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Weekly Bulletin

November 2, 1984

Building Permits

The value of building permits issued in Canadian municipalities posted a 17.2% decrease to a seasonally-adjusted \$1,218.7 million in August from \$1,471.0 million in July. The weakness of permits issued in August is attributable to a sharp retreat of intentions in the residential sector and a slowdown in the non-residential sector.

The value of residential construction authorized plummeted to a level of \$628.4 million in August, 27.2% below the \$863.4 million reached in July. On a seasonally-adjusted basis, 9,688 units were approved in August (6,031 single-detached and 3,657 multiple dwellings) compared to 14,518 units in July (8,490 singles and 6,028 multiples), a decline of 33.3%. Translated into annual terms, the seasonally-adjusted rate for August was 116,300 units compared to 174,200 units for the previous month. In contrast to the preceding months, intentions in the residential sector declined in August for Quebec and Ontario. The level of intentions also declined in British Columbia, while stability was noted in other regions.

Following a drop in July, the value of non-residential permits slipped 2.8% in August to a level of \$590.3 million. The rises recorded in the industrial (+29.5%) and commercial (+6.0%) sectors were offset by the weakness of intentions in the public sector

(continued page 2, col. 1)

Employment and Earnings

The preliminary estimates of employment for Canada at the industrial aggregate level increased 0.3% from July to August 1984. Increases were registered in all industry divisions with the exception of transportation, communication and other utilities. All provinces registered increases except Newfoundland, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Average weekly earnings at the industrial aggregate level decreased slightly (0.1%) from \$403.77 in July to \$403.35 in August. Decreases were registered in manufacturing, trade, service and public administration. Nova Scotia, Ontario and Manitoba experienced declines.

Order the August 1984 issue of *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002, \$5.55/\$5.50), contact the Labour Division (613-990-9900), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	Aug.*	403.35	403.77	3.2
Labour Income (\$ million)	July	19,588.4	19,962.7	4.8
Persons with Jobs (million)	Sept.	11.16	11.52	1.9
Unemployed	Sept.	1,363,000	1,347,000	7.4

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Aug.	3,434.7	3,304.7	6.8
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Aug.	32,575.4	32,411.6	8.9

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	19,176.6	17,336.6	12.7
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Aug.	22,354.2	22,126.0	33.9

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981=100)	Sept.	123.0	122.9	3.8
New House Price Index (1981=100)	July	95.2	95.3	0.6
Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100)	Sept.*	212.7	214.1	0.8
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Sept.*	156.1	158.4	2.0
Industry Selling Price Index (1971=100)	Sept.*	312.0	312.5	3.6

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Aug.*	1,275.4	10,059.2	4.2
Housing Starts — Urban Centres (units)	Aug.	11,029	75,027	-20.7

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	Aug.*	4,711	36,821	32.4
Electricity Generation (terawatt hours)	Aug.*	33.7	279.3	9.2
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Aug.*	6,271	57,470	8.5
Petroleum Refining (million cubic metres)	Aug.*	8.0	59.4	7.3

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	9,011	74,132	28.2
Imports — Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Aug.	8,059	62,054	33.5

PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Aug.	20.9	158.3	20.4
Steel (ingots — thousand tonnes)	July	1,117	8,696	24.6

SALES

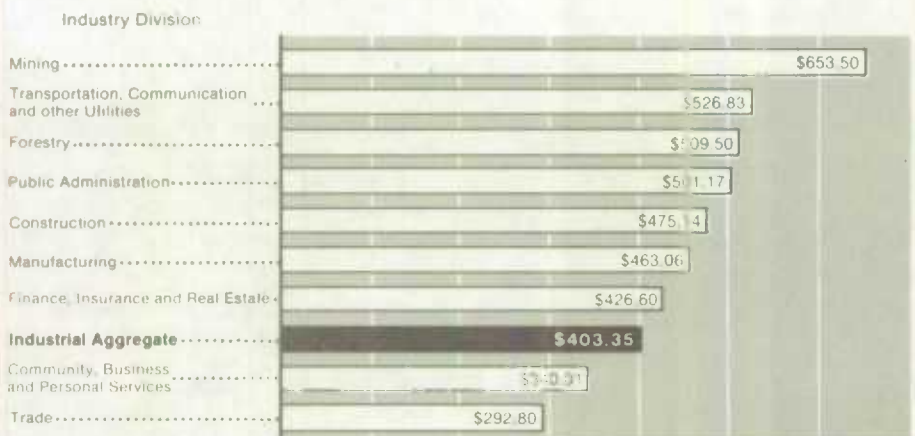
Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	873.0	6,506.5	4.7
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Aug.	18,948.4	148,872.6	16.0
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	1,186.5	10,749.9	34.5
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Aug.	9,768.3	73,432.8	9.5

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

* - new this week.

Average Weekly Earnings in Canadian Industry

August 1984*



Source: Statistics Canada, Employment, Earnings and Hours (72-002)

* Preliminary Estimates

Canada

...Building Permits

(-32.1%) which totalled only \$135.2 million. The weakness of the non-residential sector affected all provinces except Ontario, which has been maintained by a strong level of intentions in the commercial sector.

Order the August issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$3.85/\$38.50), or contact Lizette Gervais (613-990-9689), Construction Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Mental Health Statistics

Mental and psychiatric hospitals in Canada decreased in number from 60 in 1972 to 45 in 1982-83. This decline can be attributed to the reduction of long-stay patients in mental hospitals and the increasing utilization of general hospitals for short-term psychiatric treatment.

The number of separations in 1982-83 was 20,450 for males and 14,114 for females. For male separations, the three most common disorders were schizophrenia (30.2%), alcohol dependence syndrome (14.5%) and personality disorders (11.9%). Among female separations, the three most common diagnoses were schizophrenia (25.0%), affective psychoses (19.4%) and neurotic disorders (10.7%). The median age for male and female separations was 34 and 41 respectively.

The number of days of care were 3,660,904 for male separations and 3,068,149 for female separations. Median length of stay was 28 days for men and 35 days for women.

Order detailed tabulations on separation of patients from mental and psychiatric hospitals for 1982-83 will appear in *Mental Health Statistics: Mental and Psychiatric Hospitals* (83-204, \$6.65/\$7.95), or contact R. Riley (613-990-8386) Institutional Care Statistics Section, Health Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Energy Products

Canadian production of crude oil amounted to 6 800 million litres in August 1984, a 10.1% decrease from the same period in 1983. Canada's oil exports totalled 1 452 million litres, a 9.9% decrease from August 1983; import levels dropped 48.4% to 968 million litres.

Canadian refineries produced 7 955 million litres of refined petroleum products in August 1984, a 2.6% decrease from a year earlier. Sales of these products declined 5.2%.

Natural gas production increased 13.0% to 6 271 million cubic metres in August 1984. Exports during this period increased 8.5%.

Canadian coal mines produced 4 711 kilotonnes of coal during the month, a 38.3% increase from the same period last year. Exports of coal decreased 8.6% to 1 711 kilotonnes.

Electricity generation in Canada rose 9.4% in August 1984.

Contact Richard Godin (613-990-9823), Energy Section, Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Raw Materials Price Index

The Raw Materials Price Index (1977=100) declined to a preliminary level of 212.7 in September, down 0.7% from the revised August level of 214.1. The principal contributors to the decline were the indexes for vegetable products (-4.2%), non-ferrous metals (-3.6%), and animals and animal products (-0.8%). Between September 1983 and September 1984, the Raw Materials Price Index increased 0.8%, matching the year-over-year rise recorded in August. Excluding coal, crude oil, and natural gas, the Raw Materials Price Index decreased 1.5% in September and now stands 2.0% above its level of a year earlier.

During September, the vegetable products index fell 4.2%, largely due to lower prices for fresh vegetables (-29.2%) and for oilseeds (-7.3%). An 8.0% increase in raw sugar prices was a partially offsetting factor. The vegetable products index stood 4.4% lower than a year ago.

The non-ferrous metals index registered a 3.6% decline in September. Most of the metals in this index posted notable price decreases, particularly precious metals. The non-ferrous metals index has now fallen 11.9% since September 1983.

The animal and animal products index decreased 0.8% in September, but remains 7.5% higher than a year ago. The main cause of the decline were lower prices for hogs (-6.1%) and for cattle and calves (-0.8%). The price decline for hogs was the first major drop since March 1984.

Order the September 1984 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$3.85/\$38.50), or contact the Information Unit (613-990-9615), Industrial Prices Section, Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Industry Selling Price Index

The Industry Selling Price Index (ISPI) for manufacturing (1971=100) reached an estimated 312.0 in September 1984, down 0.2% from the revised August level of 312.5. With this decrease, the year-over-year advance (calculated by comparing the September 1984 level with the September 1983 level) fell to 3.6%, slightly lower than the 3.7% advance recorded in August 1984. The decline between August and September was due primarily to decreases in the wood industry (-1.8%), the primary metals industry (-0.9%) and the food and beverage industry (-0.2%). This movement was partly offset by an increase in the paper and allied industries (0.4%).

The wood industries component index dropped 1.8% in September to a level 1.4% lower than a year earlier. Decreases of 4.2% in the shingle mills index and 3.0% in the sawmills and planing mills index were largely responsible for the monthly decline.

The primary metals index fell 0.9% in September, down 1.5% from its September 1983 level. The main factor in the decrease was a 2.5% drop in the smelting and refining index, attributable to price reductions of 4.3% for zinc, 3.8% for precious metals and 3.1% for copper.

Railway Operating Statistics

The seven major railways in Canada reported a combined net income of \$55.0 million from operations in June 1984. Operating revenues were \$611.7 million, up 1.2% from the 1983 figure.

Revenue freight tonne-kilometres rose 9.7% in June 1984. Freight train-kilometres showed an increase of 7.0%, while freight car-kilometres increased 5.8%. The average revenue per tonne-kilometre of freight was 2.396 cents for June 1984. Revenue passenger-kilometres were 184.6 million.

Order the June 1984 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, \$2.75/\$27.50), or contact the Rail Unit (613-990-8693).

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The food and beverage industry index edged down 0.2% in September but remained 5.4% higher than recorded during the same period in 1983. A 2.0% drop in the slaughtering and meat processors index, resulting primarily from decreases of 3.2% and 3.0% in beef and pork prices, had the largest moderating effect. A 1.5% decrease in the feed industry index also contributed to the decline. These movements were partly offset by increases of 2.3% in the fish products index and 0.5% in the dairy products index.

The paper and allied industries index climbed 0.4% in September to a level 13.5% higher than a year earlier. Most of the increase for the month was due to a 0.5% rise in the pulp and paper mills index.

In September 1984, the proportion of industry indexes posting increases stood at 47%, lower than the average for the previous six months (60%). The percentage reporting declines (20%) differed only slightly from the trend for the past six months (21%).

Order the September 1984 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011, \$3.85/\$38.50), or contact the Information Unit (613-990-9615), Industrial Prices Section, Prices Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Juvenile Delinquents

Canada's juvenile and family courts adjudicated 115,037 charges of delinquency against juveniles in 1983; of these charges, 55,389 (74.2%) resulted in findings of delinquency. The 1983 data indicate an overall decrease of 5.2% in the charge count compared to the 1982 data.

In 1983, for the first time, it has been possible within each province to link to an individual all the charges he or she had adjudicated during the year. Thus in Canada, an estimated 49,130 juveniles had 115,037 charges adjudicated, and 40,478 (82.4%) of these individuals were found guilty on at least one charge. Federal Statute offences (Criminal Code and other federal statutes) accounted for 78.3% of the total number of charges adjudicated. The remaining 21.7% comprised provincial statute offences (20.7%) and municipal by-law violations (1.0%).

Among federal statute offences, the charge rates for males and females during the three-year period have shown little variance. Male juveniles accounted for 80,239 charges or 89.1% of the total federal statute charge count (90,032); this is equivalent to a rate of 52.3 charges per 1,000 male juveniles (c.f. 52.9 in 1982; 52.1 in 1981) in the population at risk of referral to juvenile court in Canada. By comparison, female juveniles accounted for 9,793 (10.9%) of the federal statute charges adjudicated. This is a rate of 6.7 per 1,000 female juveniles (c.f. 6.7 in 1982; 6.0 in 1981).

Overall, 64,301 of the 90,032 federal statute charges adjudicated resulted in findings of delinquency in 1983, a conviction rate of 71.4%. With respect to specific offences for which juveniles were found delinquent, the most frequent were break and enter (36.4%) and thefts (30.4%). Collectively, property-related offences accounted for 83.2% (83.0% in 1982) of all delinquencies pertaining to federal statutes. In addition, violent offences, that is, offences against a person, accounted for 4.8%. This was unchanged from the 1982 figure.

Consistently over the three-year period, the most frequent disposition or sentence was probation/supervision (48.1% in 1981; 50.8% in 1982; 52.1% in 1983). The relative frequency of fines/restitution decreased over the three years from 12.2% in 1981 to 11.4% in 1982 and 9.6% in 1983. The number of charges resulting in referrals to juvenile institutions, as well as the proportion such charges represent of the total number of guilty findings increased slightly from 1981 to 1983, totalling 8,902 charges or 12.8% in 1981, 9,215 charges or 13.4% in 1982 and 9,406 charges or 14.6% in 1983.

Order Juvenile Delinquents, 1983, or contact Central Inquiries (613-990-8116). In addition, the juvenile court data are available on CANSIM. Contact the Juvenile Justice Program (613-990-8938), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Industrial Production

Industrial production declined 0.5% in August 1984, following an exceptionally strong 3.5% gain in July (original estimate 4.0%).

Declines were widespread in mining and manufacturing industries, while the output of utilities advanced moderately. A strong 14.5% output gain in automotive manufacturing held the overall decline in manufacturing to 0.1%. Preliminary data indicate that automotive manufacturing will drop substantially for September.

As of August 1984, industrial production had registered an advance of 22.5% from its trough recorded in December 1982, and reached a level 2.6% above its June 1981 peak. During the most recent three-month period, June to August, growth has averaged 1.2% per month; this compares to an average monthly growth rate of 0.8% over the last twelve months.

Order the August 1984 issue of Gross Domestic Product by Industry (61-005, \$3.85/\$38.50), or contact Ron Kennedy (613-990-9145), Industry Product Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Unemployment Insurance

Unemployment insurance benefits paid out during the month of August 1984 totalled \$778 million, up 6.7% from July, but 4.2% lower than the \$811 million disbursed during August 1983. During the first eight months of 1984, \$6,999 million was paid to claimants, 4.7% less than recorded for the same period a year earlier.

The number of beneficiaries for the week ending August 18, 1984, stood at 1,044,000, decreases of 2.3% and 2.8% compared to the levels for July and August 1983.

During August, 241,000 claims were received, 18.8% fewer than in July and a 2.9% decrease from August 1983. The year-to-date total of claims received increased 0.3% to 2,136,000 from the 2,129,000 recorded during the same period last year.

Order the Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act (73-001, \$6.35/\$25.40), or contact H. Stiebert (613-990-9900, Ext. 238).

Campus Book Stores

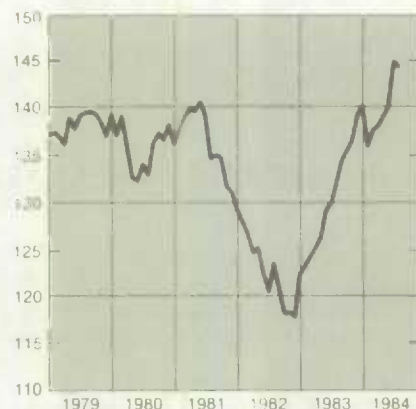
Retail sales of 274 Canadian campus book stores reached an estimated \$211.8 million during the 1983-84 academic year, a 14.3% increase from the previous year. Employment in campus book stores as of the last week of November 1983 totalled 1,837 people, 12.1% higher than a year earlier. The gross annual payroll expanded 31.2% to \$32.0 million.

Text books accounted for 66.9% of the total sales of campus book stores in 1983-84; other books represented 8.5%, while stationery and supplies and miscellaneous items accounted for 13.8% and 10.8% respectively.

Order Campus Book Stores, 1983-84 (63-219, \$5), or contact Merchandising and Services Division (613-990-9665/Telex 053-3385), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Industrial Production

(Seasonally Adjusted, 1971=100)



Source: Statistics Canada, Gross Domestic Product by Industry (61-005)

Household/Family File

The 1981 Public Use Sample Tapes micro-data file for households and families is now available. The household portion contains detailed information on the occupants of the household as well as some information on housing. Information on the census family or non-family person, including (where applicable) data on the husband, male lone parent, male non-family person, wife, female lone parent, and female non-family person is contained in the portion devoted to the family. These data are based on the 1981 Census of Population.

To order these files, the user must send two signed copies of the contract, a completed technical specification form, and a cheque or money order made payable to the Receiver General for Canada for the full amount of the order to: Census Tape Inquiries, CANSIM Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

The Public Use Sample Tapes combining household and family data will cost \$600 per file (including one copy of the User Documentation Manual). Additional copies of the User Documentation Manual are available at \$50 per copy.

For blank copies of contracts and technical specification forms, contact CANSIM Division (613-990-8200), Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6.

Major Grains

Export clearances of the major grains during September 1984 were as follows:

- Total wheat, 2 282 300 tonnes
- Oats, --
- Barley, 215 600 tonnes
- Rye, 33 000 tonnes
- Flaxseed, 29 200 tonnes
- Rapeseed, 58 300 tonnes.

Order the September 1984 issue of Cereals and Oilseeds Review (22-007, \$2.75/\$27.50), or contact Allister Hickson (204-949-2856), Agriculture Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Winnipeg R3C 0K4 or Glenn Lennox (613-995-4877).



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Refined petroleum products, July 1984	45-004	\$3.85/\$38.50	\$4.60/\$46
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