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Weekly Bulletin

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

Labour Force

Employment in February reached 9,857,000 compared with 9,461,000 in February 1978. Unemployment level and rate: 954,000 and 8.8 (994,000 and 9.5). The participation rate was 61.5 (60.5) and the employment/population ratio 56.1 compared with 54.8.

The seasonally-adjusted level of employment was 10,233,000, virtually unchanged from January, increasing by 9,000 for men 25 and over and 3,000 for women 25 and over. It declined by 10,000 for men 15 to 24 and showed little change for women 15 to 24.

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment level: 872,000, down 25,000 from January. The unemployment level declined by 21,000 for men 25 and over, 8,000 for women 15 to 24 and increased by 5,000 for men 15 to 24 (little change for women 25 and over). Provincially, the level declined in Québec (18,000), Ontario (10,000) and Nova Scotia (4,000). It increased in British Columbia (4,000), Alberta (3,000) and showed little or no change elsewhere.

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for February was 7.9, down 0.2 from January, the first month the rate has been below 8.0 since June 1977. The unemployment rate declined 0.5 to 13.4 for women 15 to 24 and by 0.4 to 4.7 for men 25 and over. The rate increased 0.3 to 4.3 in Alberta, 0.3 to 8.5 in British Columbia and 0.2 to 5.6 in Manitoba. The rate declined 1.0 to 10.5 in Nova Scotia, 0.5 to 17.1 in Newfoundland, 0.5 to 10.8 in Prince Edwrsd Island, 0.5 to 10.2 in Québec, 0.4 to 4.7 in Saskatchewan, 0.2 to 6.6 in Ontario and in New Brunswick remained at 11.6.

For further information, order the February 1979 issue of the Labour Force (71-001, 55¢/\$5.50).

Department Store Sales

January sales totalled \$482.8 million. Increased 13.1% from a year earlier, sales were up in all regions.

Department stores sales by regions, with percentage changes from 1978 in brackets:

- Ontario, \$171.9 million (8.2%)
- Québec, \$94.8 million (18.5%)
- British Columbia, \$80.4 million (13.5%)
- Alberta, \$70.0 million (20.2%)
- Atlantic Provinces, \$26.6 million (13.7%)
- Manitoba, \$25.8 million (7.5%)
- Saskatchewan, \$13.3 million (16.8%)

For further information, order the January 1979 issue of Department Store Sales by Regions (63-004, \$1.50 a year).

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Nov.	272.38p	272.01r	6.3
Labour Income (\$ million)	Dec.	11,208.2p	11,389.9r	8.9
Persons with Jobs (million)	Feb.*	9.86	9.81	4.2
Unemployed	Feb.*	954,000	977,000	-4.0

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Nov.	2,389.9p	2,416.3p	9.1
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Dec.	20,731.2p	20,316.3p	11.5
Wholesale (\$ million)	Dec.	8,894.8	8,510.9	17.7

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	11,521.0p	12,475.7p	29.8
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Dec.	13,334.6p	13,179.7p	32.1

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1971=100)	Jan.	182.7	181.3	8.9
Non-residential Building Input (1971=100)	Jan.*	201.3	200.5	8.7
Residential Building Input (1971=100)	Dec.*	199.6	199.6	10.8
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Jan.*	201.4	198.4	11.0

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Dec.*	1,013.0	13,138.7	5.8
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Jan.	11,533	11,533	-22.9

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tons)	Dec.	3,178.9	33,594.9	6.9
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Dec.	33.9	335.7	6.0
Natural Gas Production (billion cu. ft.)	Nov.	323.0	3,159.3	-3.3
Petroleum Refining (million barrels)	Dec.	60.8	661.7	0.1

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	4,587p	52,606p	19.0
Imports — Customs Basis (\$ million)	Dec.	4,251p	49,605p	18.0

PRODUCTION

Steel (ingots — thousand tons)	Feb.*	1,429.0	2,947.9	14.8
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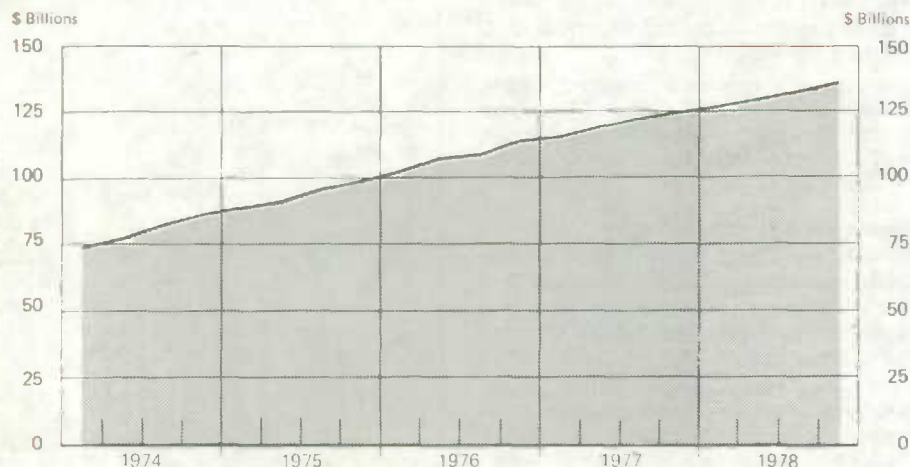
SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Jan.*	482.8p	482.8p	13.1
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Dec.	11,366.1p	130,352.7p	18.8
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Jan.*	675.1	675.1	17.2
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	7,435.8p	68,860.5p	11.6
Wholesale Sales (\$ million)	Dec.	4,952.9p	62,022.7p	11.6

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

Wages, Salaries and Supplementary Labour Income

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



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

Industry Selling Price Index

The Industry Selling Price Index, manufacturing, rose 1.5% in January to 201.4 from revised December's level of 198.4 and 11.0% from January 1978 (181.5). Major groups with most effect:

- Food and beverage group — the index rose 2.4% due mainly to increases of 4.4% for slaughtering and meat processors (a rise of 14.4% in fresh or frozen beef prices was partly offset by a decrease of 4.9% in prices of fresh or frozen pork); 14.5% for flour and breakfast cereal products, 7.0% for the bakeries industry (the federal government subsidy on domestically consumed wheat ended January 1) and 1.6% for the dairy products industry (affected by changes in the target returns for industrial milk based on the Canadian Dairy Commission's support prices for butter and skim milk powder which were increased January 2)
- An increase of 2.6% in the paper and allied industries index was attributable largely to increases of 2.8% for pulp and paper mills — an industry in which there is a large element of export pricing — and 3.7% for miscellaneous paper converters
- Primary metal — a 1.9% rise was accounted for mainly by increases of 1.5% for smelting and refining, 1.2% for iron and steel mills, 6.2% for steel pipe and tube mills and 4.9% for aluminum rolling, casting and extruding.

The year-to-year change of 11.0% in the Industry Selling Price Index was the largest since June 1975 (11.8%). Main contributors: food and beverage industries (up 14.0%), paper and allied products (15.1%) and primary metal industries (14.2%).

For further information, contact the Information Unit (613-995-5738/9), Industrial Prices Section, Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V5.

Intercity Bus Statistics, 1977

Operating revenues, 1977, increased 9.2% from 1976 to \$205.5 million and operating expenses rose 9.8% to \$189.5 million. The number of carriers increased to 63 from 48.

Other bus statistics indicate 1977 saw 1,635 carriers whose major activity was school bus, charter bus, sightseeing bus or limousine service to airports or stations. Operating revenues rose 44.1% from 1976 to \$339.8 million, operating expenses rose 49% to \$308 million.

For further information, contact S. Mozes (613-996-9271), Chief, Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

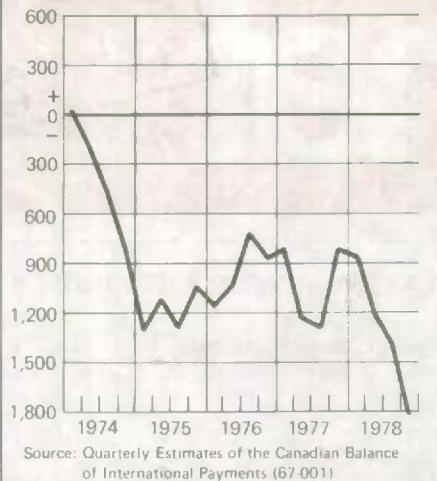
Phonograph Records/Tapes

Manufacturers produced 4,759,593 phonograph records in January (5,003,099 in 1978). Production of 8-track cartridges and cassettes increased to 1,072,727 from 934,654.

For further information, order the January 1979 issue of *Phonograph Records and Pre-recorded Tapes in Canada* (47-004, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact R. Ralph (613-992-2231), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6.

Canadian Balance of International Payments

Current Account — Seasonally Adjusted
Millions of Dollars



International Travel

January saw 1.2 million United States visitors, up 7.3% from 1978. It should, though, be noted that January 1978 figures had fallen 7.3% because of exceptionally bad weather across the eastern U.S. Canadian residents returning from the U.S. fell 3.6% to 2.1 million. Visitors from other than the U.S. totalled 42,800, up 6.4%, and Canadian travellers returning from these countries increased 0.8% to 191,300.

Long-term travellers from the U.S. (overnight or longer automobile and bus traffic, plus all plane, boat and train entries) rose 5.3%. Canadians returning from the U.S. decreased slightly (0.1%). Tourists from other countries excluding those arriving by land via the U.S. and entering and leaving on the same day increased 6.3%. Canadian long-term travellers returning from these countries: up 0.8%.

For further information, order the January 1979 issue of *International Travel* (66-002, 15¢/\$1.50), or contact Mike Valiquette (613-995-0847), International Travel Section, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Building Permits, 1978

Canadian municipalities issued building permits for \$13,139 million of construction during 1978 against \$12,420 million in 1977 — a 5.8% increase with commercial construction the main contributor. Provincially, the value of construction authorized rose in six provinces: Prince Edward Island 31.0%, Nova Scotia 14.1%, New Brunswick 33.0%, Ontario 1.5%, Manitoba 17.9%, Alberta 27.8%. It decreased in Newfoundland 12.6%, Québec 2.1%, Saskatchewan 9.8% and British Columbia 5.5%. These percentage changes are based on current dollars without any adjustments for price increases in 1978.

Permits issued in December 1978 reached a seasonally-adjusted level of \$1,273 million compared with a revised \$1,127 million in November. Incorporating several large apartment projects in medium size localities, residential permits rose to a seasonally-adjusted rate of \$710 million from \$634 million. Municipalities processed builders' applications for 8,157 single dwellings (8,884 in November) and 14,374 multiple dwellings (9,489).

In the non-residential sector the value of permits was higher in all categories of construction — industrial \$113 million (\$92 million in November), commercial \$298 million (\$249 million), institutional \$152 million (\$96 million).

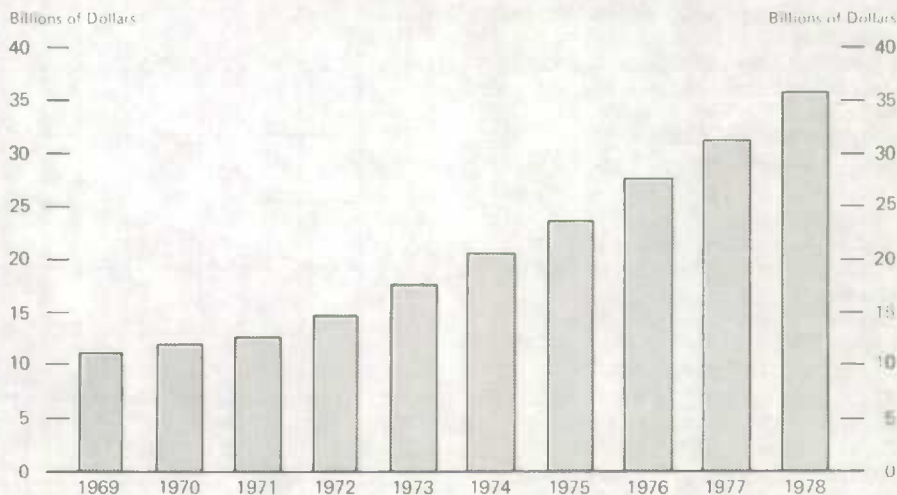
For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, 70¢/\$7) or contact J.P. Deltisle (613-995-8213), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Urban Transit

In January, 59 urban transit systems collected 106,792,277 initial passenger fares, with total distance run 34,088,156 miles (54 859 569 km) and operating revenues of \$39,270,186.

For further information, order the January 1979 issue of *Urban Transit* (53-003, 30¢/\$3), or contact the Chief (613-996-9271), Surface Transport Section, Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Consumer Credit Balances Outstanding, Year-Ends 1969-78



Railway Operating Statistics

Six railways' November net income: \$25.2 million, up 14.0% from 1977. Operating revenues rose 15.9% to \$339.2 million and operating expenses 16.1% to \$314.0 million.

Revenue freight ton-miles rose 13.0%, freight train-miles 6.5% and freight car-miles 9.4%. Average revenue per ton-mile of freight 2.249 cents against 2.190. Passenger-miles fell 26.6% reflecting the loss of some Canadian National and Canadian Pacific passenger services to VIA Rail Canada.

For 11 months, operating revenues increased 10.0% and operating expenses 9.3% with net income up 20.1% to \$228.6 million. Cumulative ton-miles rose 1.7% and passenger-miles 6.1%.

For further information, order the November 1978 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, 30¢/\$3), or contact M. Vallières (613-996-9271), Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Sales Financing

Sales finance companies purchased \$296.2 million of retail finance paper in December, an increase of 29.4% from \$228.9 million in 1977, including \$53.4 million for automobiles, \$46.2 million for other consumer goods, \$108.0 million for commercial vehicles and \$88.6 million for other commercial and industrial goods.

Wholesale financing undertaken, fourth quarter 1978, rose 13.5% to \$2,389.5 million from \$2,106.0 million financed in 1977.

For further information, order the December 1978 issue of *Sales Financing* (63-013, 30¢/\$3), or contact the Retail Trade Section (613-996-9304 or telex 053-3585), Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V6. December data sees the final issue of this publication. Users are referred to the quarterly *Financial Institutions, Financial Statistics* (61-006, \$1.40/\$5.60) for statistics relating to financial corporations.

Steel Ingots

Steel ingots production, February, was 1,429,016 short tons (1 296 381 t).

For further information, order the February 1979 issue of *Steel Ingots and Pig Iron* (41-001, 15¢/\$1.40), or contact J.L. Barnes (613-992-0388), Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V3.

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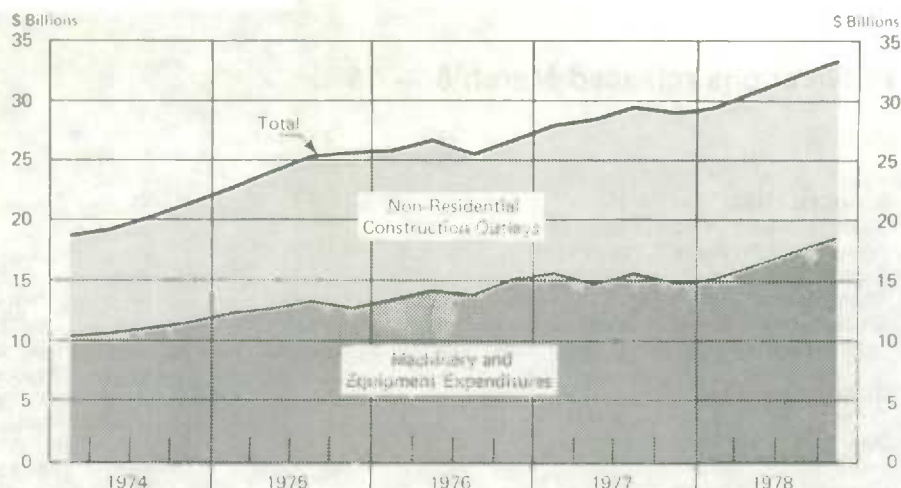
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Business Investment in Plant and Equipment

Data Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



Source: National Income and Expenditure Accounts (13 001)

New Motor Vehicle Sales

New motor vehicles sold in January rose 4.9% to 88,454 from 1978. Automobiles made in the United States and Canada rose 10.2% to 54,688 and Canadian and U.S. commercial vehicles 7.9% to 25,440.

Automobiles from overseas fell 25.7% to 7,653 from 1978 and overseas-made commercial vehicles 19.3% to 673. Value of the cars fell 5.3% to \$51.2 million and the commercial vehicles 3.4% to \$4.4 million. Value of U.S. and Canadian cars sold rose 18.0% to \$376.0 million and commercial vehicles 22.7% to \$243.5 million.

Sales value of all vehicles increased 17.2% to \$675.1 million, including 231 coaches and buses valued at \$7.7 million. Seasonally-adjusted sales of automobiles manufactured in Canada and the U.S. rose 9.8% from December to 67,929 and those of cars from overseas rose 21.1% to 12,222. Seasonally-adjusted sales of all commercial vehicles fell 0.8% to 30,224.

For further information, see the January 1979 issue of *New Motor Vehicles Sales* (63-007, 30¢/\$3), or contact M. Kwilecki (613-996-9304), Retail Trade Section, Merchandising and Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0V4.

Farm Cash Receipts

Farmers' cash receipts from January farming operations totalled \$1,387.6 million compared with \$1,263.4 million in 1978. Receipts from farming operations by province with 1978 comparisons in brackets: Prince Edward Island \$11.6 million (\$7.8 million), Nova Scotia \$13.0 million (\$11.2 million), New Brunswick \$11.5 million (\$8.4 million), Québec \$134.5 million (\$106.4 million), Ontario \$297.0 million (\$249.5 million), Manitoba \$115.6 million (\$97.3 million), Saskatchewan \$466.5 million (\$469.6 million), Alberta \$296.3 million (\$276.2 million), British Columbia \$41.6 million (\$37.0 million).

For further information, order the January 1979 issue of *Farm Cash Receipts* (21-001, 30¢/\$3), or contact P. Lys (613-995-4895), Agriculture Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0L7.

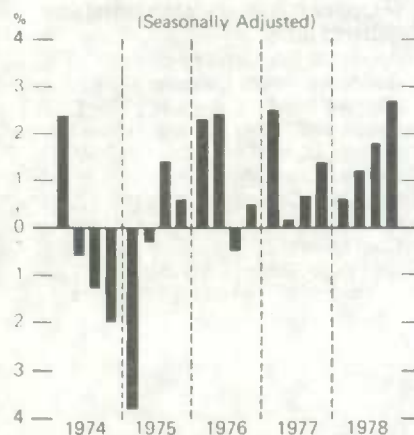
Capacity Utilization Rates Fourth Quarter, 1978

Capacity utilization, manufacturing industries, fourth quarter, rose to 89.2% from the third quarter's 87.5%. Durable manufacturing increased from 85.2% to 86.9% of capacity and non-durable manufacturing from 89.9% to 91.5% (estimates will be subject to revisions once the new investment data from the private and public investment survey are incorporated into the capital stocks series). Textiles, knitting mills, clothing and miscellaneous manufacturing attained 100% of capacity utilization.

A description of the methodology used to derive the rates is given in the publication *Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing* (31-003, \$1.40/\$5.60). For further information, contact R. Hoyt (613-995-8152), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6. The data is available on CANSIM, from the first quarter of 1961 to the fourth quarter of 1978, by major manufacturing group according to the 1970 Standard Industrial Classification, with aggregates for durables, non-durables and total manufacturing.

Index of Industrial Production

Quarter-to-Quarter Percentage Change



Source: Indexes of Real Domestic Product by Industry (61-005)



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Publications released March 8 — 15

	Cata- logue	Price per issue/year		Cata- logue	Price per issue/year
AGRICULTURE					
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Occupational Composition of Canadian Migration, by Leroy O. Stone	99-752E	\$1.40	Hardboard (Wood Fibre), January 1979	36-001	15¢/\$1.50
Provincial Census Tracts: Reference Maps, Atlantic Provinces, 1976 Census of Canada	95-851	\$3	Mineral Wool, January 1979	44-004	15¢/\$1.50
Supplementary Bulletins: Economic Characteristics, Female Labour Force Participation Rates by Level of Schooling, Age, Marital Status and Presence of Children, 1976 Census of Canada	94-836	\$1.50	Miscellaneous Food Preparations, Quarter Ended December 31, 1978	32-018	35¢/\$1.40
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Financial Flow Accounts, Third Quarter 1978	13-002	\$1.75/\$7	Production and Shipments of Floor Tiles, January 1979	47-001	15¢/\$1.50
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Principal Vital Statistics by Local Areas, 1976	84-207	\$1.40	Refined Petroleum Products, November 1978	45-004	40¢/\$4
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Annual Report on Job Vacancies, 1978	71-203	\$1.40	Rigid Insulating Board, January 1979	36-002	15¢/\$1.50
Preliminary Unemployment Insurance Statistics, November 1978	73-001p	N/C	Soaps and Synthetic Detergents, December 1978	46-003	30¢/\$3
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Apparent Per Capita Food Consumption in Canada, 1977	32-226	\$1.05	Stocks of Frozen Meat Products, February 1979	32-012	30¢/\$3
Asphalt Roofing, January 1979	45-001	15¢/\$1.50	The Sugar Situation, January 1979	32-013	15¢/\$1.50
Bread and Other Bakery Products, Quarter Ended December 31, 1978	32-015	35¢/\$1.40	Tobacco and Tobacco Products Statistics, October-December 1978	32-014	70¢/\$2.80
Cement, January 1979	44-001	15¢/\$1.50	SERVICE BULLETIN		
Coal and Coke Statistics, December 1978	45-002	40¢/\$4	Fruit and Vegetable Preservation —		
Coal Mines, 1977	26-206	\$1.05	Vol. 7, No. 7, Pack of Canned		
Computer Service Industry, 1977	63-222	70¢	Tomatoes and Tomato Products,		
Corrugated Boxes and Wrappers, January 1979	36-004	15¢/\$1.50	1978		
			32-023	/\$1.40	
MARKETING SERVICES					
			Amendment to CANSIM Mini Base		
			Series Directory, March 1979		
			12-204E	Free to users	
MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES					
			Consumer Credit, December 1978		
			61-004		
			30¢/\$3		
			Department Stores Sales by Regions,		
			January 1979		
			63-004		
			15¢/\$1.50		
			Restaurant Statistics, January		
			1979		
			63-011		
			15¢/\$1.50		
PRICES					
			Construction Price Statistics,		
			Quarterly Report, First Quarter		
			1979		
			62-008		
			\$1.40/\$5.60		
			Consumer Prices and Price Indexes,		
			October-December 1978		
			62-010		
			\$1.40/\$5.60		
			Industry Price Indexes,		
			December 1978		
			62-011		
			55¢/\$5.50		
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS					
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