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# INFORMAT

Weekly Bulletin



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CATALOGUE 11-002

## Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics

Canadian industrial corporations recorded estimated after-tax profits of \$2.16 billion for the first quarter of 1974, an increase of \$679 million (45.7%) from the corresponding period last year.

Sales in the latest quarter were estimated at \$41.8 billion, up \$8.1 billion (24.0%) from the first quarter of 1973.

Assets of industrial corporations increased by \$15.56 billion (14.5%) from a year earlier.

For further information, order the first quarter 1974 issue of *Industrial Corporations, Financial Statistics* (61-003, \$1.40/\$5.60), or contact J.D. Wilson (613-994-9622), Business Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z7.

## Index of Industrial Production

(1961=100)

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production declined to 222.4 in April, down 1.1% from 224.8 (revised) in March, but 3.7% above the April 1973 level of 214.5.

Total manufacturing output dropped 1.5% in the latest month with non-durable manufacturing off 1.1% and durable manufacturing down 1.9%. Utilities output decreased 0.2% in April, while mining output showed an 0.7% increase.

For further information, order the April 1974 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, 40¢/\$4), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0570), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z6.

## Farm Equipment Sales

Farm implement and equipment sales for the first four months of 1974 totalled \$128.6 million, up 21.9% from January-April 1973.

Sales of repair parts for farm equipment showed an increase of 34.8% to \$40.0 million in the latest period.

For further information, order the April 1974 issue of *Farm Implement and Equipment Sales* (63-009, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Y. Lebel (613-996-9307), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

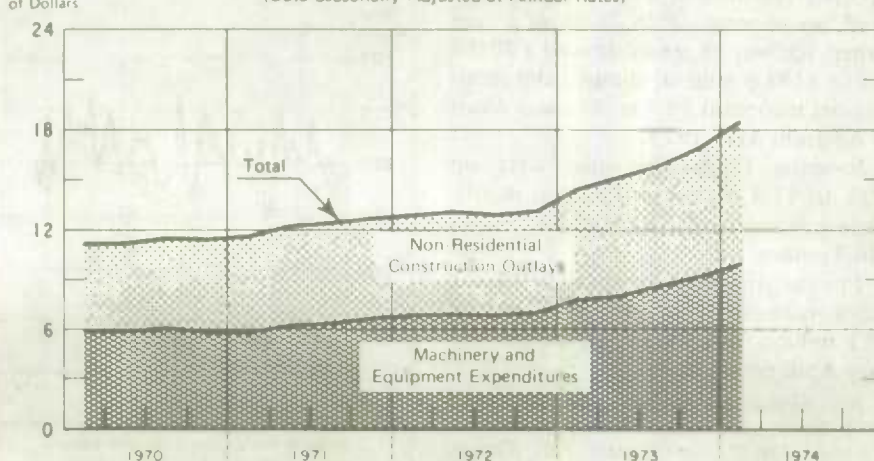
## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Mar.	170.48P	168.76P	8.5
Labour Income (\$ million)	Mar.	5,829P	5,693P	14.3
Persons with Jobs (million)	May	9.15	8.87	3.5
Unemployed	May	524,000	568,000	6.3
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Department Store (\$ million)	Apr.	1,265	1,196	21.1
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Apr.	11,824P	11,639P	24.6
Wholesale (\$ million)	Apr.	5,141	5,109	18.4
<b>ORDERS</b>				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	6,623P	6,610P	22.9
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Apr.	8,815P	8,564P	46.1
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1961=100)	May	164.6	161.9	10.9
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	Apr.	165.0	162.2P	19.4
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Apr.	452.2	444.5P	27.0
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Mar.	787.8P		Year-to-date 1,777 20.0
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	Apr.	15,782	51,608	-0.4
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Electricity Generation (billion Kwh.)	Apr.	22.8	98.1	9.1
Gas Utilities' Sales (billion cu. ft.)	Mar.	136.8	432.4	13.4
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Mar.	56.2	164.9	10.1
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports (\$ million)	Apr.	2,453P	9,334	21.6
Imports (\$ million)	Apr.	2,404P	9,150	29.4
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Apr.	143.4	578.9	-1.1
Steel (ingots - thousand tons)	May	1,227	6,051	0.4
<b>SALES</b>				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	382	1,300	18.6
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Apr.	6,372P	24,521	20.3
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	580	1,907	5.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Mar.	3,324	9,221	11.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Apr.	3,393	12,808	27.1

Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. P - preliminary. P - revised.

## Business Investment in Plant and Equipment

(Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)



Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (13-001)

### Department Store Sales

Department store sales rose to \$382.1 million in April, an increase of 21.1% from \$315.6 million in April 1973.

Sales were up in all 40 departments in the latest month with the largest advances recorded by women's and misses' coats and suits (40.3%), hardware, paints, wallpaper, etc. (34.8%) and jewellery (33.3%).

All provinces reported increased department store sales over April 1973, ranging from a high of 39.9% for Saskatchewan to a low of 15.1% for New Brunswick. Sales were up 23.5% in Montreal, 18.0% in Winnipeg, 16.5% in Vancouver and 14.5% in Toronto.

Inventories held in April (at selling price) were valued at \$1.26 billion, up 21.1% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the April 1974 issue of *Department Store Sales and Stocks* (63-002, 30¢/\$3), or contact R. Potvin (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

### Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in April were estimated at \$3.39 billion, up 22.3% from a year earlier.

The most significant sales change in the consumer goods trades was a 20.0% increase registered by the "groceries and food specialties" component.

In the industrial goods trades, the most notable item was a 94.7% gain for the "iron and steel" category.

Wholesale inventories were valued at \$5.14 billion in the latest month, an increase of 18.4% over April 1973.

For further information, order the April 1974 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, 15¢/\$1.50).

### Railway Operating Statistics

Six major railways operating in Canada reported revenues of \$199.3 million for April, an increase of 18.3% from a year earlier. Railway expenses showed a 20.0% rise to \$193.6 million, though, and resultant net income at \$5.7 million was down 19.6% from April 1973.

Revenue freight ton-miles were up 7.0% to 11.3 billion in the latest month while passenger-miles increased 11.9% to 146.9 million.

For the first four months of 1974, the major railways reported net income of \$5.1 million, down 85.9% from the January-April period in 1973.

For further information, order the April 1974 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, 30¢/\$3), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9276), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

### THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Department Store Sales by Regions, May

General Wholesale Index, May

New Motor Vehicle Sales, May

Retail Trade, April

Summary of Foreign Trade, May

### The Wheat Review

Total exports of wheat (including flour in terms of wheat) from the four traditional major exporters during the August-April period of the current crop year amounted to 1,356.0 million bushels, a 12% decrease from the corresponding period a year earlier.

Exports from these countries were as follows, in millions of bushels and with last year's comparable figures in brackets: United States, 905.6 (860.9); Canada, 283.4 (410.4); Australia, 138.9 (158.3); and Argentina, 28.1 (102.7).

Wheat supplies held by the four traditional major exporters at May 1, 1974 for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 1,229.5 million bushels, down 12% from a year earlier.

Supplies were held as follows, in millions of bushels and with last year's comparable figures in brackets: Canada, 545.7 (531.6); United States, 346.9 (696.8); Australia, 209.6 (86.1); and Argentina, 127.3 (76.3).

For further information, order the May 1974 issue of *The Wheat Review* (22-005, 40¢/\$4).

### Consumer Credit

Consumer credit outstanding on the books of selected credit holders reporting monthly totalled \$14.52 billion at the end of April, an increase of 18.4% from a year earlier.

Personal cash loans by chartered banks rose to \$9.55 billion in the latest month, up 22.4% from April 1973.

Sales finance and consumer loan companies held \$1.18 billion balances of retail instalment sales paper (an expansion of 13.5% from a year earlier) and had \$1.46 billion outstanding of personal cash loans (up 12.7%).

Total outstanding balances on the books of credit holders reporting quarterly as well as those reporting monthly had reached \$17.98 billion at the end of March, a level 18.9% higher than that reached a year earlier.

For further information, order the April 1974 issue of *Consumer Credit* (61-004, 30¢/\$3), or contact Consumer Credit Section (613-996-9278 or Telex 053-3585), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities

Consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities and city-combinations in May with increases ranging from 1.0% in Ottawa to 2.3% in Winnipeg.

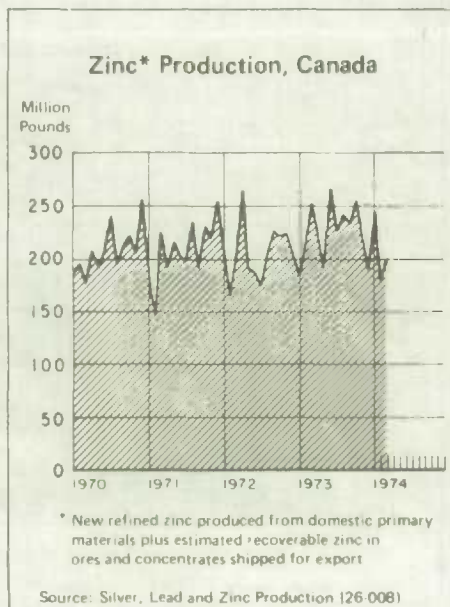
Food indexes advanced in all cities as prices were higher for most items of home-consumed and restaurant food. Lower quotations, however, were recorded in most centres for pork products, poultry and eggs.

Housing components rose in all cities, reflecting generally-increased shelter costs and higher prices, in a number of cities, for fuel oil, furniture, floor coverings and household supplies.

Transportation components advanced in all but one centre, with the largest increases recorded in those cities where gasoline prices moved up markedly. Higher prices were also registered for new cars and trans-Atlantic air fares showed a seasonal rise.

Over the twelve months from May 1973, consumer price indexes rose in all regional cities, with increases as follows: St. John's, 12.9%; Montreal, 11.8%; Quebec City, 11.6%; Ottawa, 11.1%; Winnipeg, 11.1%; Vancouver, 11.0%; Thunder Bay, 11.0%; Toronto, 10.5%; Saint John, 10.1%; Edmonton-Calgary, 10.0%; Halifax, 9.9%; and Saskatoon-Regina, 9.1%.

For further information, order the May 1974 issue of *Prices and Price Indexes* (62-002, 55¢/\$5.50).





### Canada's Foreign Trade in Automotive and Related Products

Canada's trade in automotive products with the United States produced a first-quarter 1974 deficit of \$143 million, a marked contrast with the \$56 million surplus recorded in the corresponding period last year. It was, however, lower than the \$180 million deficit experienced in the fourth quarter of 1973.

Imports of automotive products from the United States totalled \$1.47 billion in the latest quarter, up 10.5% from a year earlier. Exports of these products to the U.S. showed a 4% drop to \$1.33 billion.

Lower Canadian exports of automotive products were due to a 20% fall in the value of parts shipments (reflecting the sharp cutback in vehicle production in the U.S.). However, exports of automobiles advanced 6.5% in the latest quarter and truck exports were up 11%.

### Gold Production

Gold production declined to 150,115 troy ounces in April from 163,025 troy ounces a year earlier.

Gold production for the first four months of 1974 at 587,041 troy ounces showed a drop of 12.0% from 654,260 troy ounces in January-April 1973.

For further information, order the April 1974 issue of *Gold Production* (26-004, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Art Symons (613-992-0491), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Railway Transport: Part V, 1973

Despite rotating strikes during the summer along with a nation-wide strike lasting from August 23 to September 2, railways operating in Canada carried 265.9 million tons of revenue freight in 1973, a gain of 11.8% from the preceding year.

Domestic loadings (excluding traffic received from United States connections) rose 12.4% to 240.0 million tons, while receipts from U.S. railways were up 6.0% to 26.0 million tons.

Of the seven major commodity groups under which 320 classes of freight are recorded only two, live animals, and food, feed, beverages and tobacco, registered declines.

Crude materials, accounting for 52% of all rail freight carried, registered the largest gain at 23.9% to 138.2 million tons.

For further information, order *Railway Transport: Part V, 1973* (52-211, \$2.10), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9276), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

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### Unemployment Insurance

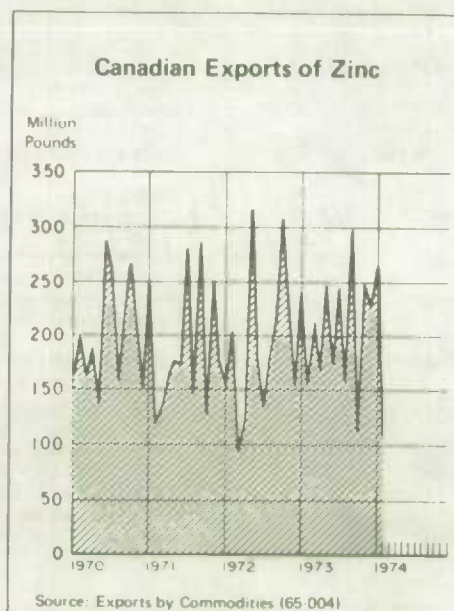
Benefit paid to claimants under the Unemployment Insurance Act totalled \$211 million in April, down 5% from \$221 million in March but 5% more than the \$201 million disbursed in April 1973.

The average weekly payment was \$75.24 in the latest month, up 10% from \$68.56 a year earlier.

Initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance numbered 156,000 in April, down 2% from the March total of 159,000 but 4% more than the 150,000 received in April 1973.

For the first four months of 1974, payments under the act amounted to \$900 million, an increase of 2% from \$883 million disbursed in the corresponding period in 1973.

For further information, order the April 1974 issue of *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act* (73-001, 40¢/\$4), or contact George Fincham (613-992-7461), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.



### Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries

Manufacturers' seasonally-adjusted new orders in April were estimated at \$6.47 billion, down 0.3% from the revised March level of \$6.48 billion. New orders for durable goods increased 1.2%, while those for non-durable goods showed a 1.5% decline.

Unfilled orders in April, seasonally adjusted, were estimated at \$8.73 billion, up 3.0% from \$8.48 billion (revised) in March.

Total inventory owned (seasonally adjusted) was 2.0% higher at \$11.77 billion.

The seasonally-adjusted ratio of total inventory owned — to shipments rose to 1.89 in April from 1.82 (revised) in March, while the finished products — to shipments ratio moved up to 0.62 from 0.60 a month earlier.

Manufacturers' shipments in the latest month, seasonally adjusted, were estimated at \$6.22 billion, a drop of 1.7% from the revised March value of \$6.32 billion.

Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in April decreased 0.1% from a month earlier to reach \$6.37 billion. Shipments for the first four months of 1974 totalled \$24.52 billion, up 20.3% from \$20.38 billion in the corresponding period in 1973.

For further information, order the April 1974 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, 55¢/\$5.50), or contact H.D. Wightman (613-996-7008), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Telephone Industry Statistics

Canadian telephone systems reported net operating revenue of \$65.9 million for April, an increase of 16.2% from April 1973.

Gross operating revenues of the thirteen major telephone companies rose 12.7% to \$193.0 million in the latest month; operating expenses were up 18.3% to \$127.1 million.

Construction expenditures of the companies increased 38.1% to \$105.8 million from \$76.6 million a year earlier.

For the first four months of 1974, net operating revenue of the telephone companies totalled \$253.4 million, up 13.1% from \$224.0 million in the corresponding period in 1973.

For further information, order *Communications Service Bulletin* (56-001, \$1.40 a year), Vol. 4, No. 10, *Monthly Telephone Statistics*, April 1974.

# THESE PUBLICATIONS RELEASED JUNE 13 - 19

	Catalogue	Price per issue/year		Catalogue	Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
Index of Farm Production, 1973	21-203	35¢	Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, March 1974	35-003	30¢/\$3
Production of Eggs and Poultry, April 1974	23-003	30¢/\$3	Rigid Insulating Board, April 1974	36-002	15¢/\$1.50
The Dairy Review, April 1974	23-001	40¢/\$4	Steel Ingots and Pig Iron, May 1974	41-002	15¢/\$1.50
The Wheat Review, May 1974	22-005	40¢/\$4	Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products, April 1974	41-006	15¢/\$1.50
<b>CENSUS</b>					
Population Estimates for Counties and Census Divisions, 1972	91-206	70¢	Stone Quarries, 1972	26-217	70¢
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>					
Building Permits, March 1974	64-001	55¢/\$5.50	The Sugar Situation, April 1974	32-013	15¢/\$1.50
Fixed Capital Flows and Stocks, 1926-1973	13-211	\$3.50	<b>PRELIMINARY BULLETINS</b>		
Housing Starts and Completions, April 1974	64-002	40¢/\$4	1972 Census of Manufactures -		
<b>EXTERNAL TRADE</b>					
Summary of Exports, April 1974	65-002	30¢/\$3	Biscuit Manufacturers	32-202-p	
Summary of Imports, March 1974	65-005	30¢/\$3	Hosiery Mills	34-215-p	
<b>FINANCIAL FLOWS AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES</b>					
System of National Accounts - Financial Flow Accounts, Fourth Quarter 1973	13-002	\$1.40/\$5.60	Manufacturers of Electrical Industrial Equipment	43-207-p	
<b>HEALTH AND WELFARE</b>					
Surgical Procedures and Treatments, 1971	82-208	\$2.10	Manufacturers of Pre-Fabricated Build- ings (Wood-Frame Construction)	35-205-p	
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>					
Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers, 1972	36-205	70¢	Miscellaneous Chemical Industries	46-216-p	
Biscuits and Confectionery, Quarter ended March 31, 1974	32-016	35¢/\$1.40	Miscellaneous Wood Industries	35-208-p	
Bread and Other Bakery Products, Quarter ended March 31, 1974	32-015	35¢/\$1.40	Ornamental and Architectural Metal Industry	41-221-p	\$3.50 for series
Cement, April 1974	44-001	15¢/\$1.50	Shingle Mills	35-204-p	
Coal and Coke Statistics, March 1974	45-002	40¢/\$4	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Pro- duction, January 1974	26-006	30¢/\$3	Electrical Products - Vol. 3, No. 5, Domestic Water Tank Heaters, April 1974	43-007	\$1.40 per year
Domestic Refrigerators and Freezers, April 1974	43-001	15¢/\$1.50	Energy Statistics - Vol. 9, No. 54, Salient Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Statistics, February, 1974; Vol. 9 No. 55, Preliminary Electric Energy Statistics, April 1974	57-002	\$4.20 per year
Domestic Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers, April 1974	43-002	15¢/\$1.50	Fabricated Metal Products - Vol. 3, No. 4, April 1974: Cemented Tung- sten Carbide Blanks and Tools, Domes- tic and Farm Water Systems; Oil Filters and Cartridges; Vol. 2, No. 4, Sanitaryware, April 1974	41-009	\$2.80 per year
Garment Shipments, Quarter Ended September 30, 1973	34-001	35¢/\$1.40	Fish and Fish Products - Vol. 3, No. 40, April 1974: Fish Freezing and Stocks, British Columbia; Vol. 3, No. 41, Canada; Vol. 3, No. 39, Ontario; Vol. 3, No. 38, Quebec	24-003	\$1.40 per year
Gypsum Products, April 1974	44-003	15¢/\$1.50	Fruit and Vegetable Preservation - Vol. 3, No. 4, 1974 Pack of Frozen Fruits and Vegetables as Reported up to the End of April 1974	32-023	\$1.40 per year
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, January 1974	31-001	55¢/\$5.50	Phonograph Records and Pre-Recorded Tapes - Vol. 2, No. 4, Production and Sales of Phonograph Records and Pre-Recorded Tapes in Canada, April 1974	47-004	\$1.40 per year
Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipe and Fittings, April 1974	41-004	15¢/\$1.50	<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>		
Leaf Tobacco Acreage, Production and Value, 1973	22-205	35¢	Department Store Sales and Stocks, March 1974	63-002	30¢/\$3
Manufacturers of Major Appliances, (Electric and Non-Electric), 1972	43-204	70¢	Merchandising Inventories, March 1974	63-014	40¢/\$4
Manufacturers of Miscellaneous Electrical Products, 1972	43-210	70¢	Sales Financing, March 1974	63-013	30¢/\$3
Mineral Wool, April 1974	44-004	15¢/\$1.50	<b>PRICES</b>		
Miscellaneous Metal Fabricating Industries, 1972	41-228	70¢	Consumer Price Movements, May 1974	62-001	15¢/\$1.50
Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, March 1974	24-002	40¢/\$4	<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
Motor Vehicle Parts and Accessories Manufacturers, 1972	42-210	70¢	Transcontinental and Regional Air Carrier Operations, February 1974	51-001	40¢/\$4
Motor Vehicle Shipments, April 1974	42-002	15¢/\$1.50	<b>SERVICE BULLETINS</b>		
Office and Store Machinery Manufac- turers, 1972	42-216	70¢	Aviation Statistics Centre - Vol. 6, No. 32, Canada-USA Scheduled Air Passenger, Origin and Destina- tion, Fourth Quarter 1972 and 1973; Vol. 6, No. 34, Civil Aviation, 4th Quarter 1973	51-004	\$4.20 per year
Oil Burners and Oil-Fired Hot Water Heaters, April 1974	41-008	15¢/\$1.50	Communications - Vol. 4, No. 10, Monthly Telephone Statistics, April 1974	56-001	\$1.40 per year
Oils and Fats, March 1974	32-006	30¢/\$3			
Pack, Shipments and Stocks of Selected Canned Fruits and Vegetables, April 1974	32-011	30¢/\$3			
Particle Board, April 1974	36-003	15¢/\$1.50			