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## Weekly Bulletin

### Employment, Earnings and Hours

Average weekly earnings in Canadian industry at \$236.29 in November were up 10.7% from \$213.37 a year earlier.

First estimates show that (unadjusted) average weekly earnings (by province) were highest in British Columbia (\$271.17), followed by Alberta (\$247.56), Ontario (\$236.12), Newfoundland (\$230.34), Quebec (\$230.25), Saskatchewan (\$222.47), Manitoba (\$215.73), New Brunswick (\$210.94), Nova Scotia (\$198.80) and Prince Edward Island (\$178.61).

Average weekly earnings in November (by industry division) were as follows: construction, \$349.26; mining, \$332.56; forestry, \$311.98; transportation, communication and other utilities, \$272.01; manufacturing, \$251.26; finance, insurance and real estate, \$218.56; trade, \$179.29; and service, \$165.12.

Compared with November 1975, average hourly earnings were up 13.4% in manufacturing, 12.0% in construction and 11.1% in mining.

For further information, order the November 1976 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, 70¢/\$7), or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2.

### Motor Vehicle Production

Canadian production of motor vehicles totalled 131,110 units in December, up 14.5% from 114,547 a year earlier.

Passenger car production increased to 89,588 units in the latest month from 82,042 and production of commercial vehicles rose to 41,522 from 32,505 in December 1975.

Canadian production of motor vehicles reached a record 1,640,112 units in 1976, up 15.2% from the 1975 total of 1,424,006 units.

For further information, order the December 1976 issue of *Motor Vehicle Shipments* (42-002, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact T. R. Sehdev (613-992-0388), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### Urban Transit

Urban transit systems carried 102.9 million fare passengers in December and had operating revenues amounting to \$34.7 million. Revenue vehicle-miles run totalled 30.3 million.

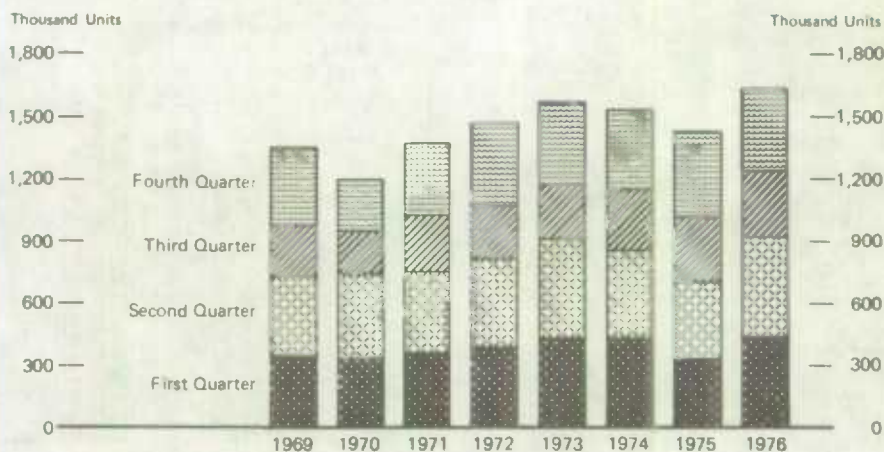
For further information, order the December 1976 issue of *Urban Transit* (53-003, 15¢/\$1.50).

### LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

		Latest Month	Previous Month	Change From Year Ago %
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Nov.*	236.29p	234.60p	10.7
Labour Income (\$ million)	Oct.	9,114.1p	8,929.0p	14.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	Dec.	9.48	9.59	0.8
Unemployed	Dec.	754,000	708,000	8.8
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Department Store (\$ million)	Nov.	2,118	2,161	22.8
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Nov.	16,502p	16,503r	6.7
Wholesale (\$ million)	Nov.	6,751	6,776	14.8
<b>ORDERS</b>				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	8,690p	8,155r	12.8
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Nov.	9,378p	9,369r	-8.9
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Dec.	152.7	152.2	5.8
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Dec.*	164.9	163.7r	4.6
Wholesale Price Index (1935-39=100)	Nov.	515.3	510.9r	2.8
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Nov.*	933.1	11,271.5	15.5
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Oct.	16,471	171,350	19.7
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Coal Production (thousand tons)	Oct.	2,686	22,123	-3.3
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Nov.*	26.1	262.6	6.6
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Aug.	256.7	2,289.6	0.6
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Nov.	53.8	566.3	0.2
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	3,238	38,028	14.8
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	3,021	37,391	7.9
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
Motor Vehicles (thousand units)	Dec.*	131.1	1,640.1	15.2
Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Dec.	1,182	14,286	1.2
<b>SALES</b>				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	669.6	5,557.4	13.1
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Nov.	8,681p	89,829	12.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	626.5	7,160.8	8.3
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	5,041	50,890	12.0
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Nov.	4,383	46,110	11.0

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

### Canadian Production of Motor Vehicles



Source: Motor Vehicle Shipments (42-002)



### Trusteed Pension Plans, 1975

Trusteed pension plans in Canada continued to grow at an accelerated pace with the book value of assets reaching a record high of well over \$21 billion in 1975, up 16% from \$18 billion in 1974.

As in previous years, contributions increased significantly. Employees and employers contributed a total of over \$2,727 million in 1975, up from \$2,128 million the previous year. Over two-thirds of the total was paid by employers — employer current service contributions amounted to \$1,421 million while nearly \$453 million was paid to fund past service liabilities.

Benefit payments to members rose to \$929 million in 1975 from \$780 million in 1974. However, investment income earned from the aggregate of all portfolios amounted to more than \$1.3 billion in 1975, more than enough to cover all the cost of current benefits while leaving the contributions from employers and employees for investment to augment asset holdings.

Of the 15,850 pension plans in operation at the beginning of 1974, only about one quarter were trusteed pension plans. Although constituting a comparatively minor portion of pension plans in Canada, trusteed pension plans are the most dominant group in terms of participating members, contributions and assets held. These relatively few plans covered almost two-thirds of the 3.4 million persons who participated in pension plans at the beginning of 1974.

During the past few years there has been a marked growth in the number of small trusteed pension plans with less than 50 members; these smaller funds now comprise nearly two-thirds of the total universe of trusteed funds. However, in terms of income and assets these funds represent only 2% of the total. The largest funds with 1,000 or more members — 339 funds out of the total of 3,622 funds in 1975 — account for 87% of the income, 85% of the expenditures and over 85.7% of total assets held by all trusteed pension funds.

For further information, order *Trusteed Pension Plans*, *Financial Statistics*, 1975 (74-201, \$1.05).

### Retail Chain Stores, 1975

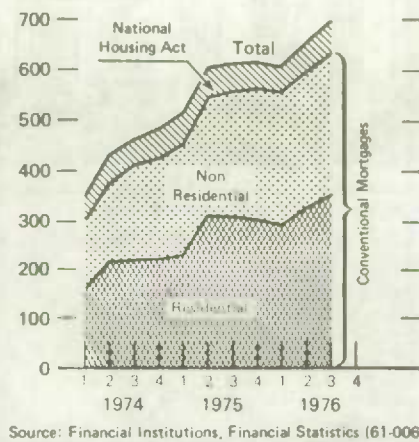
Annual sales by chain organizations in Canada reached \$15,867 million in 1975, an increase of 16.1% over the 1974 total of \$13,672 million.

While the number of such organizations in Canada decreased to 853 in 1975 from 874 in 1974, the maximum number of chain outlets in operation increased to 20,815 from 19,695.

*Retail Chain Stores, 1975* (63-210, \$1.05) will be published later in 1977. However, detailed information on sales by chain organizations — including data by various kinds of business for the provinces and selected cities — are now available and may be obtained by contacting the Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

### Mortgage Investment Trust Corporations

Quarterly Statements of Mortgages Outstanding  
Millions of Dollars



Source: Financial Institutions, Financial Statistics (61-006)

### Operations of Transcontinental and Regional Air Carriers

Canada's seven major scheduled airlines reported a combined net loss of \$6.4 million in October, up from the loss of \$2.3 million recorded in October 1975.

Total operating revenues rose 8.7% to \$137.9 million in the latest month; operating expenses advanced 10.7% to \$137.9 million.

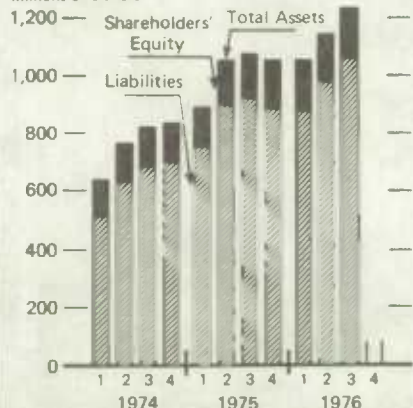
Passenger traffic — in terms of passenger-miles for both unit toll and charter services — totalled 1,380.4 million in October, up 4.9% from the corresponding month in 1975. Goods ton-miles for all services fell 6.3% to 45.3 million.

For the first 10 months of 1976, the major scheduled airlines showed a net loss of \$20.0 million compared with the loss of \$94,000 posted in the January-October period of 1975.

For further information, order *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin*, Vol. 9, No. 1 (51-004, \$4.20 per year).

### Mortgage Investment Trust Corporations

Quarterly Statements of Estimated Assets, Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity  
Millions of Dollars



Source: Financial Institutions, Financial Statistics (61-006)

### Industry Selling Price Index

(1971=100)

The Industry Selling Price Index for Manufacturing rose to 164.9 in December, an increase of 0.7% from 163.7 (revised) in November and up 4.6% from the December 1975 level of 157.6.

Advances in the indexes for food and beverage industries, wood industries and paper and allied industries were largely responsible for the December rise. Food and beverages were up 0.8%, reflecting higher prices for miscellaneous food processors (2.8%) and feeds (3.3%). Prices rose 2.8% in the wood industries, due mainly to increases in sawmills and planing mills (3.6%) and veneer and plywood mills (3.2%). There was an increase of 2.5% in paper and allied industries, largely attributable to an increase by pulp and paper mills (3.4%).

Over the 12 months from December 1975, the largest price advances were recorded for the following group indexes:

- Petroleum and coal products industries, 12.3%; wood industries, 10.6%; non-metallic mineral products industries, 9.5%; leather industries, 7.3%; primary metal industries, 6.3%; textile industries, 5.7%; and furniture and fixture industries, 5.4%.

For further information, order the *December 1976 issue of Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, 55¢/\$5.50).

### Electric Power Statistics

Net generation of electricity in Canada increased 14.0% in November to 26.1 terawatt hours from 22.9 TW.h a year earlier.

Hydro generation increased 4.7% in the latest month; thermal production rose 40.1%.

For further information, order the *November 1976 issue of Electric Power Statistics* (57-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact David Madsen (613-992-4021), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

### The Dairy Review

Canadian production of milk produced for all purposes in November amounted to an estimated 1,095,016,000 pounds, a decrease of 11.2% from a year earlier.

Milk production during the first 11 months of 1976 reached an estimated 15,812,287,000 pounds, up 0.1% from the January-November 1975 period.

For further information, order the *December 1976 issue of The Dairy Review* (23-001, 40¢/\$4).

### Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

Crude petroleum production for September amounted to 1.36 million barrels per day, down 20.0% from a year earlier.

Natural gas production averaged 8.31 billion cubic feet per day in the latest month, a decrease of 4.1% from September 1975.

For further information, order the *September 1976 issue of Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, 30¢/\$3).



### Building Permits

Building permits taken out in Canada in November totalled \$933.1 million, up 3.5% from \$892.2 million in November 1975.

Higher totals were recorded in the latest month for residential permits at \$534.4 million (\$517.1 million in November 1975), commercial permits at \$209.0 million (\$184.2 million) and industrial permits at \$68.9 million (\$67.1 million). Permits taken out for institutional and governmental building construction declined to \$120.8 million from \$123.8 million.

Provincial totals for building permits taken out in November, with year-earlier figures in brackets:

- Ontario, \$354.8 million (\$327.6 million); Quebec, \$247.4 million (\$216.1 million); Alberta, \$116.5 million (\$123.8 million); British Columbia, \$75.7 million (\$105.3 million); Saskatchewan, \$47.9 million (\$52.3 million); Nova Scotia, \$28.2 million (\$22.5 million); Manitoba, \$28.0 million (\$21.8 million); New Brunswick, \$16.1 million (\$18.0 million); Newfoundland, \$8.9 million (\$2.4 million); and Prince Edward Island, \$8.2 million (\$2.2 million).

For the first 11 months of 1976, building permits taken out in Canada reached \$11,271.5 million, up 15.5% from \$9,759.1 million in the corresponding period of 1975.

For further information, order the November 1976 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 70¢/\$7).

### The Wheat Review

Total exports of wheat from the four traditional major exporters during August-September 1976 amounted to 365.8 million bushels, down 2% from the year-earlier period. Canadian wheat exports declined to 74.9 million bushels from 78.9 million bushels.

Total supplies of wheat remaining in Canada, the United States, Australia and Argentina at October 1, 1976 for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,799.6 million bushels, 25% more than the 2,246.6 million bushels on hand at the same date in 1975.

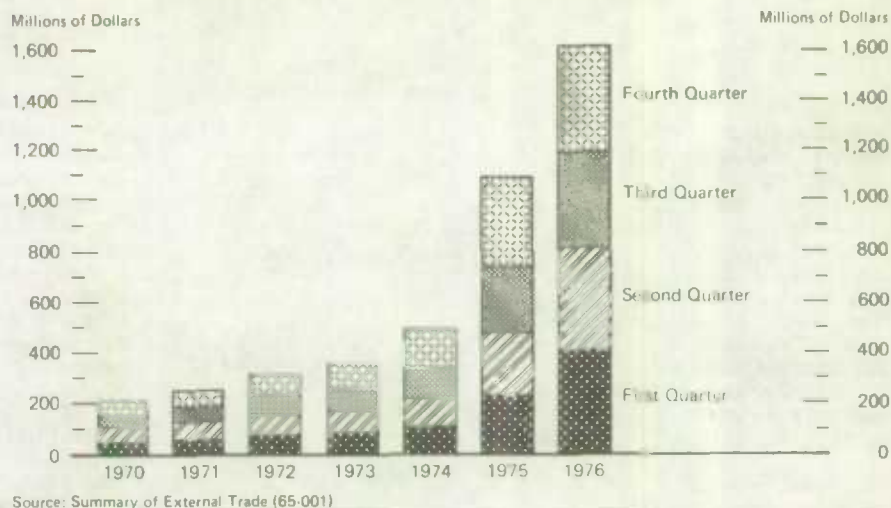
Supplies were held as follows, in millions of bushels and with figures for the previous year in brackets: United States, 1,620.3 (1,409.4); Canada, 911.0 (667.9); Australia, 160.7 (122.1); and Argentina, 107.6 (47.2).

For further information, order the October 1976 issue of *The Wheat Review* (22-005, 55¢/\$5.50).

### THESE REPORTS SCHEDULED FOR COMING TWO WEEKS

Consumer Credit, December  
Consumer Price Index, January  
Department Store Sales by Regions, December  
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, December  
Retail Trade, December  
The Labour Force, January

### Canadian Exports of Natural Gas to the United States



### Railway Carloadings

Freight loaded on lines in Canada totalled 17.9 million tons in December, an increase of 5.0% from a year earlier. Traffic received from United States connections was 1.1% higher at 1.8 million tons.

On a commodity basis, December loadings of pulpwood, pulpwood chips, newsprint and lumber were significantly above year-earlier levels — mainly because of reduced shipments of these commodities in December 1975 as a result of labour problems in the forest products industry. Sizeable increases were also shown for other traffic including: trailer-on-flat-car (up 87.1%); gypsum (up 31.3%); coal (up 14.9%); and iron ore (up 7.0%). Shipments of wheat declined by 21.2% and other grains dropped 40.6% from the same month in 1975.

During 1976, all rail traffic carried by Canadian lines, including domestic loadings and receipts from U.S. connections, totalled 264.7 million tons, up 5.2% over 1975. Notably higher in the latest period were haulings of forest products, container freight, iron ore and alumina.

For further information, order the December 1976 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-001, 30¢/\$3), or for seasonally-adjusted revenue freight loadings contact J.R. Slattery (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Oil Pipe Line Transport

Canadian oil pipe lines received 75.2 million barrels of crude oil, condensate, pentanes plus and refined petroleum product in November, a decrease of 7.9% from a year earlier.

Receipts of domestic petroleum and products increased 1.0% in the latest month to 65.9 million barrels while imports dropped 41.4% to 9.3 million barrels.

For further information, order the November 1976 issue of *Oil Pipe Line Transport* (55-001, 30¢/\$3).

### Federal Government Employment in Metropolitan Areas

General government employees of the federal government numbered 265,023 in Canadian metropolitan areas as at September 1976, with a regular monthly payroll of \$297.9 million. (The data include, for the first time, members of the Canadian Armed Forces — 34,952 personnel with salaries of \$45.9 million).

For further information, order *Federal Government Employment in Metropolitan Areas, 1976* (72-205, 70¢). Advance details are available from the Federal Government Section (613-995-0669), Public Finance Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Import and Export Price and Volume Indexes

Both export and import price levels were unchanged in November compared with earlier months of 1976, and both were approximately 1% higher than during the corresponding period in 1975.

Export volume showed little change in November and stood about 12.5% above the November 1975 level. Import volume recovered in November following a decline in October and was up 4.8% from a year earlier.

For further information, order the December 1976 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, 40¢/\$4).

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Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipe and Fittings, November 1976	41-004	15¢/\$1.50	<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>		
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