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CHAIN STORE SALES  
AND STOCKS IN AUGUST

Sales of food chain stores, women's clothing stores, shoe stores, drug stores, and variety stores were higher in August than in the corresponding month last year, while hardware store sales were lower. Stocks for each of the six trades advanced over a year ago.

The food store group, largest of the six, continued to expand at a rapid rate, totalling \$52,688,000 as against \$41,227,000 in August last year, a gain of 28 per cent. Sales of variety stores were 14 per cent higher at \$12,475,000 compared with \$10,962,000.

Women's clothing store sales rose 13 per cent, amounting to \$2,976,000 against \$2,627,000 a year ago, and shoe store sales advanced 20 per cent to \$2,809,000 from \$2,333,000. Sales of drug stores gained eight per cent, standing at \$2,324,000 as compared with \$2,162,000, while hardware stores fell three per cent to \$999,000 from \$1,027,000.

Month-end inventories of variety stores rose to \$44,952,000 from \$33,927,000, food stores to \$42,870,000 from \$32,787,000, shoe stores to \$16,719,000 from \$14,125,000, drug stores to \$8,201,000 from \$7,331,000, women's clothing stores to \$6,880,000 from \$5,465,000, and hardware stores to \$4,422,000 from \$4,219,000. (3)

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES DOWN  
TWO PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales fell two per cent during the week ending September 29 as compared with the corresponding week last year, declines in eastern Canada outweighing general gains in the West. The decline in the Maritimes was 24 per cent, Quebec seven per cent, and Ontario 10 per cent. In Manitoba there was a gain of 15 per cent, Saskatchewan eight per cent, Alberta 21 per cent, and British Columbia eight per cent.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES

Oct. 4, 1951    Sept. 27, 1951    Sept. 6, 1951  
(1935-39=100)

Investors' Price Index

(105 Common Stocks) .....	186.2	179.9	178.9
82 Industrials .....	192.8	185.5	184.6
15 Utilities .....	176.6	172.4	171.2
8 Banks .....	141.6	139.9	139.3

Mining Stock Price Index

(30 Stocks) .....	108.7	106.1	100.2
25 Golds .....	76.0	73.5	72.1
5 Base Metals .....	183.6	180.9	164.6

CIGARETTE RELEASES LOWER IN  
AUGUST; CUT TOBACCO HIGHER

Releases of cigarettes and cigars for consumption in Canada declined in August from a year earlier for the fourth successive month, while releases of cut tobacco were higher in each of the four months. Production of both beer and new spirits advanced in the month, and the stocks of distilled liquor at the end of August were larger than a year ago.

Cigarette releases in August totalled 932,000,000 -- below 1,000,000,000 for the first time since July, 1949 -- as compared with 1,384,000,000 in the corresponding month last year. Cut tobacco releases totalled 2,242,000 pounds as against 2,197,000 a year ago, while releases of cigars amounted to 8,500,000 as compared with 16,500,000 in August, 1950.

Beer production in August amounted to 782,800 barrels as against 632,200 a year ago, and the production of new spirits totalled 1,810,000 proof gallons against 1,720,000. Stocks of distilled liquor at the end of August were 84,590,000 proof gallons as compared with 78,930,000.

LANDINGS OF FISH LOWER IN  
AUGUST; VALUE HIGHER

August landings in the sea-fisheries of Canada (not including Newfoundland), amounted to 170,425,000 pounds with an initial value of \$14,067,000, down 8.6 per cent in volume but 28.9 per cent higher in value than in August, 1950. In the eight months ending August, 821,706,000 pounds were landed as against 862,833,000 a year earlier, and the value was \$49,929,000 as against \$43,880,000.

Mainly as a result of a larger catch of salmon, overall landings on the Pacific Coast rose in August to 84,119,000 pounds from 67,507,000, and the value to \$10,529,000 from \$7,241,000. January-August landings of all species amounted to 314,235,000 pounds valued at \$26,547,000 compared with 313,531,000 pounds at \$20,735,000 a year earlier.



The Atlantic catch in August amounted to 86,306,000 pounds valued at \$3,538,000 as compared with 118,950,000 at \$3,674,000 a year ago. Landings of groundfish, herring and sardines continued lower, but the lobster catch was little changed. Eight-month landings of all species totalled 507,471,000 pounds compared with 519,302,000 in the same period last year, and the value amounted to \$23,382,000 against \$23,145,000. (4)

#### WORLD WHEAT SUPPLIES AND PRODUCTION

Supplies of wheat remaining on or about September 1 this year in the four major exporting countries for export and carryover at the end of their respective crop years were practically unchanged in total quantity from a year earlier, according to the latest available estimates, amounting to 1,232,000,000 bushels as compared with 1,231,000,000 bushels. There has been, however, a marked shift in the location of this year's exportable supplies, with an indicated increase of 180,000,000 bushels in Canada offsetting decreases in the other three countries.

Supplies this year, with last year's figures in brackets, were held as follows: United States, 577,000,000 (714,000,000) bushels; Canada, 593,000,000 (413,000,000); Australia, 47,000,000 (75,000,000); and Argentina, 15,000,000 (29,000,000). Data for all countries include both commercial and on farm stocks. This year's Canadian supplies, it should be noted, are based on the September estimate of production, and, in view of the recent unfavourable harvesting conditions in Western Canada, later estimates may show significant changes in the Canadian supply position.

World wheat production is now forecast at 6,650,000,000 bushels compared with 6,320,000,000 in 1950 and the 1935-39 average of 6,020,000,000. The wheat crop in the traditionally deficit area of western Europe is smaller than that of 1950, increasing import needs in most of these countries. The outstanding exception for the area is Spain, where production appears to be about 40,000,000 bushels greater than last year. A larger part of Europe's import needs this season will be dependent upon supplies from the Northern Hemisphere, since both Argentina and Australia are expected to have smaller crops than in 1950 because of reduced acreages.

In North America wheat production is forecast at 1,600,000,000 bushels, which would be the largest wheat crop of record for the Continent. A record crop of 579,000,000 bushels is in prospect for Canada, while the United States crop will be almost 1,000,000,000 bushels following seven successive crops of over 1,000,000,000. The current estimate for the United States consists of 651,000,000 bushels of winter and 348,000,000 bushels of spring wheat, while Canada's crop is about 95 per cent spring wheat. (5)

#### CANADA'S 1951-52 WHEAT SUPPLIES

Potential supplies of Canadian wheat for the 1951-52 crop year amount to 765,700,000 bushels, comprised of carryover stocks of 186,400,000 bushels and the new crop estimated at 579,300,000 bushels on the basis of conditions at August 31, according to the monthly Wheat Review released by the Bureau.

Total supplies of this magnitude, if realized, would be about 192,000,000 bushels greater than in the 1950-51 crop year and be exceeded only in the five-year war period, 1940-51 to 1944-45 when carryover stocks were at unusually high levels. Peak supplies occurred in 1942-43, when the total reached 980,400,000 bushels. Prior to the World War II period, the greatest supplies available were 659,200,000 bushels in 1928-29.

The abnormally late season and adverse harvesting weather during much of September, however, will undoubtedly cause some reduction both in yield and quality from earlier expectations, says the Review. While it is still too early to assess completely the damage caused by frost and snow over wide areas in the Prairies during the last week of September, preliminary reports indicate that yield losses may not be too extensive, provided harvesting is resumed shortly. On the other hand, loss in quantity through excessive moisture, sprouting and frost has already occurred over wide areas. Frost damage, on the whole, does not appear to be as widespread as last year. (5)

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STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on September 27 amounted to 166,328,413 bushels as compared with 153,369,397 a week earlier, and 158,408,084 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week totalled 20,099,662 bushels as against 36,817,488 a year earlier, and in the crop year aggregated 50,308,936 bushels against 98,451,254 in the similar period of 1949-50.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending September 27 amounted to 5,352,228 bushels compared with 4,130,014 a year ago, and in the cumulative period totalled 31,346,301 bushels against 24,351,457 in 1949-50. (Mem. 1)

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OUTPUT OF WHEAT FLOUR IN AUGUST Canadian production of wheat flour in August -- the opening month of the crop year 1951-52 -- amounted to 1,699,569 barrels, slightly below the 1,704,967 barrels produced in the corresponding month last year.

Wheat milled for flour in the month totalled 7,747,885 bushels compared with 7,563,856 in August last year. Exports of wheat flour aggregated 698,082 barrels as against 680,010.

The following quantities of coarse grains were ground in August, totals for the same month last year being in brackets: feed wheat, 242,116 (264,822) bushels; oats, 1,580,374 (1,421,344); corn, 246,595 (234,296); barley, 520,648 (442,566); buckwheat, 1,751 (1,800); mixed grain, 1,366,220 (1,160,429). (Mem. 2)

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PRODUCTION OF STEEL INGOTS Production of steel ingots in August amounted to 277,752 tons, slightly above last year's August total of 275,099 tons. This brought the cumulative total for the first eight months of the year to 2,307,579 tons, nearly six per cent above last year's January-August total of 2,184,189 tons. Average daily output in August was up to 8,960 tons from 8,874 a year ago. (6)

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PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF IRON CASTINGS AND CAST IRON PIPES AND FITTINGS IN JULY Production and shipments of iron castings and cast iron pipes and fittings both moved to higher levels in July and the first seven months of this year. The month's output amounted to 61,000 tons as compared with 48,800 in July last year, and in the seven months totalled 566,160 tons as against 403,400 in the like period of 1950.



Shipments in July aggregated 45,500 tons compared with 42,100 a year earlier, and in the seven months ending July amounted to 396,500 tons against 281,100. Pig iron used by foundries in the month totalled 36,300 tons compared with 24,800 in July, 1950, and in the January-July period was 341,500 tons against 223,300. Consumption of scrap iron and steel in July rose to 39,800 tons from 32,700 a year ago, and in the seven months to 372,900 tons from 272,100 in 1950. (Mem. 3)

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DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS AND IMPORTS  
OF PRIMARY IRON AND STEEL SHAPES

Shipments for sale of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills rose in June to 263,789 net tons from 248,322 in the corresponding month last year, raising the cumulative total for the first six months of this year to 1,597,004 net tons from 1,370,770 in the similar period of 1950. In addition, producers interchanged 135,513 tons as against 123,338 a year ago, bringing half-year shipments in this category to 858,257 net tons against 676,077 in the January-June period of 1950.

Imports of primary forms of iron and steel -- carbon, alloy, and stainless -- rose in June to 140,713 net tons from 116,859 a year earlier, and in the half-year totalled 759,371 net tons as against 484,290. June exports of primary iron and steel advanced to 44,417 net tons from 24,956, and in the six months to 136,581 net tons from 124,026. (7)

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GOLD PRODUCTION LOWER IN JULY

Gold production was lower in July than in the corresponding month last year for the sixth successive month, amounting to 344,389 fine ounces as compared with 367,766. Output in the seven months was down to 2,533,429 fine ounces from 2,563,837 in the similar period of 1950.

July output in Ontario fell to 178,585 fine ounces from 195,840 a year ago, but the total for Quebec rose to 88,463 fine ounces from 88,279. Combined output for Manitoba and Saskatchewan advanced to 23,228 fine ounces from 22,719, but there was a decline in British Columbia to 21,659 fine ounces from 25,941. Production in the Northwest Territories was down to 15,888 fine ounces from 17,215, and in the Yukon to 15,835 fine ounces from 17,035. (Mem. 4)

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COKE SUPPLIES IN JULY

Coke production fell in July to 314,000 tons from 336,000 in the corresponding month last year, but rose in the January-July period to 2,271,000 tons from 2,256,000 a year earlier. Imports in July increased to 57,245 tons from 30,727, and to 353,652 tons in the seven months from 188,893. Exports were down in the month to 9,751 tons from 39,072, and in the seven-month period to 89,023 tons from 244,990. (8)

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SALES OF PAINTS, VARNISHES  
AND LACQUERS IN JULY

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for all but a small percentage of the total Canadian production was higher in July and the first seven months of this year than in the same periods of 1950. The month's sales were valued at \$8,695,562 as compared with \$7,373,750 in July last year, raising the cumulative total for the seven months to \$63,195,810 from \$49,959,779 in the similar period of 1950. (Mem. 5)

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PRODUCTION OF SAWN LUMBER  
EAST OF THE ROCKIES IN JULY

Production of sawn lumber east of the Rockies, excluding sawn ties, was two per cent lower in July, amounting to 454,706 M feet as compared with 462,222 M in the same month last year. Cumulative total for the first seven months of this year, however, rose four per cent to 1,945,201 M feet from 1,878,473 M in the similar period of 1950.

The month's output in Quebec declined to 190,093 M feet from 192,467 M in July last year, Ontario to 164,289 M feet from 165,507 M, New Brunswick to 34,693 M feet from 47,256 M, Alberta to 10,903 M feet from 11,575 M, and Prince Edward Island to 1,130 M feet from 1,544 M. Total for Nova Scotia advanced to 42,320 M feet from 33,973 M in July last year, Manitoba to 7,436 M feet from 6,382 M, and Saskatchewan to 3,842 M feet from 3,518 M. (9)

LEATHER FOOTWEAR PRODUCTION  
DOWN IN JULY

Production of leather footwear was lower in July at 1,901,766 pairs as compared with 2,590,460 in the preceding month, and 2,026,975 in the corresponding month last year. The decrease from June was due to the closing of many plants for staff vacations. With advances in each month from January to May, the cumulative output for the first seven months of this year rose to 20,149,422 pairs from 18,794,462 in the like period of 1950. (Mem. 6)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS

Carloadings on Canadian railways during the week ended September 29 amounted to 87,361 cars as compared with a revised 88,535 cars in the preceding week and 90,859 in the corresponding week last year. The decline from a year earlier was slightly more than three per cent, and was due mainly to reduced shipments of live stock, grain products, lumber, crude oil and l.c.l. merchandise. Eastern division loadings during the week were 57,398 cars against 58,482, while total for the western division dropped to 29,963 cars from 32,377. Receipts from connections, at 35,314 cars, were down 817 cars from last year. (Mem. 7)

FARM IMPLEMENTS AND  
EQUIPMENT SALES IN 1950

Sales of farm implements and equipment -- mainly at wholesale prices -- rose to a new all-time peak value of \$218,187,000 in 1950, slightly above the previous high figure of \$217,090,000 in 1949, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Sales of tractors and engines declined slightly in value from \$102,025,541 in 1949 to \$98,000,680, but harvesting machinery showed a marked sales gain between the two years from \$39,088,015 to \$44,243,044.

Planting, seeding and fertilizing machinery sales rose in value from \$8,137,527 to \$8,805,616; tilling, cultivating and weeding machinery from \$12,241,228 to \$13,202,326; haying machinery from \$10,569,126 to \$10,610,317; machines for preparing crops for market or use from \$7,822,176 to \$8,486,629; spraying and dusting equipment from \$1,332,584 to \$1,416,507; dairy machinery and equipment from \$4,004,640 to \$4,033,896; and barn equipment from \$2,166,836 to \$2,266,024.

Declines occurred in the sales of poultry equipment from \$466,863 in 1949 to \$317,694; ploughs from \$17,938,013 to \$15,228,291; farm wagons, trucks and sleighs from \$2,824,934 to \$2,220,870; and water systems and pumps from \$5,386,881 to \$5,375,319.



NEW PEAKS ESTABLISHED BY CANADA'S  
AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

Gross factory selling value of products of Canada's motor vehicle manufacturing industry reached a new peak of \$675,867,467 in 1950, up 39 per cent over the previous high of \$485,756,877 in 1949, according to the annual industry report released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Last year's value was almost double that of \$340,912,195 three years earlier, and three and a half times the figure of \$193,439,688 in 1946.

Of the 1950 gross value, vehicles manufactured accounted for \$610,972,040, repair parts and accessories for \$50,227,164, and all other products for \$14,668,263. Value of vehicles was up from \$424,358,352 in 1949, and the value of repair parts advanced from \$45,106,293, while all other products were down in value from \$16,292,232.

The number of cars, trucks and buses made during the year was 390,102 -- a new high -- exceeding the previous peak in 1949 of 292,584 by 33 per cent. Passenger car output rose in the year to 284,076 units from 193,556, trucks to 105,258 from 98,303, and buses to 768 from 725. Imports of motor vehicles during the year rose to 88,528 units from 38,697, while 34,416 were exported as against 29,656.

Number of motor vehicles withdrawn from use reached an estimated total of 137,393 units as against 74,876 in the preceding year. Passenger cars accounted for the higher total, the number rising to 106,566 units from 43,980. Commercial vehicles withdrawn were slightly lower at 30,827 as against 30,896. (10)

COAL SUPPLIES IN 1950

High record tonnages of coal were produced in Canada in 1950, and with a large rise in imports, and a decline in exports, supplies of new coal made available for consumption were approximately one-fifth larger in 1950 than in the preceding year, according to the annual industry report by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Domestic production of all grades of coal in 1950 amounted to 19,139,000 tons valued at \$110,140,000 compared with 19,120,000 tons at \$110,915,000 in 1949. The lower overall value was accounted for by lower production of bituminous coal. Coal imports during 1950 totalled 27,229,000 tons, an increase of nearly 36 per cent over the 1949 total of 20,045,000 tons. Exports of coal amounted to 395,000 tons compared with 432,000 in 1949. Coal made available for consumption in 1950 amounted to 45,973,000 tons, an increase of 19 per cent over the quantity available in the preceding year.

Coal production in Alberta -- largest producer in Canada -- fell in 1950 to 8,116,000 tons from 8,617,000 in 1949, but there was a rise in Nova Scotia to 6,182,000 tons from 6,182,000. Total for Saskatchewan was up to 2,203,000 tons from 1,870,000, but there was a drop in British Columbia to 1,730,000 tons from 1,907,000. New Brunswick's output was up in the year to 607,000 tons from 541,000, and that for the Yukon advanced to 3,700 tons from 3,200.

During the year Canadian coal mines employed 2,033 salaried employees and 21,385 wage-earners as against 2,153 salaried employees and 22,077 wage-earners in 1949. Number of mines in operation during the year increased to 363 from 328 in 1949. (11)

REVENUES AND EXPENSES OF  
STEAM RAILWAYS IN 1950

Canadian railways earned a new record total of \$958,985,751 during 1950, an increase of \$64,588,487, or 7.2 per cent over the previous peak of \$894,397,264 in 1949. This new maximum was attained despite a nation-wide nine-day strike from August 22 to August 30. Expenses of operation were held to a minor increase, and while a new record at \$833,726,562, were up only \$2,270,116, or 0.3 per cent over the previous peak of \$831,456,446 in 1949. Net operating revenues were consequently nearly double the preceding year, rising from \$62,940,818 to \$125,259,189. Operating income for 1950 was \$80,325,003, an increase of \$49,766,185.

Revenue freight tonnage carried during the year, increased 1.1 per cent from 142,719,431 to 144,218,319 tons, but ton miles eased 1.4 per cent, with average length of haul declining from a revised 394.7 miles in 1949 to about 385.1 miles in 1950, or by 2.5 per cent. Passenger traffic continued the steady decline from the high wartime levels with 31,139,092 fares in 1950, off 10.7 per cent or 3,744,711 from the 1949 total.

Number of railway employees in 1950 totalled 190,385 as compared with 192,366 in 1949 for a decrease of 1,981. Payroll data showed the effect of the nine-day strike, total salaries and wages, at \$523,008,515, being down \$444,860 from 1949. Average annual earnings, covering all classes of employees, increased from \$2,721 in 1949 to \$2,747 in 1950. (12)

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PRODUCTION AND SALES  
OF SALT IN 1950

Producers' shipments of common salt during 1950 amounted to 859,000 tons valued at \$7,011,000 compared with 749,000 tons worth \$5,567,000 in the preceding year, according to the annual industry report. About 81 per cent of the salt was produced in Ontario, and 12 per cent in Nova Scotia; the remainder originated in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

About 66 per cent of the output, or 405,400 tons of salt in brine and 52,600 tons of dry salt, was used in producers' own plants for the manufacture of caustic soda, soda ash, chlorine and other chemicals. The sales of salt included 290,500 tons of fine vacuum grade, 9,900 tons of coarse grainer grade, 57,160 tons of rock salt, and 43,400 tons of dry salt recovered in chemical operations.

Exports of salt in 1950 totalled 4,100 tons valued at \$53,000, and imports amounted to 238,000 tons valued at \$1,734,000. The apparent consumption of salt in Canada for all purposes totalled 1,413,000 tons valued at \$8,693,000. (13)

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COMPRESSED GASES INDUSTRY

Manufacturing plants engaged chiefly in making industrial gases in 1950 had a production value of \$12,737,000 as compared with \$12,091,000 in the preceding year, an increase of five per cent. The chief products of the industry were oxygen, acetylene and carbon dioxide. There were 50 establishments operating in 1950 giving employment to 1,240 workers who received \$3,240,000 in salary and wage payments against 48 plants employing 1,223 persons paid \$3,231,000. Cost of materials used totalled \$1,874,000 compared with \$1,979,000. (14)

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VEGETABLE OILS INDUSTRY

Gross selling value of products manufactured by the vegetable oils industry of Canada in 1950 amounted to \$47,027,000, eight per cent below the preceding year's value of \$51,242,000. Fifteen plants were in operation during the year, unchanged from 1949. These factories gave employment to 792 persons who were paid \$2,155,000 in salaries and wages against 829 employees earning \$2,122,000. Cost of materials used was \$42,213,000 against \$41,632,000. (15)

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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. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, August (10 cents).
2. Sales and Purchases of Securities Between Canada and Other Countries, July (10 cents).
3. Chain Store Sales and Stocks, August (10 cents).
4. Canadian Fisheries Statistics, August (30 cents).
5. The Wheat Review, September (20 cents).
6. Steel Ingots, August (10 cents).
7. Primary Iron and Steel, June (25 cents).
8. Coal and Coke Statistics, July (25 cents).
9. Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, July (25 cents).
10. Motor Vehicle Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
11. The Coal Mining Industry, 1950 (75 cents).
12. Preliminary Report on Statistics of Steam Railways, 1950 (10 cents).
13. The Salt Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
14. Compressed Gases Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
15. Vegetable Oils Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
16. The Artificial Abrasives Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
17. Trade of Canada: Exports -- Detailed Report -- August (50 cents).

Memoranda

1. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
  2. Grain Milling Statistics, August (10 cents).
  3. Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipes and Fittings, July (10 cents).
  4. Gold Production, July (10 cents).
  5. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, July (10 cents).
  6. Production of Leather Footwear, July (10 cents).
  7. Carloadings on Canadian Railways - Weekly (10 cents).
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