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Weekly Bulletin

January 3, 1986

Unemployment Insurance

Unemployment insurance benefit payments in October 1985 totalled \$746 million, an increase of 8.8% from the previous month, but a decrease of 4.9% from October 1984. For the first 10 months of 1985, benefit payments amounted to \$8,728 million, up 3.5% from the disbursements made during the same period in 1984.

During the month of October, 331,000 claims for unemployment insurance benefits were received, an advance of 21.8% from September 1985, but a decline of 6.6% as compared with October 1984. Since the beginning of this year, Commission offices have received 2.65 million claims, down 4.2% from the number of claims received during the same period last year.

For the week ending October 19, 1985, the number of beneficiaries stood at 939,000, up 3.2% from the previous month but down 3.5% from October 1984.

Adjusted for seasonal variation, the number of beneficiaries receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits increased by 1.8% between September and October 1985 to 999,000.

Data for the months of August, September and October will be published in the October 1985 issue of **Unemployment Insurance Statistics** (73-001, \$12/\$120), or contact H. Stiebert or J.-P. Maynard (613-990-9900), Labour Division.

Canada's Foreign Trade in Automotive Products

During the first nine months of 1985, Canada accumulated a \$3.1 billion trade surplus in automotive products with the United States. This was \$1.0 billion less than the \$4.1 billion surplus recorded during the same period in 1984 and represented the first reduction in the surplus since 1981.

Exports of automotive products to the United States increased 10.9% to \$24.7 billion during the first three quarters of 1985. Exports of cars and parts both rose about 12%, with the increases in exports of cars occurring mainly in the third quarter, while the rise in exports of parts took place for the most part in the first and second quarters.

Imports from the United States rose 3.9%, considerably more than exports, reaching \$21.6 billion and accounting for the decreased surplus. Imports of parts, which constitute 60% of the import total, rose 10.2%. More than half of the overall

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LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME

			Previous Month	% Change From Year Ago
Average Weekly Earnings(\$)	Sept.	423.02	420.08	3.4
Labour Income (\$ million)	Sept.	21,393.7	21,089.6	7.2
Persons with Jobs (million)	Nov.	11.43	11.48	3.4
Unemployed	Nov.	1,246,000	1,200,000	-8.0

INVENTORIES

Department Store (\$ million)	Oct.	4,288.7	3,392.8	10.9
Manufacturers' Owned (\$ million)	Oct.	34,105.5	34,109.8	3.0

ORDERS

Manufacturers' New Orders (\$ million)	Oct.	21,799.1	20,990.8	7.0
Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders (\$ million)	Oct.	22,384.1	22,575.5	1.1

PRICES

Consumer Price Index (1981 = 100)	Nov.	128.9	128.4	4.0
New House Price Index (1981 = 100)	Oct.	97.3	96.9	2.6
Raw Materials Price Index (1977 = 100)	Oct.	217.4	215.5	2.2
Excl. coal, crude oil, nat. gas	Oct.	155.2	152.5	0.0
Industry Selling Price Index (1971 = 100)	Oct.	320.2	319.4	2.5

CONSTRUCTION

Building Permits (\$ million)	Sept.	1,711.9	14,259.9	24.9
Housing Starts - Urban Centres (units)	Oct.	13,697	112,740	20.7

ENERGY

Coal Production (thousand tonnes)	Sept.	4 780	45 290	8.6
Electricity Generation (gigawatt hours)	Sept.	33 065	325 746	4.8
Natural Gas Production (million cubic metres)	Sept.*	6 826	69 064	8.3
Petroleum Refining (thousand cubic metres)	Oct.	7 287	70 985	-2.3

FOREIGN TRADE

Exports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Oct.	11,146	99,456	6.9
Imports - Balance of Payments Basis (\$ million)	Oct.	9,126	84,987	10.6

PRODUCTION

Railway Carloadings (million tonnes)	Oct.	22.8	199.4	-0.9
Steel (ingots - thousand tonnes)	Oct.	1 280	12 109	-1.3

SALES

Department Store Sales (\$ million)	Oct.	1,032.3	8,861.1	5.3
Manufacturers' Shipments (\$ million)	Oct.	21,990.5	201,843.0	7.2
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ million)	Oct.	1,884.2	16,740.4	25.5
Retail Sales (\$ million)	Oct.	11,101.6	103,301.0	10.4

Statistics are in current dollars and are not seasonally adjusted.

* - new this week.

Quarterly Estimates of Income and Expenditures of Trusted Pension Funds



Source: Statistics Canada, Quarterly Estimates of Trusted Pension Funds (74-001)

Canada

... Foreign Trade/Automotive

increase in imports was due to a 41.7% increase in imports of cars.

Trade with Overseas Countries, Customs Basis

The trade deficit in automotive products with countries other than the United States totalled \$2.9 billion for the first nine months in 1985, an increase of \$701 million from the corresponding period of 1984. Nearly all of this increase was due to increased imports of cars which climbed 42.8% over last year. Imports of auto parts were up 7.3%. Exports of automotive products fell 10.9% to \$513 million, due primarily to a substantial decline in exports of cars which dropped from \$120 million to \$32 million. Exports of trucks increased 29.3% to a level of \$128 million while exports of tires and tubes nearly doubled to \$33 million.

Source of Automobile Imports

During the first nine months of 1985, a total of 787,500 cars were imported, an increase of 19.6% over the corresponding period of 1984. Of these, 66.2% came from the United States (compared to 70.5% in 1984), and 19.4% came from Japan (20.6% in 1984). The European share of imports dropped slightly to 5.4%. Imports from "other countries" more than tripled to 70,000 units, increasing their import market share from 3.5% in 1984 to 8.9% in 1985.

The average price of imported cars was 18.7% higher in the first nine months of 1985 than in the same period of 1984. The increase reflects changes in the size and type of cars imported and changes in exchange rates as well as inflationary increases. Cars from the United States rose 26.0% in unit value price while cars from the rest of the world rose only 4.6%.

Contact G. Blaney (613-990-9647), Trade Information Unit, or John Butterill (613-990-9784), Trade Measures and Analysis Section, International Trade Division.

Telephone Statistics

Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported monthly revenues of \$849.2 million in October 1985, up 6.6% from October 1984. Operating expenses were \$574.8 million, an increase of 6.5% from a year earlier. Net operating revenue was \$274.3 million, an increase of 6.9% over October 1984.

Order the October 1985 issue of *Telephone Statistics* (56-002, \$7.50/\$75), or contact J.R. Slattery (613-990-8693), Services Division.

Infomat

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Police Administration Statistics

Police administration statistics for 1984 showed the number of full-time police officers in Canada increased to 53,499, up 0.2% from 53,392 (revised figure) in 1983. Canada's police strength has increased nationally every year since 1962, except for a 1.0% decrease in 1983.

Similarly, the total number of full-time police personnel - which includes police officers, cadets, civilians and other full-time personnel - increased to 68,030 in 1984, up 0.4% from 67,791 (revised figure) in 1983.

While the national figures increased, the number of police officers decreased in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. These jurisdictions accounted for 74% of Canada's police officers.

The national ratio of full-time police officers per 1,000 population remained stable at 2.1 in 1984.

Order the Vol. 5, no. 3 *Juristat Service Bulletin, Police Administration - Statistical Highlights, 1984* (85-002, \$2/\$10), or contact Orest Fedorowycz (613-990-9024), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

40th Anniversary of the Labour Force Survey

November marked the 40th anniversary of the Labour Force Survey (LFS). First introduced in 1945 as a quarterly survey, the LFS was established as a means of providing timely data to the Canadian public on the current state of the labour market.

Throughout the years, the survey has provided data users with an increasingly broad range of statistical information with which to analyse labour market changes. Most importantly, the LFS has provided policy makers with information needed to design, implement and monitor social and economic policies in order to respond to the changing needs of Canadians.

The November issue of *The Labour Force* contains an article entitled "40th Anniversary of the Labour Force Survey (1945-1985)" which describes the evolution of the LFS over the past four decades. Methodological developments such as modifications in sample design are examined and changes in the content of the survey are noted.

Order the November 1985 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$20/\$200), available now, or contact Ken Bennett (613-990-9448), Household Surveys Division.

Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

Preliminary figures show production of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons for September 1985 increased 8.8% from the previous year to 7350.1 thousand cubic metres.

Exports of crude oil in September rose 68.6% to 2571.7 thousand cubic metres while imports advanced 72.1% to 1717.1 thousand cubic metres. Canadian refinery receipts of crude oil increased 9.1% to 6718.3 thousand cubic metres.

Preliminary figures show net withdrawals of natural gas in September 1985 increased 6.3% from last year, totalling 6826.2 million cubic metres. Marketable production of natural gas after treatment at processing plants amounted to 5469.1 million cubic metres, up 9.0%, while net withdrawals of natural gas liquids (propane, butanes and ethane) reached 1062.3 thousand cubic metres, up 3.4%.

Exports of natural gas in September reached 1711.1 million cubic metres, up 17.4% from a year earlier, while sales in Canada increased 6.6% to 2901.0 million cubic metres.

Order the September 1985 issue of *Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Production* (26-006, \$8/\$80), or contact G. O'Connor (613-991-3562), Industry Division.

Farm Prices

The October 1985 estimate of the index of farm prices of agricultural products for Canada was 281.2 (1971 = 100), down 0.1% from the September index of 281.4 and down 4.8% from the October 1984 level of 295.4.

The 0.1% decrease in the overall index from September 1985 to October 1985 was due to a 3.1% drop in the total crops sub-index, which was only partly offset by a 1.8% increase in the livestock and livestock products sub-index.

The decrease in the total crops sub-index was due to substantial drops in prices that producers received for potatoes and grain corn and smaller decreases in prices for canola and wheat and barley sold in the off-board market.

Cattle prices continued their recent increase and the hogs sub-index rose for the first time in three months to contribute to the higher livestock and livestock products sub-index. Poultry and egg prices decreased marginally in October.

Order the October issue of *Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products* (62-003, \$6/\$60), or contact Paul Murray (613-990-8706), Farm Income and Prices Section, Agriculture and Natural Resources Division.

Gas Utilities

Preliminary data show sales of natural gas in Canada amounted to 2898 million cubic metres in September 1985, an increase of 6.5% from 2722 million cubic metres a year earlier.

Reported exports to the United States were 1711 million cubic metres during September 1985, an increase of 17.4% from 1458 million cubic metres a year earlier.

Order the September 1985 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, \$10/\$100).

Inventories, Shipments, Orders

Highlights

- Preliminary estimates indicate that the seasonally adjusted value of shipments in all Canadian manufacturing industries increased 1.5% to \$20,709.5 million in October from the revised estimate of \$20,412.6 million in September. This increase followed a decline of 2.5% in September.
- The seasonally adjusted value of new orders received in October increased 2.2% to \$20,737.9 million from the revised September estimate of \$20,288.6 million.
- The seasonally adjusted unfilled orders backlog at the end of October was \$22,650.5 million, up 0.1% from the revised September estimate of \$22,622.1 million.
- Seasonally adjusted inventories owned by manufacturers at the end of October totalled \$34,445.9 million, up 0.1% from the previous month's revised value of \$34,418.9 million.
- The ratio of seasonally adjusted total inventory owned to seasonally adjusted shipments declined from 1.69:1 in September to 1.66:1 in October.
- Not adjusted for seasonal variation, manufacturers' shipments in October 1985 were estimated at \$21,990.5 million. Cumulative shipments for the first 10 months of 1985, at an estimated \$201,843.0 million, were up 7.2% from the \$188,278.7 million estimated for the same period in 1984.

Order the October 1985 issue of *Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries* (31-001, \$15/\$150), or contact J. Lepage (613-990-9834), Shipments, Inventories and Orders Section, Industry Division.

Sales of Natural Gas

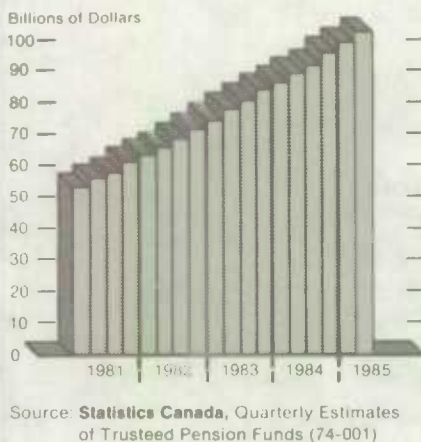
During October 1985, sales of natural gas by main distributors amounted to 3 624 819 thousand cubic metres, a 3.9% increase from the level recorded the previous year. On the basis of rate structure information sales were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from October 1984 in brackets: residential sales, 726 376 thousand cubic metres (+1.6); commercial sales, 634 716 thousand cubic metres (-2.4) and industrial sales, 2 263 727 thousand cubic metres (+6.6).

For the first 10 months of 1985, sales of natural gas amounted to 39 229 387 thousand cubic metres, a 4.7% increase from the level recorded during the same period of 1984. The increase in sales was due, in part, to slightly cooler than normal temperatures as well as increased industrial demand. On the basis of rate structure information sales were broken down as follows, with the percentage changes from January to October 1984 in brackets: residential sales, 9 601 007 thousand cubic metres (+3.3); commercial sales, 7 985 564 thousand cubic metres (+4.8) and industrial sales, 21 642 816 thousand cubic metres (+5.2).

Order the October 1985 issue of *Gas Utilities* (55-002, \$10/\$100), or contact Gary Smalldridge (613-991-3567), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Trusted Pension Funds

Quarterly Estimates of Assets Held



Trusted Pension Funds

The book value of assets held in trusted pension funds was estimated to be \$102.2 billion at the end of the second quarter of 1985. This represents an increase of \$2.9 billion over the assets of the previous quarter and \$13.1 billion more than the amount held a year earlier.

Bonds, accounting for 46.8% of total assets, continued to be the most prominent investment vehicle. Equity holdings stood at 26.3%, little changed in relative terms from the previous quarter. Mortgages, however, continued their slow decline to 6.2% of total assets.

Total income of trusted pension funds for the second quarter of 1985 amounted to \$4.3 billion: 51.1% was investment income, 12% consisted of net gains on sales of securities and virtually all of the balance was made up of contributions by employees and employers. From this revenue, expenditures of \$1,262 million were met, leaving a net cash flow of \$3.1 billion.

Order the second quarter 1985 issue of *Quarterly Estimates of Truusted Pension Funds* (74-001, \$10/\$40), or contact Jessica Dunn or Diane Galarneau (613-990-9900), Pensions Section, Labour Division.

Railway Financial and Operating Statistics

The seven major railways reported a combined net income from operations of \$18.6 million in September 1985. Operating revenues of \$602.9 million were up 0.7% from the 1984 figure.

Revenue freight tonne-kilometres were down by 11.2% for September 1985. Freight train-kilometres showed a decrease of 8.6%, while freight car-kilometres decreased 9.5%. The average revenue per tonne-kilometre of freight was 2.619 cents for September 1985. Revenue passenger-kilometres increased by 7.0% to 184.4 million.

Order the September 1985 issue of *Railway Operating Statistics* (52-003, \$9.50/\$95), or contact the Rail Unit (613-990-8700), Transportation Division.

Wholesale Trade

Wholesale merchants' sales in October 1985 rose significantly for the second consecutive month, resulting in a 17.6% advance over the same period last year. Revised sales for September 1985 were up 15.0% over the September 1984 level.

In October 1985, all major trade groups registered increased sales from a year earlier. The most notable gains were reported by the following major trade groups: tobacco, drugs and toilet preparations (+30.2%); motor vehicles and accessories (+25.4%) and metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment (+20.0%). All regions posted sales increases from a year earlier, ranging from 6.2% in the Atlantic provinces to 26.5% in British Columbia (including the Yukon and Northwest Territories).

Cumulative sales by wholesale merchants for the first 10 months of 1985 were up 12.2% over the January-October 1984 period. Significant gains were reported by wholesalers of motor vehicles and accessories (+20.5%); metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment (+17.8%) and other machinery, equipment and supplies (+17.3%).

Inventories

Wholesale inventories in October 1985 increased by 5.5% over the corresponding period in 1984. The ratio of inventories to sales at the end of October 1985 stood at 1.40:1, down from 1.56:1 a year earlier.

Order the October 1985 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008, \$5/\$50), or contact Gilles Berniquez (613-991-3537), Wholesale Trade Section, Industry Division.

Gross Domestic Product

(seasonally adjusted data)

Gross Domestic Product in 1971 prices increased 0.6% in October 1985 following 0.5% growth in September. Goods-producing industries advanced 0.9% following a gain of 0.3% in September. The service-producing industries grew 0.4% during the month.

Most of the October growth in GDP originated in the manufacturing, transportation, storage and forestry industries. In manufacturing, the major contributors to the advance were the beverage, rubber and plastics, textiles, knitting and clothing, wood products, and transportation equipment industries.

In transportation, significant gains were recorded in air, water and truck transport, and grain elevators. The forestry increase resulted mainly from increased output of sawlogs and followed a sharp decline in September.

Elsewhere, moderate growth was reported in October by finance, insurance and real estate industries, construction, and community, business and personal services. The only major decline during the month occurred in utilities as electric power and gas distribution both declined.

Order the October 1985 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry* (61-005, \$10/\$100), or contact Ron Kennedy (613-990-9145), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.



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INTERNATIONAL AND FINANCIAL ECONOMICS			
Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments, Third Quarter 1985	67-001	\$25/\$100	\$26/\$104
Security Transactions with Non-residents, September 1985	67-002	\$15/\$150	\$16/\$160
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Survey Methodology, Vol. 11, no. 1, December 1985	12-001	\$10/\$20	\$11.50/\$23
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Logging Industry, 1983	25-201	\$20	\$21
Men's Clothing Industries, 1983	34-216	\$20	\$21
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Miscellaneous Electrical Industries, 1983	43-213	\$20	\$21
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries, 1983	47-205	\$20	\$21
Miscellaneous Non-metallic Mineral Manufacturers, 1983	44-220	\$20	\$21
Motor Vehicle Parts and Accessories Manufacturers, 1983	42-210	\$20	\$21
Office, Store and Business Machine Industries, 1983	42-216	\$20	\$21
Other Converted Paper Products Industries, Including Asphalt Roofing Industry, 1983	36-215	\$20	\$21
Other Metal Fabricating Industries, 1983	41-228	\$20	\$21
Primary Steel, Steel Pipe and Tube Industries and Iron Foundries, 1983	41-231	\$20	\$21
Printing, Publishing and Allied Industries, 1983	36-203	\$20	\$21
Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder, October 1985	32-024	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, September 1985	35-003	\$6/\$60	\$7/\$70
Scientific and Professional Equipment Industries, 1983	47-206	\$20	\$21
Specified Domestic Electrical Appliances, October 1985	43-003	\$4/\$40	\$5/\$50
Sporting Goods and Toy Industries, 1983	47-204	\$20	\$21
Truck Body and Trailer Industries, 1983	42-217	\$20	\$21
Wire and Wire Products Industries, 1983	41-216	\$20	\$21
Women's and Children's Clothing Industries, 1983	34-217	\$20	\$21
INTERNATIONAL TRADE			
Exports by Countries, January-September 1985	65-003	\$75/\$300	\$85/\$340
Summary of Canadian International Trade, October 1985	65-001	\$15/\$150	\$16/\$160
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Communications Service Bulletin, Vol. 15, no. 8, Telecommunications Statistics, Third Quarter 1985	56-001	\$6.50/\$39	\$7.50/\$45
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Railway Operating Statistics, June 1985	52-003	\$9.50/\$95	\$10.50/\$105

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