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Weekly Bulletin

November 30, 1979

## Real Domestic Product

The seasonally-adjusted Index of Real Domestic Product increased 0.6% in September to 140.8 from a level of 140.0 in August and 2.4% from September 1978. The Index of Industrial Production also recorded substantial growth in September: up 2.0% over August, goods-producing industries advanced 1.3%. Service-producing industries were relatively unchanged.

Among goods-producing industries, manufacturing, mining, agriculture, and fishing/trapping increased, forestry and construction declined. Utilities were unchanged from the August level. The increase of 2.2% for manufacturing industries was the largest monthly gain in this area since September 1978. Increases were recorded in 17 of the 20 major industrial groups in manufacturing, non-durables rising 1.4%, durables 3.1%.

Third quarter economic activity as measured by RDP increased 1.5% following a 0.2% decline in the preceding quarter. The upturn in production activity was fairly widespread the only exceptions coming in forestry, fishing/trapping and construction, plus a further decline in product originating in the public administration/defence industry. A more disaggregated picture of product originating in industries shows that the gains made in the third quarter were confined to a relatively small number of important industries and to a handful of industries in which production levels were abnormally low in the preceding quarters due to labour disruptions.

Production in the third quarter rose 3.0% from a year earlier and stands 1.8% above fourth quarter 1978.

For further information, order the September 1979 issue of *Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, \$3/\$30), or contact R.W. Collins (613-995-0443), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

## Stocks of Fruit/Vegetables

Fruits (frozen/preserved) in storage and factories on November 1 totalled 62.8 million pounds compared with 50.0 million a year earlier. Holdings of vegetables (frozen/in brine): 202.5 million pounds (178.3 million).

For further information, order the November 1979 issue of *Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables* (32-010, \$1.50/\$15).

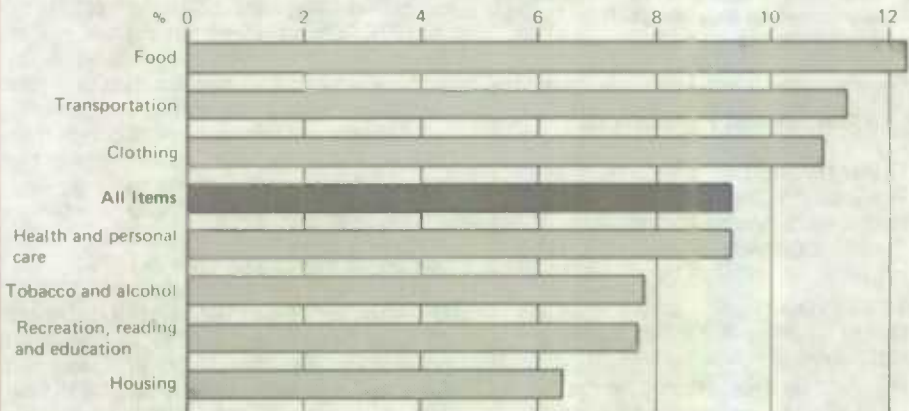
## LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
<b>EMPLOYMENT, INCOME</b>				
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Sept.*	294.42p	291.88r	8.6
Labour Income (\$ million)	Aug.*	12,558.6p	12,294.6r	11.5
Persons with Jobs (million)	Oct.	10.59	10.53	4.3
Unemployed	Oct.	743,000	719,000	-5.7
<b>INVENTORIES</b>				
Department Store (\$ million)	Aug.*	2,442.7p	2,385.0p	17.0
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Sept.	24,506.5p	24,096.2r	23.2
Wholesale (\$ million)	Sept.	10,338.5p	10,282.7r	23.9
<b>ORDERS</b>				
Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Sept.	13,040.7p	12,794.7r	7.6
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Sept.	16,540.9p	16,574.3r	26.2
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Oct.	195.9	194.5	9.3
Non-food (CPI) Component	Oct.	181.5	180.1	8.4
New House Price Index (1976=100)	Sept.	111.4	110.6	4.1
22-city Composite Wage, Building (1971=100)	Sept.*	230.3	230.2	6.9
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Sept.	222.1p	218.9r	14.5
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
Building Permits (\$ million)	Sept.	1,292.7	10,439.7	7.4
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Sept.	12,742	107,851	-19.0
<b>ENERGY</b>				
Coal Production (thousand metric tonnes)	Aug.	2 567.1	21 613.5	9.8
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Aug.	26.8	232.4	5.8
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	July	7 950.2	62 400.2	8.6
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Sept.	8.12p	84.43p	9.5
<b>FOREIGN TRADE</b>				
Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Sept.	5,627.5p	46,574.6p	21.8
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Sept.	4,811.6p	45,849.7p	27.5
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
Steel (ingots — thousand metric tonnes)	Oct.	1 392.4p	13 101.9	5.5
<b>SALES</b>				
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Sept.	722.4p	5,558.5p	10.9
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Sept.	13,111.9p	110,842.2r	18.3
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Sept.	830.2	8,676.1	18.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Sept.	6,388.5p	55,336.5p	12.2
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Sept.	6,679.4p	55,786.1p	21.7

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

## Percentage Change in the Consumer Price Index and its Major Components

October 1978 to October 1979



Source: Consumer prices and price indexes (62-010)



### Average Earnings

Average weekly earnings rose 8.6% to \$294.42 in September from \$271.00 in 1978. Average hourly earnings in manufacturing reached \$7.57 (from \$6.97), in construction \$11.23 (\$10.50) and in mining \$9.74 (\$8.82).

Provincial breakdowns show average weekly earnings were highest in British Columbia (\$339.50) and followed by Alberta (\$316.80), Ontario (\$290.14), Québec (\$290.64), Saskatchewan (\$284.80), Newfoundland (\$271.28), Manitoba (\$265.57), New Brunswick (\$255.18), Nova Scotia (\$247.41) and Prince Edward Island (\$206.62).

Average weekly earnings by industry division were: construction \$448.87; mining \$424.73; forestry \$378.85; transportation, communication and other utilities \$349.50; manufacturing \$316.51; finance, insurance and real estate \$274.81; trade \$221.31 and service \$192.67.

For further information, order the September 1979 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, \$4/\$40), or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V2.

### Computer Service Industry, 1978

Total 1978 operating revenue of 698 companies in Canada primarily engaged in providing processing, software and systems and other computer-related services reached \$531.8 million. A further 32 companies primarily engaged in the sales, lease and rental of hardware reported operating revenue of \$879.8 million.

For further information, order the 1978 edition of *Computer Service Industry* (Catalogue 63-222, \$6), or contact Mrs. R. Bennett (613-996-9301), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

### Retail Chain Stores, 1978

Chain organizations' 1978 sales rose 11.4% to \$21,125.8 million from \$18,959.5 million. The number of such organizations increased from 825 in 1977 to 848. Outlets in operation increased by 716 to 22,021 stores.

Detailed information on sales by chain organizations, including data by various kinds of business for the provinces and selected cities, is available now by contacting the Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

### Catalogued Publications

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### Foreign Long-term Investment, 1976

Book value of foreign long-term investment in Canada was \$81,396 million at the end of 1976, up 18% compared with 14% in 1975 and 10% in 1974. Two-thirds of the increase of \$12,513 million was due to borrowings by the corporate and public sectors — foreign holdings of bonds and debentures rose 38%. The sizeable expansion followed appreciable widening of interest differentials on long-term debt instruments between Canada and other countries.

United States investors — corporate and individual — owned almost 75% of this stock of long-term investment, down from 1975's 77%. Residents of the United Kingdom owned 8% and "all other countries" 18%. Direct investment (foreign capital in Canadian enterprises owned in the country of control) rose moderately to \$43,298 million. Most of the increase of \$3.3 billion reflected reinvested earnings owned by direct investors. Direct investment, at 53% the largest component of foreign long-term investment, fell 5% from 1975's 58%.

Sales to non-residents of new Canadian issues (\$9.0 billion) were the largest single element in the capital account (balance of payments) — over 60% of sales representing borrowing by the three levels of government, foreign investment in government bonds expanded 35% to \$20,607 million. Provincial utilities expanded foreign borrowings \$4.4 billion to \$16,784 million. Almost 75% of net growth in provincial bonds stemmed from U.S. investors. Government of Canada bonds investment jumped 46% to \$1,089 million, almost double the \$550 million held by non-residents at 1974's end.

Portfolio investment in corporate securities rose almost 33% to \$13,335 million as Canadian-controlled enterprises borrowed sizeable amounts in the U.S. and countries other than the U.K. (principally the Eurobond market — a favourable interest rate differential applies and the registration requirements are less costly and onerous than in the U.S.). Miscellaneous investment (real estate, mortgages, private investment companies and assets administered for non-residents) rose 17% to \$4,156 million against marginal growth in 1975.

Investment owned by U.S. residents expanded 14% to \$60,555 million at the end of 1976. Direct investment rose 8% to \$34,866 million (growth moderated by repatriations of U.S.-owned assets in the petroleum/natural gas and mining sectors). U.S. investment in government bonds rose 33% to \$14,749 million, particularly in the bond issues of provincial governments/agencies. About 60% of new Canadian debt issues sold in the U.S. market compared with about 70% in 1975.

U.K. long-term investment rose 11% to \$6,280 million (6% in 1974 and 1975). About 60% lay in the capital stock of Canadian companies with investment in bonds and debentures growing sharply by 34% to total 19% of the whole (16% in 1975).

The 1972-76 period saw long-term capital invested by residents of "all other

countries" more than double to \$14,561 million from \$6,912 million. Long-term investment rose 42% or \$4,287 million in 1976 as borrowing in the Eurobond market became increasingly attractive. Investment in bonds and debentures of corporations increased 300% to \$2,436 million and that of governments 44% to \$5,309 million. Investment in capital stock increased more moderately to \$4,093 million. Miscellaneous investment, mainly increased medium-term activity, rose 44% to \$1,377 million.

Manufacturing enjoyed the largest increase in long-term investment — \$2,071 million to \$20,495 million at 1976's end. Chemicals/allied products and iron/iron products accounted for over half the growth, enjoying almost identical absolute increases. Sales finance/miscellaneous investment service concerns benefitted greatest from the next largest advance in financial enterprises (\$1,848 million, up almost 25% to \$9,433 million).

An increase of \$989 million in petroleum/natural gas to \$11,801 million was largely due to reinvestment of undistributed earnings.

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

### Import, Export/Price, Volume Indexes

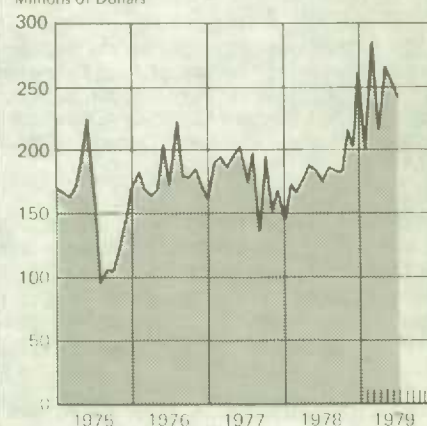
The rate of increase of import and export prices accelerated in the third quarter — the import price index rose 5.0% on the fixed-weight basis and the export index 7.3%.

Following declines in the second quarter, seasonally-adjusted volumes of imports and exports recovered in the third quarter: import volume 2.7% higher, export volume 4.2% (percentages do not reflect forthcoming revisions affecting data on petroleum and coal product exports following disclosure of unreported shipments).

For further information, order the October 1979 issue of *Summary of External Trade* (65-001, \$3/\$30).

### Canadian Domestic Exports of Wood Pulp

Millions of Dollars



Source: Exports by Commodities (65-004)



### Therapeutic Abortions, 1978

The provinces and territories report 62,351 therapeutic abortions in 1978, up 4,666 from 1977. Canadian residents accounted for 62,290, 99.9% of the total.

The abortion rate of 17.4% (number of therapeutic abortions as a percentage of estimated live births for 1978) is an increase of 8.8% over the rate of 16.0% for 1977. Abortion rates for the provinces and territories based on estimated live births were: British Columbia 33.6%, Ontario 23.9%, Yukon 21.4%, Alberta 19.9%, Northwest Territories 13.4%, Nova Scotia 11.9% and Manitoba 11.4% and less than 10% for Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Québec and Saskatchewan.

(Incomplete figures indicate that Canadian residents obtained 1,802 legal abortions in the United States. The addition of these gives a total of 64,092 legal abortions and an abortion rate of more than 17.9% of estimated live births.)

Canadian abortion rates — based on the number of females between 15 and 44 years of age, live births and live births plus abortions — are less than one-half the abortion rates for the U.S. and slightly less than the abortion rate for England and Wales.

Reports on the selected demographic and medical characteristics were available for 61,806 abortion cases or 99.2% of the total of 62,290 abortions for Canadian residents in Canada.

More than 61% of women obtaining abortions were single, more than 27% were married and the remaining 11% were separated, divorced, widowed or living common law. Some 30.5% of the women at the time of abortion were under 20 years of age, 60.5% between 20-34 years with 8% over 34; and 59.7% had no previous deliveries, 15.7% one previous delivery, 13.9% two previous deliveries and 8.3% three or more previous deliveries. For 2.3% of the women the number of previous deliveries was not reported.

Females comprise 50.2% of Canada's 23 million people and 21.4% of females aged 15 to 44 years are between 15 and 19. Females under 20 had 30.5% of the 62,290 therapeutic abortions to Canadian residents in 1978.

On an annual basis, 16,700 legal abortions were performed on women under 20 between 1974 and 1978. The percentage of these to total abortions gradually decreased from 31.5% in 1974 to 31.3% in 1975 and to 30.7% in 1976 and 1977.

*This advance information relates to therapeutic abortions authorized under the Criminal Law Amendment Act and reported to Statistics Canada for 1978. Additional information is contained in Advance Information Therapeutic Abortions in Canada, 1978 (82-211P, no charge). The main report, Therapeutic Abortions, Canada, 1978 (82-211, \$8), to be released at a later date, will include analysis and additional statistical details. For further information, contact S. Wadhwa (613-995-0861) or C. Nair (613-995-0862), Health Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.*

### Unemployment Insurance Statistics

Claimants qualifying for unemployment insurance benefits for the week of September 9 totalled 490,000, down 14% from August and 19% from 1978. Of the beneficiaries, 35% were under 25 years of age compared with 36% a year earlier.

Benefits paid in September amounted to \$221 million, down 17% from August and 18% from 1978. Nine months' payments reached \$3,228 million, down 10% from a year earlier. A drop of 9% in the number of weeks of benefit paid accounted for most of the decline.

Claims submitted by persons seeking benefits totalled 180,000, up 9% from August but 17% less than a year earlier. For nine months, 1,798,000 claims were received, down 9%. All provinces and territories reported fewer claims, from 7% to 17%.

For further information, order the September 1979 issue of *Preliminary Unemployment Insurance Statistics (73-001p)*, the *Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act (73-001, Quarterly)*, or contact George Fincham (613-992-7461), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V1.

### Railway Transport: Part II, 1978

From 1977, railway operating revenues rose 9.6% to \$3,879.4 million. Operating expenses rose 9.7% to \$3,675.4 million leaving income after taxes of \$204.1 million compared with \$189.0 million.

Freight revenues, up 9.2%, accounted for 83.4% of total operating revenues. Federal government payments increased 8.1% to \$384.2 million.

Road/equipment maintenance rose 9.6% to \$1,415.2 million (38.5% of total operating costs; expenses for transportation operations, 38.4%).

The retained income balance at close of year reached \$845.0 million compared with \$757.6 million at the year's start. Total assets increased \$254.8 million to \$14,153.0 million.

For further information, order the 1978 edition of *Railway Transport: Part II (52-208, \$6)*, or contact M. Vallières (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

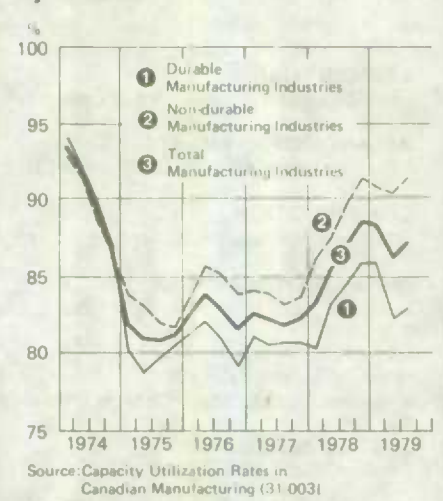
### Employment/Earnings/Hours

September's seasonally-adjusted Industrial Composite Index of Employment (1961=100) showed a 0.5% increase from August. All industry divisions recorded increases except construction and finance/insurance/real estate, which decreased. All regions advanced except the Atlantic and prairie regions, which declined.

Average weekly hours increased in mining (including milling) and construction but showed no change in manufacturing; average hourly earnings rose in mining (including milling), manufacturing and construction.

For further information, order the September 1979 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours (72-002, \$4/\$40)*, or contact R. Ouellette (613-992-5613), Labour Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing, by Quarter



### Capacity Utilization/Manufacturing

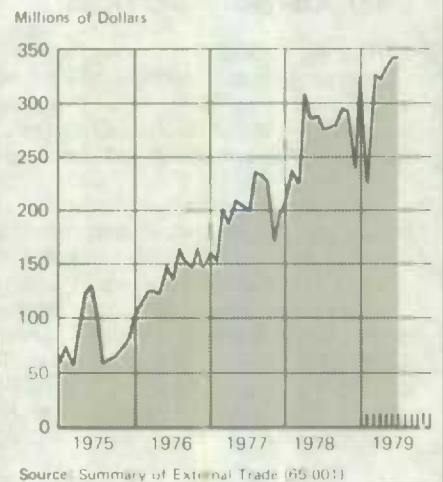
Capacity utilization in Canadian manufacturing industries rose to 87.1% in third quarter 1979 from 86.2% in the second quarter.

Durable manufacturing increased from 82.2% in the second quarter to 82.9% in the third. Non-durable manufacturing industries increased from 90.3% to 91.3%.

Because of a revision to the production indexes, the rates for the second quarter have been slightly changed. Description of the methodology used to derive the rates is given in *Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing (31-003, \$5/\$20)*.

Given the many conceptual and measurement problems surrounding the notion of capacity utilization, data in *Capacity Utilization Rates* are indicative of trends and cycles in the utilization of capital. The indicated level is only a statistical approximation and should be viewed as such. For further information, contact Ms R. Hoyt (613-995-8152), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

### Canadian Exports of Lumber







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**These publications released November 23 — 29**

	Cata- logue No.	In Canada: Price per issue/year	Elsewhere: Price per issue/year
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>			
Farm Input Price Index, 3rd Quarter 1979	62-004	\$4/\$10	\$4.80/\$9.20
<b>BALANCE OF PAYMENTS</b>			
Security Transactions with Non-residents, August 1979	67-002	\$2.50/\$25	
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>			
The Special Trades Contracting Industry, 1977	64-210	\$8	\$9.60
<b>GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT</b>			
National Income and Expenditure Accounts, 1964-1978	13-201	\$8	
<b>HEALTH</b>			
Hospital Morbidity, 1976	82-206	\$10	\$12
Therapeutic Abortions, Canada (Advance Information), 1978	82-211p	N/C	N/C
<b>JUSTICE STATISTICS</b>			
Correctional Institutions Statistics, 1977	85-207	\$10	\$12
<b>MANUFACTURING AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES</b>			
Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, September 1979	43-005	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Footwear Statistics, September 1979	33-002	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, August 1979	31-001	\$3/\$30	\$3.60/\$36
Primary Iron and Steel, September 1979	41-001	\$2.50/\$25	
Production and Shipments of Steel Pipe, Tubing and Fittings, September 1979	41-011	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics, September 1979	25-001	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Refined Petroleum Products, July 1979	45-004	\$2.50/\$25	
Selected Meat and Meat Preparations, Quarter Ended June 30, 1979	32-020	\$2.50/\$10	\$3/\$12
Specified Chemicals, September 1979	46-002	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, September 1979	43-003	\$1.50/\$15	\$1.80/\$18
<b>SERVICE BULLETIN</b>			
<b>Metals</b> — Vol. 7, No. 7, Consumption of Nickel, 1978	41-018	/\$15	
<b>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES</b>			
Campus Book Stores, Academic Year 1978-79	63-219	\$4.50	\$5.40
Retail Trade, September 1979	63-005	\$3.50/\$35	\$4.20/\$42
<b>PRICES</b>			
Construction Price Statistics, November 1979	62-007	\$3/\$30	
<b>PUBLIC FINANCE</b>			
Provincial Government Finance, Revenue and Expenditure (Estimates), Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1979	68-205	\$7	
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>			
International Vessel Traffic Statistics, First Quarter 1979	54-004	\$6/\$24	\$7.20/\$28.80

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Additional statistical information is available by telephone from these centres and from the Bureau's central inquiries service in Ottawa (613-992-4734). Also, toll free access to statistical information within the New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia region is available by direct dialing the User Advisory Services Halifax office, 1-800-565-7192. Throughout Saskatchewan, the Regina office can be reached by dialing 1-800-667-3524. Throughout Alberta, the Edmonton office can be reached by dialing 1-800-222-6400.

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