

DBS Weekly

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS / OTTAWA, CANADA

Friday, June 14, 1968

Industrial Production: Canada's seasonally adjusted index of industrial production rose by 2.2% in April, advancing to 291.5 from the revised March level of 285.3. All of the gain was due to the 3.2% growth in manufacturing: mining and electric power and gas utilities fell by 1.2 and 0.2% respectively. Within manufacturing most of the growth was due to the better than 6% gain in durables. Non-durables advanced by less than 1%. (page 2)

Prices: Canada's consumer price index edged up by 0.1% to 154.2 at the beginning of May from 154.1 at the beginning of April. The index was 4.1% above the level of 148.1 recorded twelve months earlier. Increases in the five main component indexes slightly outweighed decreases in the indexes for both food and clothing (page 2)

Merchandising: Sales of new motor vehicles numbered 278,110 units during the January to April period, a 2.6% rise over the 1967 period production of 270,956 units. Of this total, passenger vehicles accounted for 232,353 units and commercial vehicles for 45,757. (page 6)

Transportation: Initial revenue passenger fares (excluding transfers) collected by 62 urban transit systems during March, numbered 91,394,995, down 2.4% from 93,683,950 reported by 64 firms in March 1967. Revenue freight carloadings during the final 10 days of May numbered 122,919, up 4.6% from the corresponding 1967 total. (page 6)

Manufacturing: Steel ingot production for the week ended June 8 totalled 211,948 tons, a decrease of 4.9% from the preceding week's total of 222,885 tons. Total shipments of wood fibre rigid insulating board during April came to 43,334,068 square feet (1/2 inch basis), of which 38,318,650 were domestic shipments and 5,015,418 were exported. Producers' shipments of asbestos increased to 123,734 tons in April from the 97,140 tons shipped in the 1967 month. Production of lumber and ties of coast and interior sawmills of British Columbia totalled 579,900 feet board measure during April compared with 607,600 feet board measure during the 1967 month. (page 7)

Agriculture and Food: Refined beet and cane sugar manufacturing during April came to 466,127,000 pounds, compared to 483,340,000 in April 1967. Production of dry salt and salt content of brine during April came to 437,949 tons, while production for the year to date totalled 1,643,665. (page 10)

Energy: Coal production for March and preliminary figures for April indicate an increase for these two months of 22,067 tons, or 1.2% to 1,885,619 tons from 1,863,552 tons for the same period last year. Total net generating capability in 1967 for firms generating over 10,000,000 kwh. per year increased to 31,370,000 kw. (page 10)

Cheques: Value of cheques cashed in 51 clearing centres in March totalled \$47,441,000,000, 2.3% lower than March last year. Payments in the Atlantic Provinces rose by 5.2% and in Ontario by 2.7%. Clearings in Quebec, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia were lower. (page 10)

1. Index of Industrial Production Canada's seasonally adjusted index of industrial production rose 2.2% in April, rising to 291.5 from the revised March level of 285.3. All of the gain was due to the 3.2% growth in manufacturing; mining and electric power and gas utilities fell by 1.2 and 0.2% respectively. Within manufacturing most of the growth was due to the better than 6% gain in durables. Non-durables advanced by less than 1%.

While 5 of the 6 durables' major groups shared in the gain the vast majority of it was due to the 29% advance in transportation equipment. Virtually all of this gain was due to gains of 40% and 45% in the motor vehicles and motor vehicles parts industries respectively as they recovered from low levels in the previous two months. These low levels were substantially due to labour disputes, as indicated in last month's report. Elsewhere in durables primary iron and steel advanced by 6%. A considerable part of this gain was due to increased exports to the U.S. with much of the rest attributable to increased pipe and tube production.

In non-durables 6 of the 11 major groups rose, advancing by amounts ranging from marginal to 5%. Paper products, (+5%), were, however, the major factor in the non-durables gain, with the bulk of it originating in the pulp and paper industry, which advanced by more than 6%. Beverages also rose sharply, (+5%); largely due to a near 13% advance in distilleries that reversed the movement of the past two months.

The 1.2% decrease in mining was due to declines in metals and non-metals of 3 and 2% respectively, as fuels advanced fractionally. The major factor in the metals' drop was the near 10% decrease in iron ore.

In electric power and gas utilities, (-0.2%), a 10% decline in gas more than offset a 2% gain in electric power. The decline in gas was largely due to abnormally warm weather in Ontario.

P R I C E S

2. Consumer Price Index Canada's consumer price index edged up by 0.1% to 154.2 at the beginning of May from 154.1 at the beginning of April. The index was 4.1% above the level of 148.1 recorded twelve months earlier. Increases in five main component indexes slightly outweighed decreases in the indexes for both food and clothing. Among the components that increased, housing rose by 0.3%, largely as a result of higher shelter costs, while recreation and reading advanced by 1.2%. Food prices declined, thus eliminating most of the advance of the preceding month. Clothing prices were lower by 0.4% as a result of May sales for many items.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

Component	Weight(1)	Index		% change		
		1968 May	1967 April	1967 May	May 1968 from 1967 April	
All-Items	100	154.2	154.1	148.1	+ 0.1	+ 4.1
Food	27	148.9	149.8	143.7	- 0.6	+ 3.6
Housing(2)	32	157.1	156.6	150.5	+ 0.3	+ 4.4
Clothing	11	135.8	136.3	131.9	- 0.4	+ 3.0
Transportation	12	161.0	160.8	157.2	+ 0.1	+ 2.4
Health and Personal Care	7	197.8	197.0	191.0	+ 0.4	+ 3.6
Recreation and Reading .	5	174.2	172.1	166.6	+ 1.2	+ 4.6
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	141.1	140.9	127.9	+ 0.1	+10.3

(1) Component weights indicate the relative importance of item groups.

(2) This index is composed of shelter and household operation.

The food index declined by 0.6% to 148.9 in May from 149.8 in April, partially reflecting lower quotations for a number of meat items. Many staple foods, including fresh milk, butter, and cheese remained unchanged in price, while bread, sugar and egg prices declined slightly. In contrast, most fresh fruits, including grapefruit, bananas, and apples registered upward movement. Among fresh vegetables, celery, onions and tomatoes rose in price, while lettuce declined markedly. Meats were generally lower in price; beef quotations, in particular, declined for the seventh consecutive month. The food index in May 1968 was 3.6% above its level of twelve months earlier.

The housing index rose 0.3% to 157.1 in May from 156.6 in April. Rents increased by 0.3%, led by rises of 0.6% in Ottawa and 0.5% in Edmonton. Home-ownership costs also continued their steady advance. Fuel oil prices rose in a number of cities, while prices for home furnishings showed little change. The May 1968 housing index was 4.4% above its level of May 1967.

The clothing index declined by 0.4% to 135.8 in May from 136.3 in April. While a number of items of apparel remained unchanged in price, sales on many articles accounted for decreases in all categories of clothing. Even the footwear index, which tends to be relatively resistant to price decreases, registered its first decline in seven months. The clothing index stood 3.0% above its level of May 1967.

The transportation index edged up by 0.1% to 161.0 in May from 160.8 in the preceding month. The only major increase was an advance of approximately 10% in domestic air fares which had remained virtually unchanged since 1962. Partially offsetting this increase were declines of 0.2% in the prices of both new automobiles and gasoline. The transportation index was 2.4% above its level of twelve months earlier.

The health and personal care index rose by 0.4% to 197.8 in May from 197.0 a month earlier. Higher prices were recorded for pharmaceuticals, most toiletries and for men's and women's hairdressing. The health and personal care component was 3.6% above its level twelve months ago.

The recreation and reading index advanced by 1.2% to 174.2 in May from 172.1 a month earlier, as a result of higher prices for cinema admissions, camera film, bicycles and other toys. This index stood at a level 4.6% higher than a year earlier.

The tobacco and alcohol index edged up by 0.1% to 141.1 in May from 140.9 a month earlier, reflecting higher tobacco and cigarette prices in several cities. The tobacco and alcohol component was 10.3% higher than twelve months earlier.

Wholesale Price Indexes¹ The price index of thirty industrial materials, (1935-1939=100) calculated as an unweighted geometric average, advanced 0.6% to 254.3 from 252.8 in the three-week period May 3rd to May 24th. Prices increased for five commodities, decreased for nine and remained unchanged for sixteen. Principal changes included higher prices for linseed oil, raw rubber, steers, raw sugar and hogs.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian farm products at terminal markets advanced 3.0% to 257.7 from 250.1. The animal products index moved up 3.7% to 325.9 from 314.3 reflecting higher prices for lambs, calves, steers and hogs on both Eastern and Western markets. Lower prices were shown for eggs and raw wool on both markets. The field products index advanced 1.9% to 189.5 from 186.0 as a result of higher prices for potatoes on both Eastern and Western markets and for

flax in the West. Lower prices were shown for hay on both markets, oats and barley in the East and rye in the West.

1 All 1968 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian farm products, indexes subsequent to July 1967 are subject to revision as and when participation payments are announced for Western grains.

Security Price Indexes The investors index of common stock prices (1956=100) fell 2.1% from May 2nd to May 30th. The three major groups fell by similar amounts, and declines were widespread, although most sub-groups fell by less than five per cent. The most notable exception to this trend was metal fabricating which rose to its highest level since September 1966 due mainly to sharp rises of the stock of Massey Ferguson Limited in the middle of the month and of Ford Motor Company of Canada and Anthes Imperial Limited at the end. On the other hand the rise of Molson Breweries Limited was in line with the trend of the beverages sub-group.

In the same period the mining index rose 2.1% reflecting a rise of gold stocks. Base metals fell during May, but a rise of 3.9% between April 25th and May 2nd is not shown in either this nor the last issue.

After an early rise, uraniums fell during the month to finish 3.4% lower; primary oils and gas rose 3.3%.

3. Weekly Security Price Indexes

	Number Stocks Priced	June 6/68 this week	May 30/68 week ago	May 9/68 month ago
(1956 = 100)				
<u>Investors Price Index</u>				
Total index	114	170.7	169.5	172.9
Industrials	80	179.2	179.0	182.5
Utilities	20	155.2	153.5	155.7
Finance(1)	14	149.6	144.2	148.4
Banks	6	159.7	152.8	158.1
<u>Mining Stocks Price Index</u>				
Total index	24	108.1	107.8	105.9
Golds	13	158.3	160.3	155.5
Base metals	11	80.6	79.1	78.7
<u>Supplementary Indexes</u>				
Uraniums(2)	4	250.7	247.0	264.6
Primary oils and gas ..	6	198.5	193.1	187.8

(1) Composed of Banks, and Investment and loan.

(2) Revision of this index has reduced the number of stocks priced.

4. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products

The index of farm prices of agricultural products (1935-39=100) for April is estimated at 291.9. This is 0.2 points above the revised estimate of 291.7 for March but 15.6 points lower than the April 1967 index of 307.5. Prices averaged lower for potatoes and livestock, particularly hogs, but prices for grains, dairy and poultry products averaged slightly higher.

5. Retail Trade, Chain and Independent Stores, by Kind of Business

Canada

April 1968

Kind of business	Chain store sales	Independent store sales	All stores	
			Sales	April 1968 April 1967
		\$'000		%
Grocery and combination stores	210,934	226,921	437,855	+ 4.4
All other food stores	8,782	61,870	70,652	+ 8.2
Department stores	178,577	-	178,577	+10.3
General merchandise stores	42,774	16,905	59,679	+10.4
General stores	6,159	66,311	72,470	+ 8.0
Variety stores	43,960	6,598	50,558	+11.9
Motor vehicle dealers	3,804	374,595	378,398	- 0.3
Service stations and garages	5,290	186,035	191,326	+ 8.8
Men's clothing stores	3,184	23,072	26,257	+ 5.1
Women's clothing stores	9,579	24,009	33,589	+ 3.9
Family clothing stores	6,704	21,472	28,176	+10.9
Shoe stores	9,749	14,145	23,894	+ 9.7
Hardware stores	5,446	25,348	30,793	+ 7.3
Furniture, T.V., radio and appliance stores	9,659	58,085	67,744	+ 0.5
Fuel dealers	3,391	28,735	32,126	- 7.2
Drug stores	7,200	46,808	54,008	+ 4.9
Jewellery stores	3,780	10,581	14,361	+ 6.2
All other stores	103,093	157,494	260,587	+ 8.4
Total, all stores	662,065	1,348,984	2,011,049	+ 5.3

Retail Trade, Chain and Independent Stores, by Province

Newfoundland	8,940	25,476	34,416	+ 7.2
Prince Edward Island	1,846	7,226	9,072	+11.6
Nova Scotia	20,981	48,602	69,583	+ 7.7
New Brunswick	17,801	33,131	50,932	+ 6.9
Quebec	138,446	385,194	523,641	+ 6.5
Ontario	283,372	488,865	772,238	+ 6.6
Manitoba	32,062	57,396	89,458	- 7.0
Saskatchewan	22,244	71,671	93,915	+ 3.1
Alberta	52,515	107,873	160,389	+ 4.5
British Columbia(1)	83,857	123,549	207,407	+ 3.6

(1) Includes Yukon and Northwest Territories.

6. Major Appliances - April 1968

	Canada total sales	Exports number of units	Stocks at end of month
Gas cooking stoves and ranges	3,769	-	5,821
Electric ranges	28,754	6	57,524
Electric wall ovens	682	8	2,781
Electric drop in ranges	1,052	-	3,602

7. New Motor Vehicle Sales Sales of new motor vehicles numbered 278,110 units during the January to April period, a 2.6% rise over the 1967 period production of 270,956 units. Of this total, passenger vehicles accounted for 232,353 units, (3.3% above last year) and commercial vehicles for 45,757 (-0.5%). Retail value of all vehicles sold was \$981,126,000, an increase of 6.1% from the \$924,801,000 in the 1967 period. Sales of passenger vehicles were valued at \$785,826,000, an increase of 8.2%, while those of commercial vehicles decreased by 1.6% to \$195,300,000.

8. Department Store Sales Department store sales rose in Canada by 2.8% during the week ended May 25, with regional changes as follows: Atlantic Provinces, -4.1%; Quebec, +3.2%; Ontario, +10.9%; Manitoba, -30.7%; Saskatchewan, +4.0%; Alberta, +7.0% and British Columbia, -0.7%.

G O V E R N M E N T E M P L O Y M E N T

9. Municipal Government Employment and Payrolls The number of employees involved in general services and waterworks reported at the end of December 1967, by urban municipalities with populations over 10,000 was 133,731. The payrolls reported by these same municipalities amounted to \$193,546,000 for the October 1 - December 31, 1967 quarter.

T R A N S P O R T A T I O N

10. Urban Transit Initial revenue passenger fares (excluding transfers) collected by 62 urban transit systems during March, numbered 91,394,995, down 2.4% from 93,683,950 reported by 64 firms in March 1967. During the year-to-date, fares dropped to 266,835,770 from 267,852,940 in the same period last year. Vehicle miles travelled by all types of urban transit vehicles totalled 21,401,052 in the 1968 month compared to 21,390,451 miles in March last year. Total operating revenue for the current month rose to \$17,887,685, up 4.7% from last year's corresponding month total of \$17,077,747.

11. Carloadings Revenue freight carloadings during the final 10 days of May numbered 122,919, up 4.6% from the corresponding 1967 total. Commodities reflecting significant increases included: iron ore, 19,351 (15,742 in 1967); pulpwood, 4,170 (3,353); manufactured iron and steel products, 2,860 (2,123); automobiles, auto trucks and parts, 3,581 (2,403) and miscellaneous carload commodities, 12,440 (11,574). Principal commodities requiring fewer cars were: wheat, 8,878 (11,942); "other" grain, 2,071 (3,803) and paperboard, pulpboard and wallboard, 835 (1,703). Receipts from both Canadian and United States rail connections dropped 6.6% to 34,069 cars.

Piggyback loadings were up 14.7% to 5,612 during the current period and down slightly to 71,570 during the cumulative period. Carloadings numbering 1,512,654 were down 1.9% from 1967 in the five month period while cars received from connections dropped 3.5% to 523,148 cars.

12. Veneers and Plywoods

	April		%	Year to date	
	1967	1968		1967	1968
	M sq. ft.				
<u>Veneers</u>					
Produced	164,758	164,787	0%	649,849	664,948(2)
Shipped(1) ...	158,349	102,421	- 35%	612,538	443,293
Stock	184,262	236,875	+ 29%
<u>Plywoods</u>					
Produced	185,983	194,009	+ 4%	736,802	744,089(2)
Shipped(1) ...	190,065	216,874	+ 14%	721,372	786,231(2)
Stock	209,679	164,173	- 22%

(1) Excludes shipments to veneer and plywood plants in Canada.

(2) Includes revisions for March 1968.

13. Monthly Survey of Steel Warehousing For this survey reports are received from firms considered to account for approximately 90% of the steel warehousing business.

	Sales				Inventories	
	March		January-March		March	
	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968
	tons					
Total Canada:						
Concrete reinforcing bars	4,995	6,616	13,297	15,612	21,503	15,925
Other hot rolled bars	12,700	12,019	35,677	34,365	60,456	53,457
Wire rods	214	264	582	711	798	1,425
Cold finished bars	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Plates	21,675	18,657	58,440	55,808	77,391	73,795
Sheet and strip, hot rolled ..	23,835	13,124	67,244	37,376	70,297	40,161
Sheet and strip, cold rolled .	(2)	13,850	(2)	40,346	(2)	34,244
Galvanized sheet and strip, terneplate	8,308	9,780	24,024	28,681	27,378	30,465
Heavy structural beams	9,239	8,858	28,211	25,625	49,467	44,941
Bar size structural shapes ...	5,986	6,029	16,758	17,071	25,862	24,134
Other structural shapes	9,102	7,445	25,728	20,316	36,480	32,030
Miscellaneous metals, ferrous and other	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Direct mill shipments	(3)	2,662	(3)	8,321	-	-

(1) Incomplete response.

(2) Included in "Sheet and strip, hot rolled".

(3) Not requested in 1967.

14. Steel Ingots Steel ingot production for the week ended June 8 totalled 211,948 tons, a decrease of 4.9% from the preceding week's total of 222,885 tons. The comparable week's total of 1967 was 189,902 tons. The index of production based on the average weekly output during 1957-1959 of 96,108 equalling 100 was 221 in the current week, 232 a week earlier and 198 one year ago.

15. Production and Consumption of Rubber

Periodicity	Consumption of Rubber				Production of Rubber			
	Natural Rubber	Synthetic Rubber	Reclaimed Rubber	Total	Natural Rubber	Synthetic Rubber	Reclaimed Rubber	Total
	'000 lb				'000 lb			
Month of:								
April 1968 ..	8,420	19,084	3,252	30,756	-	35,659	3,194	38,853
April 1967 ..	8,294	19,775	3,529	31,598	-	39,062	3,123	42,185
% change ...	+ 1.5	- 0.4	- 0.9	- 0.3	-	- 0.9	+ 2.3	- 0.8
4 months ended:								
April 1968 ..	36,879	82,686	13,511	133,076	-	148,958	12,658	161,616
April 1967 ..	33,309	78,227	13,690	125,226	-	147,089	9,352	156,441
% change ...	+10.7	+ 5.7	- 0.1	+ 6.3	-	+ 1.3	+35.4	+ 3.3

16. Rigid Insulating Board Total shipments of wood fibre rigid insulating board during April came to 43,334,068 square feet (1/2 inch basis), of which 38,318,650 were domestic shipments and 5,015,418 were exported. Total April 1967 shipments stood at 39,639,020 square feet (revised figure), with domestic shipments accounting for 36,401,747 square feet (revised figure) and exports accounting for 3,237,273.

17. Asbestos Producers' shipments of asbestos (including tonnage for their own use) increased to 123,734 tons in April from the 97,140 tons shipped in the 1967 month. Shipments for the four months ended April totalled 429,320 tons, an increase over the 380,000 shipped during the same period last year.

18. Pulpwood and Wood Residue

	April 1967	April 1968	
cunits			
Pulpwood & Wood Residue			
Produced (Roundwood)	594,838	491,152	- 17%
Consumed (Roundwood & Wood Residue) ..	1,205,079	1,766,481	+ 47%
Closing Inventory (Roundwood & Wood Residue)	9,757,578	10,493,110	+ 8%
Wood Residue			
Receipts	392,018	485,146	+ 24%

19. Sawmills in British Columbia Production of lumber and ties of coast and interior sawmills of British Columbia totalled 579,900 feet board measure during April compared with 607,600 feet board measure during the 1967 month. During the cumulative period, production dropped to 2,463,900 feet board measure this year from 2,547,400 last year.

20. Crop Report Maritimes Throughout the Maritimes Provinces recent rain has improved growing conditions. In Prince Edward Island most of the crops have been planted but there appears to be some frost damage to strawberry plants in certain areas and early plantings of tobacco also suffered some frost damage. Nova Scotia reports that more moisture and heat are needed. In the Cape Breton area considerable seeding still remains to be done while at Antigonish and Pictou, most grain has been sown. The Amherst and Central Nova Scotia areas report seeding almost completed with considerable increase in corn and some frost damage in strawberry and blueberry fields. Seeding is completed in the Annapolis Valley. Frost caused considerable damage to apple, strawberry and potato crops in some areas but the full extent of the damage has not been determined. New Brunswick reports all crops seeded early and farm work advanced at least two weeks ahead of normal, with fruit crops developing buds 7-10 days ahead of normal. There was recent frost damage to strawberries, although none was reported on apples.

Quebec Throughout Quebec average temperatures were experienced during May. Although some late frosts occurred they did not cause any serious damage. Rain has been occasional and light and in many areas dry conditions have resulted in slow growth. Seeding is well advanced in the area around Montreal and elsewhere field-work has gone ahead quickly. Plants showing above the ground are small but prospects are promising. Lack of moisture has hindered growth of hayland and pastures. At this time fields of potatoes, sugarbeets, corn for grain and market garden crops, are in good condition. As growth of grass increases cattle which have overwintered well are being put out of pasture. Milk production is about normal. Although present indications are that a good harvest can be expected for most types of fruits, blueberries in particular are starting very slowly.

Ontario Cool, wet weather had delayed farming operations during the past month. Winterkill on wheat is estimated at about 10% while growth of spring sown grains, wheat, corn, hay and pasture has been retarded by poor weather conditions. Potatoes are nearly all planted and early varieties have emerged. Land is now ready for seeding of dry beans and sowing of soybeans is about 50% completed despite delays due to wet weather. Warm sunny weather is now the main requirement in all areas of the province.

Prairie Provinces Seeding of all crops is nearing completion in the Prairie Provinces. Germination is good in most areas and crops are off to an excellent start. Although recent rainfall has improved surface moisture conditions, soil reserves in many places are still limited. Weed growth, especially wild oats, is a problem in early-sown fields and spraying operations are becoming general. Hay and pasture conditions are variable but improving.

British Columbia Due to timely rain and warmer weather British Columbia has experienced marked improvements of pastures and hay crops. However, normal temperatures and near record rainfall during the period May 31 to June 2, gave rise to losses of the first cut of hay. Fruit crop prospects except cherries and apricots are generally good in the Summerland area. At Vernon in the Okanagan, wet, cool weather during the last two weeks of May reduced droughty conditions and improved soil moisture. May was cold and dry at Prince George. At Smithers in the Skeena River district high early May temperatures promoted crop growth. In the Fort St. John area seeding is about 95% completed with later seedings germinating unevenly because of dry topsoil.

21. The Sugar Situation Refined beet and cane sugar manufactured during April came to 466,127,000 pounds, compared to 483,340,000 in April 1967. Sugar manufactured in the January 1 - April 30 period totalled 934,458,000 pounds (932,196,000 in the 1967 period).
22. Salt Production of dry salt and salt content of brine during April came to 437,949 tons, while production for the year to date totalled 1,643,665 tons. The quantity shipped or used by producers during April amounted to 348,636 tons, with the year to date quantity measuring 1,694,529 tons.

ENERGY

23. Coal Statistics Final coal production figures for March 1968, and preliminary figures for April 1968, indicate an increase for these two months of 22,067 tons, or 1.2%, to 1,885,619 tons from 1,863,552 tons for the same period last year. Landed imports, on the other hand, rose from 1,527,549 tons to 1,216,023 tons, an increase of 288,474 tons, or 18.9%.
24. Electric Power Survey of Capability and Load Total net generating capability in 1967 for firms generating over 10 million kwh. per year increased to 31,370,000 kw. Forecasts for the period 1967-72 indicate a compound growth rate of 8.95% to 48,150,000 kw. compared with a compound growth rate of 6.66% for 1957-67. Firm power peak load is anticipated to grow at a compound rate of 7.02%, compared to the 6.66% growth for 1957-67, with the indicated reserve estimated to increase from the 1967 figure of 3,507,000 kw. to 8,826,000 kw. in 1972. Firm energy requirements in 1967 reached 162,629,000,000 kwh., and are expected to grow at a compound rate of 7.12% in the period 1967-72.

C H E Q U E S

25. Cheques The value of cheques cashed in 51 clearing centres in March totalled \$47,441 million, 2.3% lower than in March 1967. Payments in the Atlantic Provinces rose by 5.2% and in Ontario by 2.7%. Clearings in Quebec, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia showed a decline.

Of the fifty-one clearing centres, thirty-four showed a higher value of cheques cashed than during March 1967. Payments in Montreal declined by 10.4% while Toronto recorded a gain of 2.4%. Winnipeg and Vancouver showed a lower value of cheques cleared.

During the first three months of 1968, the value of cheques cleared was 2.9% above the value for the same period of 1967. Ontario showed an increase of 9.1%, British Columbia 6.1%, the Atlantic Provinces 5.4% and the Prairie Provinces 4.5%. Quebec recorded a decline of 7.3%.

The turnover ratio of current deposits (compiled on an annual basis) was 91.64 compared with 91.49 for March 1967 and the turnover ratio of savings accounts was 1.72 (1.79).

26. Families by Size A 1966 Census report on families by size (Bulletin 93-609) released today shows that 4,526,266 families were enumerated in 1966. This was an increase of 9.1% over the 1961 figure of 4,147,444. The rate of increase that took place in the preceding inter-censal period between 1956 and 1961 was 11.7%. The average size of families for Canada was 3.9 persons in both 1961 and 1966. By province, however, there were some changes, with the average size rising in the provinces from Ontario west to Alberta and dropping in Newfoundland.

R E L E A S E D T H I S W E E K

Catalogue numbers and prices are shown following the titles, except in cases where items are advance information.

1. Index of Industrial Production, April 1968 - Advance information
2. Price Movements, May 1968 (62-001), 10¢/\$1.00
3. Weekly Security Price Indexes, June 6, 1968 - Advance information
4. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, April 1968 (62-003), 10¢/\$1.00
5. Retail Trade, Chain and Independent Stores, by Kind of Business, April 1968 - Advance information
6. Major Appliances, April 1968 - Advance information
7. New Motor Vehicle Sales, April 1968 (63-007), \$2.00 a year
8. Department Store Sales by Regions, May 25, 1968 (63-003), \$2.00 a year
9. Municipal Government Employment, October-December 1967 (72-009), 50¢/\$2.00
10. Urban Transit, March 1968 (53-003), 10¢/\$1.00
11. Carloadings, May 31, 1968 (52-001), \$3.00 a year
12. Veneers and Plywoods, April 1968 - Advance information
13. Monthly Survey of Steel Warehousing, March 1968 (63-010), 10¢/\$1.00
14. Steel Ingot Production, Week ended June 8, 1968 - Advance information
15. Production and Consumption of Rubber, April 1968 - Advance information
16. Rigid Insulating Board, April 1968 (36-002), 10¢/\$1.00
17. Asbestos, April 1968 (26-001), 10¢/\$1.00
18. Pulpwood and Wood Residue, April 1968 - Advance information
19. Sawmills in British Columbia, April 1968 - Advance information
20. Field Crop Reporting Series; Telegraphic Crop Report - Canada (22-002), 20¢/\$4.00
21. The Sugar Situation, April 1968 (32-013), \$1.00 a year
22. Salt, April 1968 (26-009), 10¢/\$1.00
23. Coal Statistics, March and April, 1968 - Advance information
24. Service Bulletin: Energy Statistics, June 12, 1968 (57-002), \$5.00 a year
25. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, March 1968 (61-001), 20¢/\$2.00
26. Census of Canada, Households and Families: Families by Size, 1966 (93-609) 75c
 - Shipments of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, February 1968 (32-004), 30¢/\$3.00
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 - Preliminary Bulletins -- 1966 Annual Census of Manufactures: Manufacturers of Electrical Industrial Equipment (43-207-P); Communications Equipment Manufacturers: (43-206-P); Office and Store Machinery Manufacturers (42-216-P); Paper and Plastic Bag Manufacturers (36-207-P)
 - Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, February 1968 (73-001), 20¢/\$2.00
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- Service Bulletin - Energy Statistics (57-002), Vol. 3 No. 20, \$5.00 a year
- Oils and Fats, March 1968 (32-006), 20¢/\$2.00
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- Service Bulletin: Stocks of Canned Foods (Preliminary) April 1968, IND-SB-1-4(1), June 7, 1968
- Service Bulletin: Energy Statistics (57-002), Vol. 3, No. 21, June 11, 1968
- Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, February 1968 (24-002), \$3.00 a year
- Retail Trade, April 1968 (63-005), 30¢/\$3.00
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- Railroad Rolling Stock Industry, 1966 (42-211), 50¢

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