## Farm Input I'rice Index

(1961=100)
The farm input price index for Canada advanced to 170.7 in the third quarter of 1973, up $7.3 \%$ from the previous quarter, and $20.1 \%$ higher than a year earlier.

Over the twelve months since the third quarter of 1972, costs have increased 26.6\% for farmers in Eastern Canada and $12.7 \%$ for western farmers. (Livestock feed, up $75 \%$ during the period, accounted for $13 \%$ of the eastern farm inputs, but only $2.7 \%$ of all inputs in the western index).

In the latest quarter, livestock feed prices rose $25.8 \%$, accounting for approximately two-thirds of the $7.3 \%$ advance. Higher prices for feeder cattle (up $14.7 \%$ ), hired labour ( $5.1 \%$ ), motor vehicle operation ( $2.9 \%$ ) and building materials also contributed to the rise in the total index.

For further information, order Farm Input Price Indexes, Third Quarter 1973 (62-004. $25(1 \$ 1)$.

## Railway Operating Statistics

Canada's six major common carrier railways reported revenues totalling $\$ 87.0$ million in the strike-affected month of August, a decline of $41.1 \%$ from a year earlier. Expenses were down only $17.8 \%$ to $\$ 120.9$ million, resulting in a deficit of $\$ 34.0$ million for the month (versus net income of $\$ 1.2$ million in August 1972).

Freight ton-miles dropped 35.5 million in the latest month and passenger-miles were down 22.2 million.

For the January-August period of 1973, railway revenues increased $6.7 \%$ to $\$ 1.27$ billion; expenses rose $8.8 \%$ to $\$ 1.25$ billion. Net income of $\$ 16.4$ million was $56.6 \%$ lower than in the corresponding period in 1972.

For further information, order the August 1973 issue of Railway Operating Statistics (52.003, 20\$/\$2), or contact J.R. Slattery (613.996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A OV5.



Preliminary Statement of Canadian Trade, September 1973
Canadian imports in September at $\$ 1.78$ billion were $19.5 \%$ higher than a year earlier.

Commercial vehicles, motor vehicle parts (incorporating retroactive price adjustments), food, industrial machinery and non-ferrous metals contributed $44 \%$ of the $\$ 270$ million import gain from the United States. Crude petroleum accounted for most of the $\$ 21$ million increase in imports from overseas countries.

Cumulatively, Canadian imports rose $23.0 \%$ to $\$ 16.7$ billion in the January. September period of 1973. Imports from the United States accounted for some $80 \%$ of the gain this year, with the most notable increases recorded for automotive and related products, industrial machinery, aircraft and food.

Imports from overseas countries were significantly higher for crude petroleum, food, apparel and footwear, and industrial machinery.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, imports in September at $\$ 1.94$ billion were up $1.3 \%$ from the month before.

Imports for the third quarter of 1973 at $\$ 5.80$ billion were up $\$ 242$ million from the preceding quarter. With a decline of $\$ 176$ million to $\$ 5.99$ billion (revised) in exports, Canada's thirdquarter merchandise trade surplus stood at $\$ 196$ million (down from $\$ 614$ million in the second quarter and $\$ 359$ million in the first quarter of 1973).

For further information. order the September 1973 issues of Summary of Imports (65.005,20d/\$2), and Summary of Exports (65-002, 20\$/\$2).

## Canadian Net Exports of Electric Power



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## THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

## Consumer Credit, September

Consumer Price Movements, October
Department Store Sales by Regions, September
Housing Starts and Completions, September
New Motor Vehicle Sales, September
The Labour Force, October
Industry Selling Price Index:

## Manufacturing

( $1961=100$ )
The industry selling price index for manufacturing declined to 147.4 in September, down 0.3\% from August, but 14.7\% higher than in September 1972.

Sixty-five of the 102 industry indexes included in the total index were higher in the latest month, 11 declined and 26 were unchanged.

The more notable increases were in: the textile group (particularly cotton yarn and cloth mills); men's clothing; the furniture and wood groups; paper industries group (corrugated box manufacturers); the petroleum and coal group; and in bakeries. The increases were more than offset by decreases in the food and beverages group (slaughtering and meat packing), flour mills and vegetable oil mills. The decline in flour mills followed upon a sharp advance in August.

Over the year, September to September, the largest price advances were shown by the following component group indexes:

- Foods and beverages industries, up $26.8 \%$; Wood industries, $18.9 \%$; Primary metal industries, $17.6 \%$; Petroleum and coal products industries, $20.4 \%$.
For further information, order the September 1973 issue of Prices and Price Indexes (62-002, 40d/\$4).


## Cheques Cashed <br> in Clearing Centres

The value of cheques cashed in clearing centres in July totalled $\$ 116.8$ billion, up $30.7 \%$ from a year earlier.

Of the fifty clearing centres, fortyeight showed a higher value of cheques cashed in the latest menth. Payments in Vancouver rose by $46.7 \%$, Toronto $35.4 \%$, Montreal $26.0 \%$ and Winnipeg $25.2 \%$

For further information, order the Juty 1973 issue of Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres (61-001. 20d/82).

General Wholesale Index
$119.35-39=10(1)$
The general wholesale price index declined to 400.0 in September, down $0.7 \%$ from 402.7 (revised) in August, but $27.4 \%$ higher than the September 1972 level.

In the latest month, four of the eight major group indexes were lower, while four advanced.

The animal products group index fell $4.9 \%$ in September on price decreases for animal oils and fats, fresh and cured meats, hides and skins, and livestock. The vegetable products group index dropped $1.2 \%$ on lower prices for potatoes, vegetable oil and its products, onions, and milled cereal foods.
Textile prices rose $5.1 \%$ with increases recorded for raw cotton, cotton yarns, miscellaneous cotton products, cotton fabrics and worsted yarns. An advance of $1.1 \%$ in the non-metallic minerals products group index reflected price increases for asbestos, asphalt, coke and plaster.
Over the twelve months from September 1972, the following advances were recorded by the major group indexes:

- Vegetable products, $63.0 \%$; Animal products, $30.8 \%$; Textile products, $25.4 \%$; Non-ferrous metals, $24.5 \%$; Wood products, $14.4 \%$, Iron products, $11.3 \%$; Non-metallic minerals, $9.9 \%$; Chemical products, 7.3\%.

For further information, order the Septernber 1973 issue of Prices and Price Indexes (62-002, 404/\$4).


Source: Restaurant Statistics (63-011)

Corporations and Labour Unions
Retunss Act
Report for 1971

## Part II-Labour Unions

In 1971, Canadian membership of labour organizations reporting under the Corporations and Labour Unions Return Act totalled $2,375,182$, an increase of $107,656(4.7 \%)$ from the year before. Labour organization returns for 1971 were filed by 172 international and national unions, reporting on 10,361 local branches in Canada. This supplementary report presents a comprehensive statistical picture of the dimensions of union organization, financial operations and other related factors.

Some of the highlights as charted here: - The manufacturing industry was the major contribut or to union membership and local union organization in Canada in 1971, making up about $33 \%$ of the total membership, even though it was not the most highly-organized industry. The second-largest component group was service industries with about $18 \%$ of the union members in Canada. Public administration and transportation and other utilities came next with $14.9 \%$ each, and the construction industry with $10 \%$ (chart).

- During the 1970-71 period, women's representation in the organized labour force covered by the Act rose by 44,935 to 558,138 members. Women workers comprised $23.5 \%$ of all union members in Canada in 1971, as compared with $22.6 \%$ in 1970 and $16.4 \%$ in 1962 (chart).

For the full range of data and analysis. order: Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act, Report for 1971, Part II-Labour Unions (71-202 supplement, n/c).



## Residential Building Construction Input Price Index <br> (1971 = 100)

The residential building construction input price index for Canada moved up to 124.7 in September, up 0.6\% from the month before, and $10.6 \%$ higher than in September 1972.

Over the twelve months, September to September, prices of building materials used in residential construction rose $11.2 \%$; labour costs advanced $10.0 \%$.

For further information, order the Septem. ber 1973 issue of Prices and Price Indexes 162.002, $40 \mathrm{~d} / \mathrm{\$ 4}$ ) or contact P. Du Brute (613-996-2565), Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa KIA OVS.

## Non-Residential Building Construction Input Price Index <br> (1961=100)

The non-residential building construction input price index for Canada advanced to 201.8 in September, up $2.1 \%$ from the month before, and $8.7 \%$ higher than in September 1972.

The materials component of the total index has risen $11.0 \%$ over the twelve months since September 1972; the labour component is up $7.0 \%$.

Under the nlaterials grouping, lumber and lumber products have risen $24.0 \%$ during the period, steel and metal work $10.7 \%$, electrical equipment $10.3 \%$, plumbing, heating and other equipment $9.2 \%$, concrete products $6.6 \%$ and other materials 7.4\%.

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[^0]:    Source: Electric Power Statistics $\mathbf{( 5 7 . 0 0 1 1}$

