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# INFORMAT

## Weekly Bulletin

### Motor Vehicle Production

Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 85,137 units in August, up 10.4% from 77,131 a year earlier.

Passenger car production increased to 66,873 units from 59,954 and production of commercial vehicles rose to 18,264 units from 17,177 in August 1974.

For the first eight months of 1975, Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 897,479 units, down 12.5% from 1,025,786 in January-August 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Motor Vehicle Shipments* (42-002, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact J. More (613-992-0388), *Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6*.

### The Wheat Review

Canada's wheat exports during the 1974-75 crop year totalled 394.6 million bushels, down 5.9% from 419.4 million bushels in the previous August-July period.

Shipments to the People's Republic of China increased to 82.4 million bushels from 53.7 million and those to the United Kingdom rose to 57.6 million bushels from 45.5 million. Exports to the U.S.S.R. declined to 12.9 million bushels in the latest crop year from 36.0 million in August 1973-July 1974.

Wheat supplies remaining at the July 31, 1975 close of the Canadian crop year amounted to 288.1 million bushels, down 22.5% from 371.7 million on hand one year earlier.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *The Wheat Review* (22-005, 55¢/\$5.50).

### Residential Building Permits

There were building permits taken out in metropolitan areas of Canada in August for 13,476 dwelling units, an increase of 14.3% from 11,788 a year earlier.

The tally for the latest month was as follows, by metropolitan area and with August 1974 figures in brackets: Calgary, 782 (442); Chicoutimi-Jonquiere, 64 (126); Edmonton, 1,056 (499); Halifax, 334 (399); Hamilton, 794 (619); Hull, 399 (102); Kitchener, 603 (366); London, 178 (317); Montreal, 2,515 (2,409); Ottawa, 572 (751); Quebec City, 442 (285); Regina, — (185); St. Catharines-Niagara, 329 (147); Saint John, 58 (54); St. John's, 15 (15); Saskatoon, 124 (102); Sudbury, 122 (38); Thunder Bay, 265 (55); Toronto, 3,516 (2,211); Vancouver, 668 (1,365); Victoria, 44 (618); Windsor, 200 (198); Winnipeg, 96 (485).

(It should be noted that August 1975 data for the cities of Regina, Vancouver and Victoria are preliminary only and are subject to later revision).

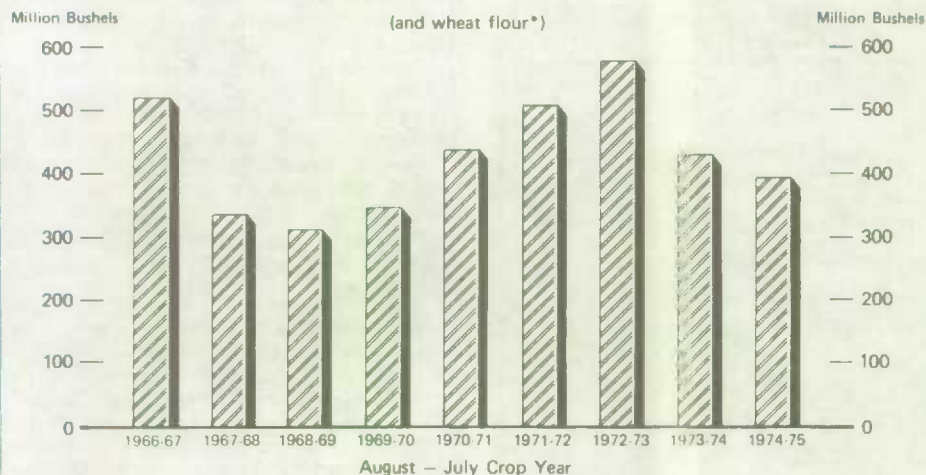
For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

### LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	July	204.27p	203.16p	13.4
Labour Income (\$ million)	July	7,335p	7,403p	14.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	Aug.	9.78	9.83	0.8
Unemployed	Aug.	623,000	653,000	39.4
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Department Store (\$ million)	June	1,310	1,463	4.9
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	July	15,046p	15,215r	16.4
Wholesale (\$ million)	July	6,515	6,611	16.0
<b>ORDERS</b>				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	July	6,802p	7,236r	2.0
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	July	9,771p	9,918r	-0.6
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Aug.	141.2	139.8	11.1
Industry Selling Price Index (1961=100)	July	191.8	190.3r	10.8
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	July	490.2	483.9r	5.6
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	June	950.7	4,473	-4.8
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	July	18,784	83,578	-22.0
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	June	2,348	13,796	23.5
Electricity Generation (billion kwh.)	July	20.3	160.2	-1.9
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	May	275.3	1,463.3	-1.6
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	June	50.4	310.2	-4.1
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports (\$ million)	Aug.*	2,262	21,164	1.9
Imports (\$ million)	Aug.*	2,563	22,776	13.0
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	July	93.0	812.3	-14.4
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Aug.	1,063	9,658	-0.6
<b>SALES</b>				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	July	445.2	2,826	12.1
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	July	6,450p	48,534	6.9
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	July	621.6	4,122	10.4
Retail Sales (\$ million)	July	4,253	26,991	10.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	July	4,076	25,846	3.7

Statistics are not seasonally adjusted. p - preliminary. r - revised. \* - new this week.

### Exports of Canadian Wheat



### Foreign Long-term Investment in Canada, 1973

The book value of total foreign long-term investment in Canada at the end of 1973 stood at \$54,570 million, an increase of 9% over 1972. Of this accumulated stock of external liabilities, direct investment represented the largest part, with 60%, while government bonds accounted for 18%.

Direct investment, representing the stock of capital (both long-term debt and equity) in Canadian enterprises that is attributable to the foreign country of control, rose 11% to \$32,835 million. Portfolio investment, including government bonds, grew 7% to \$18,461 million.

Investors in the United States, both corporate and individual, continued to own the largest share at 77%, unchanged from 1972. The proportions of accumulated international obligations owned by the residents of the United Kingdom and by the all other countries group also remained unchanged at 9% and 14%, respectively.

Long-term investment in Canada owned by residents of the U.S. and the United Kingdom both increased 9% to \$42,050 million and \$4,963 million, respectively, while investments owned in all other countries combined grew 11% to \$7,557 million from 1972 year-end.

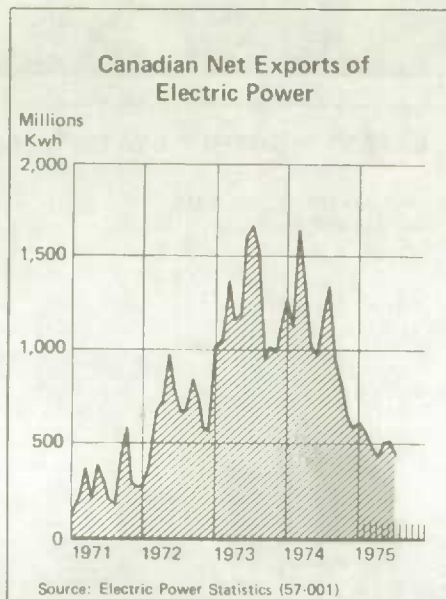
Of the total holdings by U.S. investors, direct investment comprised 62%, or \$26,074 million, while government bonds represented 18%. U.S. investment in manufacturing comprised 30% of the total with the largest shares in the iron and iron products and the wood and paper products industries. The two extractive industries, petroleum and natural gas and mining and smelting, accounted for \$11,361 million or 27% of the total.

Of total holdings in Canada by United Kingdom residents at the end of 1973, direct investment at \$3,124 million comprised 63% while government securities represented only 7%. A large part of the investment was concentrated in the financial industry (mostly insurance and real estate enterprises).

For further information, contact F. Chow (613-996-2545), Balance of Payments Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0Z8.

### THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Building Permits, July  
Consumer Price Movements, September  
General Wholesale Price Index, August  
Housing Starts and Completions, August  
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, August  
Real Domestic Product, August  
The Labour Force, September



### Federal Government Employment

Canada's federal government had 452,611 employees on March 31, 1975, an increase of 9,419 (2.1%) from a year earlier.

Gross payrolls for the first quarter of 1975 amounted to \$1.26 billion, up 11.7% from the corresponding period in 1974.

For further information, order *Federal Government Employment, First Quarter 1975* (72-004, 70¢/\$2.80).

### Railway Carloadings

The volume of revenue carload freight loaded in August was down 12.6% from a year earlier to 18.7 million tons. Non-carload traffic at 130,994 tons was approximately half that reported in August 1974.

Rail shipments received from U.S. connections dropped 26.2% to 1.7 million tons.

Almost all major classes of freight were loaded in lesser volume in the latest month; only coal, with a 69.0% increase to 2.1 million tons, showed a significant gain over August 1974.

Cumulatively, rail loadings for the first eight months of 1975 totalled 165.8 million tons, down 8.8% from the corresponding period last year. Of the larger-volume commodities moved by rail, only coal and copper-nickel ores registered notable increases, rising 36.8% and 21.6%, respectively.

For further information, order the *August 1975 issue of Railway Carloadings* (52-001, 30¢/\$3).

### Canada Year Book

Now available is the 1974 edition of the Year Book, an authoritative reference work giving textual and statistical information on Canada's physical and natural resources, social and economic conditions, government organizations, industry, finance and legal systems.

Order *Canada Year Book, 1974* (11-202E, \$9) from *Publications Distribution, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6*.

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

The residential building construction input price index for Canada advanced to 147.9 in August, an increase of 0.8% from the July level and up 8.2% from a year earlier.

Prices of materials used in residential building construction increased 5.2% over the 12 months from August 1974; labour costs rose 13.7%.

During this period, residential building construction input price indexes advanced in all regions of Canada, with increases recorded as follows: Quebec, 11.1%; British Columbia, 8.4%; Prairie Provinces, 7.9%; Ontario, 7.2%; and Atlantic Provinces, 5.9%.

Labour cost indexes showed the following increases (by region): Quebec, 19.7%; British Columbia, 15.7%; Ontario, 11.8%; Prairie Provinces, 11.4%; and Atlantic Provinces, 10.7%.

For further information, order the *August 1975 issue of Construction Price Statistics, Monthly Bulletin* (62-007, \$4 per year), or contact L.J. Seary (613-994-5833), Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

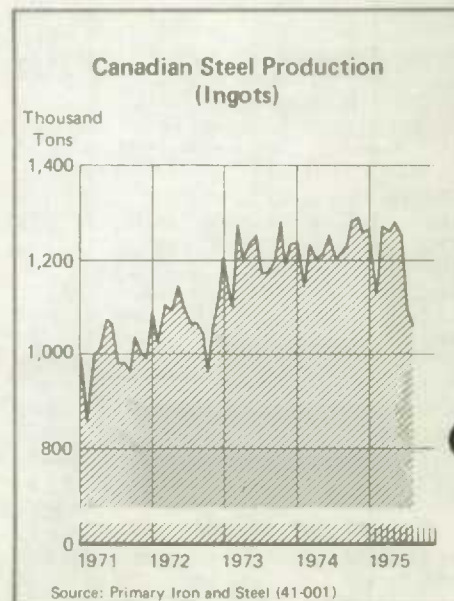
### Telephone Statistics, 1974

Canadian telephone systems reported after-tax profits of \$280.7 million in 1974, up fractionally from \$280.3 million in 1973.

Gross operating revenues rose 14.5% to \$2.44 billion in the latest year; operating expenses increased 17.7% to \$1.63 billion.

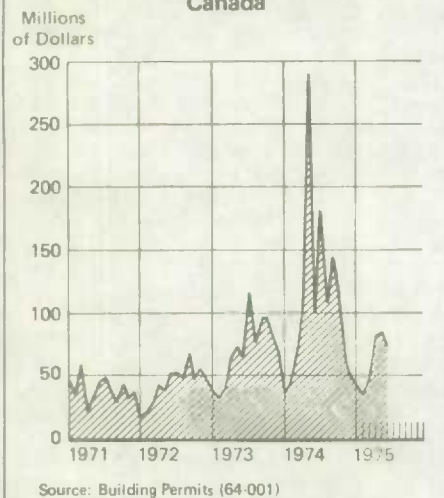
The telephone industry reported that 12.5 million telephones were in operation at the end of 1974, an increase of 6.7% from a year earlier.

For further information, order *Telephone Statistics, 1974* (56-203, 70¢), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9274), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.





### Industrial Building Permits, Canada



### Local Government Employment

Canadian municipalities employed 267,120 persons in general government services during the last pay period of June, up 4.5% from a year earlier.

Gross payrolls for the second quarter of 1975 amounted to \$587.7 million, an increase of 17.1% from \$501.7 million in the corresponding period of 1974.

For further information, order *Local Government Employment, Second Quarter 1975* (72-009, 70¢/\$2.80).

### Railway Transport: Part VI, 1974

Reversing a downward trend in rail employment that had prevailed for more than 15 years, the average number of persons engaged in the industry increased 6.2% in 1974 to 131,908. Total compensation paid, at \$1.59 billion was up 23.0% from 1973.

Rail employees' average earnings were \$12,081 in 1974, an increase of 15.8% over the previous year. Average hourly wage rates rose to \$5.47 from \$4.78.

A breakdown of earnings by railway functions (excluding express and telecommunications activities) show that employees in transportation services received 44% of total wages paid; equipment maintenance and road maintenance workers took 25% and 18%, respectively; and personnel classified as "general" received 13%.

For further information, order *Railway Transport: Part VI, 1974* (52-212, 70¢).

### The Dairy Review

Milk production in Canada in August totalled 1.6 billion pounds, an increase of 2.5% from a year earlier. This brought production for the first eight months of 1975 to 11.8 billion pounds, up 2.5% from January-August 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *The Dairy Review* (23-001, 40¢/\$4).

### Preliminary Statement of Canadian Trade

Measured on a balance-of-payments basis, Canada's seasonally-adjusted trade balance turned from a \$2 million surplus in July to a \$342 million deficit in August. Imports showed a sharp 12% increase while exports declined 1%.

Seasonally-adjusted exports, on a customs basis, dipped 1.4% from July to a level of \$2.61 billion in August. The decline was led by forestry products which dropped \$140 million, probably because of industrial disputes in British Columbia. Shipments of wheat fell over \$65 million and those of rapeseed more moderately. Exports of trucks and commercial vehicles declined \$40 million but those of passenger cars were up \$65 million. Exports of metallic ores and concentrates rose \$80 million from the unusually-low level of July.

Seasonally-adjusted imports increased 10.4% in August to \$3.01 billion, just 2% below the record June level. The settlement of the strike of Atlantic pilots contributed to boosting the clearance of crude oil by almost \$90 million. Imports of sugar rose \$35 million.

In the first eight months of 1975, unadjusted exports of \$21.2 billion were \$390 million (1.9%) above those for the corresponding period in 1974.

The value of natural gas deliveries to the United States jumped \$340 million, but crude oil shipments declined by \$135 million. Shipments of automotive and related products were \$295 million higher. The fall of \$270 million in exports of copper ores outweighed the gains of other metal ores. Exports of lumber showed a decline of \$260 million but shipments of pulp and newsprint were up \$375 million. Exports of non-ferrous metals fell \$275 million, \$175 million in overseas markets alone.

Canadian imports increased \$2.6 billion (13.0%) from \$20.2 billion in the first eight months of 1974 to \$22.8 billion in January-August 1975.

Markedly higher were imports of: crude oil (up \$665 million); automotive and related products (up \$640 million); and industrial and farm machinery (up \$660 million). Smaller advances were recorded for a number of other commodities, including coal (from the U.S.), wheel tractors, and aircraft parts and engines.

The year-to-date merchandise trade deficit of \$1.6 billion in 1975 contrasted with a surplus of \$0.6 billion recorded in the first eight months of 1974.

For further information, order the August 1975 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

### Gas Utilities

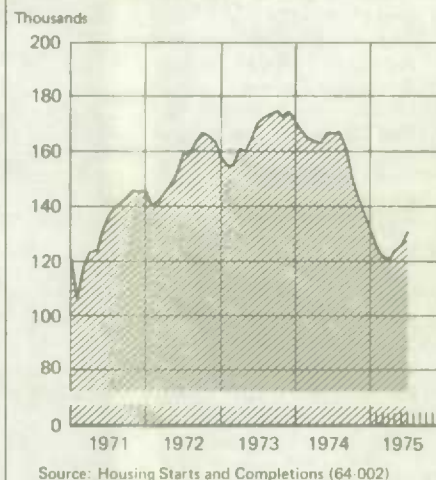
Canadian consumers purchased 71.6 billion cubic feet of natural gas in July, down 1.8% from a year earlier. Exports increased 6.6% to 78.0 billion cubic feet.

Cumulatively, sales of natural gas for the first seven months of 1975 totalled \$20.9 billion cubic feet, an increase of 1.9% from January-July 1974.

For further information, order the July 1975 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, 30¢/\$3).

### Dwelling Units Under Construction

(in centres 10,000 population and over)



### Export and Import Price and Volume Indexes

Measured at 1971 constant prices, seasonally-adjusted import and export volumes declined sharply in July after appearing to pick up in June. Import volume is still 35% above the 1971 level whereas export volume has declined to about that level.

On a three-month moving average year-over-year basis, the current rate of increase in import prices (16.5%) is substantially higher than that for export prices (9.4%), following a trend that started at the beginning of 1975.

However, these rates of increase show significant declines from the January 1975 peak of 30.7% for imports and the July 1974 peak of 35.5% for exports.

For further information, order the July 1975 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

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