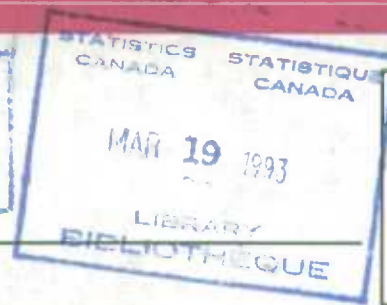




IN·F·O·M·A·T

A WEEKLY REVIEW

NOT FOR LOAN
NE S'EMPRUNTE PAS



Years of Ans
Excellence d'excellence

Friday, March 19, 1993

OVERVIEW

■ Exports Continue to Grow; Imports Decrease

The seasonally adjusted value of merchandise exports increased by 3.6% in January to \$14.6 billion while imports fell by 3.0% to \$12.7 billion, pushing Canada's trade balance to \$1.9 billion.

■ Growth of Leading Indicator Accelerates

The growth of the composite leading indicator accelerated from 0.4% in January to 0.7% in February.

■ Manufacturers Record Marginal Decrease in Shipments

Shipments by Canadian manufacturers declined by 0.3% in January after rising by 3.7% over the previous three months.

■ Unemployment Rate Hits One-year Low

The unemployment rate fell to 10.8% in February and unemployment decreased by 28,000 because of reductions in the size of the labour force.

■ Same-day Auto Trips to the United States Decline Steadily

The number of same-day automobile trips by Canadians to the U.S. fell for the fourth straight month to 4.1 million in January, the lowest seasonally adjusted level in almost three years.

■ Fewer Babies Born in 1991

A total of 402,528 babies were born in Canada in 1991, roughly 3,000 fewer births than in 1990.

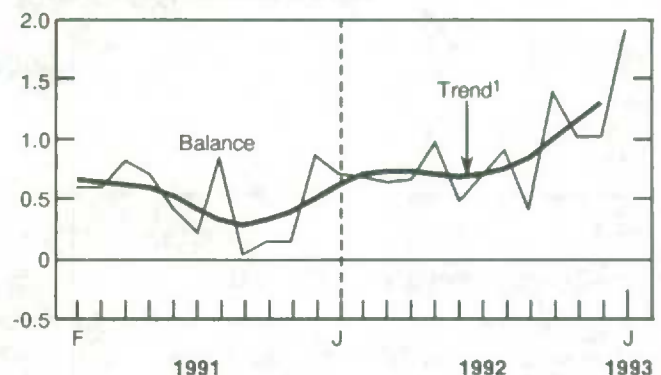
Exports Continue to Grow; Imports Decrease

The seasonally adjusted value of merchandise exports increased by \$507 million in January to \$14.6 billion, continuing the growth noted in 1992. This rise pushed exports 18.2% above their level of January 1992. Exports of most commodity groups increased, led by aircraft and other transportation equipment (\$158 million), industrial goods (\$119 million), forestry products (\$107 million) and automotive products (\$58 million).

(continued on page 2)

Merchandise Trade Balance

Billions of dollars, seasonally adjusted



¹ The short-term trend represents a weighted average of the data.



Statistics Canada
Statistique Canada

Canada

... Exports Continue to Grow; Imports Decrease

The export trend has been increasing for a full year and climbed 16% above its year-earlier level. Gains were noted for all sectors with the exception of agriculture and energy products. The trend for exports of forestry products stood 24% above its January 1992 level. The trend for exports of machinery and equipment showed positive growth, with exports of other machinery and equipment increasing 25% above their year-earlier level. Precious metals continued their upward trend, with exports 26% above their January 1992 level. The trend for exports of agricultural products declined for the fifth straight month, as wheat exports dropped a further 21% in January.

There was a substantial drop in seasonally adjusted imports, which fell by \$391 million in January to \$12.7 billion, after rising by \$214 million in December. The most significant decrease came from the automotive sector (-\$275 million), but there were also declines for machinery and

equipment other than aircraft and other transportation equipment (-\$192 million) and for agricultural and fishing products (-\$51 million).

Despite the January drop, the trend for imports increased by 0.3%, bringing its level 11% higher than January 1992. There were continued increases in the trends for agricultural products, industrial goods other than precious metals and forestry products. The trend for imports of automotive products increased by 1.0% in January and stood 13% above its year-earlier level.

The merchandise trade balance totalled \$1.9 billion in January, an increase of \$898 million from December. Over the last four months, the surplus has averaged \$1.3 billion.

For further information, order Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade (catalogue number 65-001P), or contact International Trade Division at (613) 951-9647. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 6.)

Growth of Leading Indicator Accelerates

The composite leading indicator continued to advance in February, rising by 0.7% from January. The financial market indicators improved markedly in February and manufacturing demand continued to recover mainly because of sustained growth in Canada's exports. However, the indicators of household demand remained mixed - especially housing demand, which fell by 3.4% in February.

Spending on durable goods rose by 0.3% in December, less rapidly than in November, while a slowdown for furniture and appliance sales followed a downturn in the housing market. Weak demand for personal services restrained growth in the services employment component to only 0.2%. Unusually bad weather conditions may have played a role in slack household demand early in the new year, while employment and interest rates improved steadily.

The growth of new orders for durable goods rose from 0.9% in November to 1.9% in December, led by demand from the United States for automotive products and capital goods. Shipments also increased sharply relative to inventories, which remained under tight control. In January, the average workweek increased for the first time since August 1992. A further increase was recorded in February as employment in manufacturing rose slowly.

The advance in the U.S. leading indicator picked up, from 0.4% growth in December to 0.5% in January, after little change since September.

As interest rates fell back to the lows touched last September, the real money supply grew by 1.0% in February, its largest gain in almost six years. The stock market index posted its first increase in a year, rising by 0.3%.

For further information, order Canadian Economic Observer (catalogue number 11-010) or contact Current Economic Analysis Division at (613) 951-3627. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 6.)

Manufacturers Record Marginal Decrease in Shipments

The seasonally adjusted value of shipments by Canadian manufacturers edged down by 0.3% in January to \$24.3 billion, the first decline in four months. Even so, manufacturers' shipments were 9.4% above the level recorded for January 1992.

Fifteen of 22 major groups, accounting for 72% of shipment values, recorded declines while seven increased. The steepest decreases were reported in the electrical and electronic products industry

(-6.5%) and in the refined petroleum and coal products industry (-3.1%). These decreases were partly offset by a gain of 3.9% in the paper and allied products industry and a rise of 4.0% in the wood industry.

The trend for shipments rose for the tenth month in a row but at a slower pace in the last two months. Trends in 14 major groups showed increases, with particularly strong gains in the transportation equipment, wood and primary metal industries.

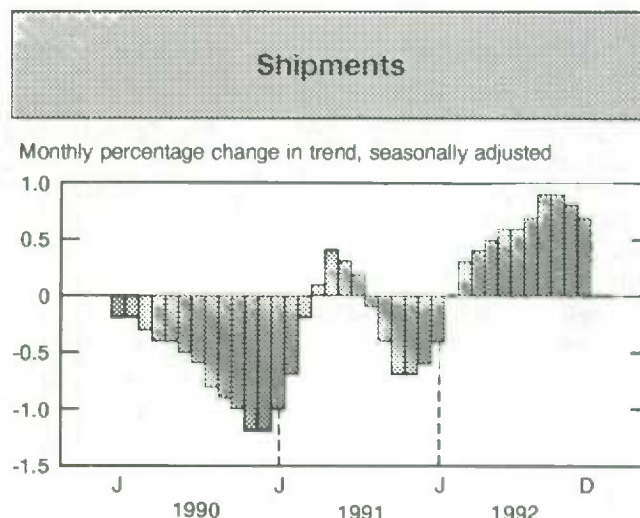
(continued on page 3)

... Manufacturers Record Marginal Decrease in Shipments

Inventory levels were down by 0.8% to \$33.9 billion, with 12 major groups recording decreases. The largest declines were in refined petroleum and coal products (-17.2%) and primary metal (-2.0%) industries.

The level of unfilled orders was up for the second straight month, this time by 0.4%. New orders, however, dropped by 1.2%, the first decrease in four months.

For further information, order *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (catalogue number 31-001), or contact Industry Division at (613) 951-9832. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 6.)



Note: The short-term trend represents a weighted average of the data.

Unemployment Rate Hits One-year Low

The unemployment rate fell to 10.8% in February, the third straight monthly decline after climbing to a nine-year high of 11.8% in November. The level of unemployment decreased by 28,000 because of a reduction (-19,000) in the size of the labour force. For adult men, the unemployment rate fell 0.3 percentage points to 9.7% and for young men the rate decreased 0.7 percentage points to 19.1%. The unemployment rate declined in seven provinces but went up in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia.

Employment advanced by 9,000 in February, continuing the trend of moderate growth that began in May 1992. The level of employment rose by 14,000 among youths but it still remained 14.8% below the pre-recession level of March 1990. For

adults, employment has recovered over the last three years, increasing by 0.4% from March 1990.

Employment increased in finance, insurance and real estate for the fourth month in a row, by 17,000 in February. Employment in manufacturing rose slightly for the fourth consecutive month, bringing the total increase since October to 33,000. Other increases were in agriculture (10,000) and other primary industries (8,000). Employment losses were in trade (-14,000) and construction (-11,000).

Employment rose by 4,000 in Nova Scotia but fell by 3,000 in Newfoundland. There was little or no change in the remaining provinces.

For further information, order *The Labour Force* (catalogue number 71-001), or contact Household Surveys Division at (613) 951-4720. (See also "Current Trends" chart on page 6.)

PROVINCIAL PERSPECTIVES

Labour Force Survey Results for February 1993

	Labour Force		Employment		Unemployment	
	'000	% change previous month	'000	% change, previous month	'000	Rate (%)
Canada	13,828	-0.1	12,328	0.1	1,500	10.8
Newfoundland	229	-0.9	183	-1.6	46	20.1
Prince Edward Island	66	0.0	55	0.0	11	16.6
Nova Scotia	416	1.2	359	1.1	57	13.7
New Brunswick	328	-0.6	290	0.0	38	11.6
Québec	3,392	-0.1	2,951	0.0	441	13.0
Ontario	5,318	-0.3	4,786	0.0	532	10.0
Manitoba	535	-0.6	490	0.0	45	8.4
Saskatchewan	480	-0.4	438	-0.2	42	8.8
Alberta	1,360	0.0	1,236	0.1	124	9.1
British Columbia	1,705	0.4	1,539	0.5	166	9.7

Same-day Auto Trips to the United States Decline Steadily

The seasonally adjusted number of same-day automobile trips by Canadians to the U.S. dropped by 1.4% in January to 4.1 million, continuing the downward trend evident since February 1992. But the number of automobile trips of one night or more to the U.S. climbed 4.2% to 1.0 million trips, interrupting a 12-month declining trend.

Trips of one or more nights to the United States by all modes of travel increased by 3.0% to 1.5 million following three consecutive monthly

International Travel Between Canada and Other Countries

January 1993, Seasonally Adjusted

	('000)	% change previous month	% change previous year
One or More Night Trips			
Non-resident Travellers:			
United States	1,002	-3.9	-3.3
Other Countries	256	1.5	5.6
Total	1,258	-2.9	-1.6
Residents of Canada:			
United States	1,472	3.0	-10.8
Other Countries	267	3.4	7.0
Total	1,739	3.0	-8.5
Auto Re-entries			
Residents of Canada:			
Same-day	4,094	-1.4	-21.7
Overnight	1,014	4.2	-20.0

Fewer Babies Born in 1991

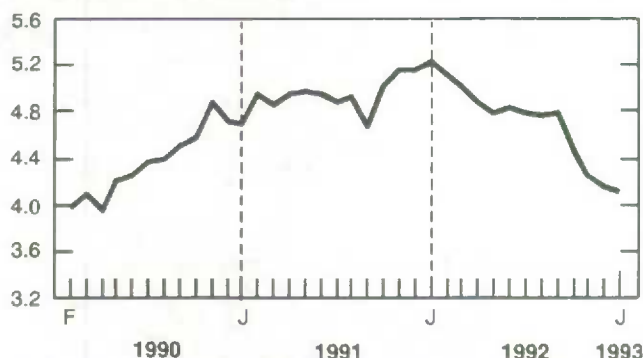
In 1991, the number of live births in Canada decreased by 0.7% from 1990 to 402,528. However, the number of live births was 8.9% higher than in 1987, the year with the lowest number of births during the 1980s.

The birthrate (number of live births per 1,000 population) in 1991 was 14.9, down 2.6% from 1990. Natality had been on an upward trend since 1988 following annual declines from 1982 until 1987.

On the international level, of 16 countries for which birthrates were calculated, two had birthrates greater than 15 per 1,000 population: the United States (16.3) and New Zealand (17.8). Nine countries were in the range of 13 to 15 live births per 1,000 population: Finland, the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, France, the United Kingdom, Norway, Poland, Sweden and Australia. Five countries had birthrates lower than 13 births per 1,000 population: Switzerland, Denmark, Germany, Japan and Italy.

Same-Day Trips by Canadian Residents to the United States, by Automobile

Millions, seasonally adjusted



declines. Similar trips to other countries also rose, climbing 3.4% to 267,000.

The flow of foreign travellers to Canada declined in January. The number of trips of one or more nights by American visitors dropped by 3.9%, which more than offset a 1.5% increase in the number of trips from residents of countries other than the United States.

For further information, order *International Travel - Advance Information* (catalogue number 66-001P), or contact Education, Culture and Tourism Division at (613) 951-1791.

Births and Birthrates, by Province and Territory

1990, 1991

	Births		Birthrate	
	1991	1990	1991	1990
Canada	402,528	405,486	14.9	15.3
Newfoundland	7,166	7,604	12.5	13.3
Prince Edward Island	1,885	2,014	14.5	15.4
Nova Scotia	12,016	12,870	13.4	14.4
New Brunswick	9,497	9,824	13.1	13.6
Québec	97,310	98,048	14.2	14.5
Ontario	151,478	150,923	15.3	15.5
Manitoba	17,282	17,352	15.8	15.9
Saskatchewan	15,304	16,090	15.4	16.1
Alberta	42,776	43,004	17.0	17.4
British Columbia	45,612	45,617	14.2	14.6
Yukon	568	556	21.1	21.4
Northwest Territories	1,634	1,584	29.9	29.3

For further information, order *Selected Birth and Fertility Statistics, Canada, 1921-1990* (catalogue number 82-553) or contact the Canadian Centre for Health Information at (613) 951-1764.

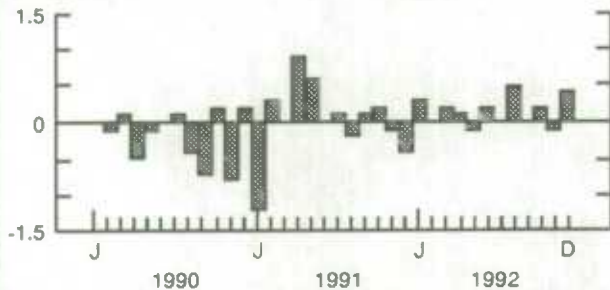
PUBLICATIONS RELEASED FROM MARCH 12 TO 18, 1993

Division/title	Period	Catalogue Number	Price: Issue/Subscription		
			Canada (\$Cdn.)	United States	Other Countries
			\$US		
AGRICULTURE					
Farm Product Price Index	January 1993	62-003	7.10/71	8.50/85	9.90/99
Farming Facts	1992	21-522E	Free	Free	Free
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR HEALTH INFORMATION					
Selected Birth and Fertility Statistics, Canada	1921-1990	82-553	40	48	56
EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM					
Touriscope - International Travel, Advance Information, Vol. 9, No. 1	January 1993	66-001P	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
ENERGY					
Energy Statistics Handbook	March 1993	57-601	300	360	420
HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS					
Family Incomes	Census Families 1991	13-208	19	23	27
Labour Force Information	February 1993	71-001P	6.30/63	7.60/76	8.80/88
INDUSTRY					
Coal and Coke Statistics	December 1992	45-002	10/100	12/120	14/140
Coal Mines	1991	26-206	22	26	31
Electric Lamps (light bulbs and tubes)	February 1993	43-009	5/50	6/60	7/70
Particleboard, Waferboard and Fibreboard	January 1993	36-003	5/50	6/60	7/70
Primary Iron and Steel	January 1993	41-001	5/50	6/60	7/70
Production and Shipments of Blow-moulded Plastic Bottles	Quarter Ended December 31, 1992	47-006	6.75/27	8/32	9.50/38
Production and Shipments of Steel	January 1993	41-011	5/50	6/60	7/70
Pipe and Tubing	January 1993	25-001	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics	January 1993	25-001	6.10/61	7.30/73	8.50/85
INTERNATIONAL TRADE					
Exports by Commodity	December 1992	65-004	55.10/551	66.10/661	77.10/771
Preliminary Statement of Canadian International Trade	January 1993	65-001P	10/100	12/120	14/140
MARKETING					
Statistics Canada Publications List	1993	11-209E	Free	Free	Free
NATIONAL ACCOUNTS AND ENVIRONMENT					
National Balance Sheet Accounts	Annual Estimates 1982-1991	13-214	35	42	49
PRICES					
Construction Price Statistics	Fourth Quarter 1992	62-007	18/72	21.50/86	25.25/101
TRANSPORTATION					
Air Carrier Traffic at Canadian Airports	April-June 1992	51-005	30.50/122	36.50/146	42.75/171

CURRENT TRENDS

Gross Domestic Product

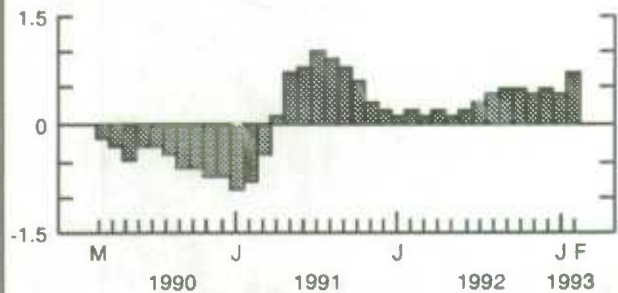
% change,
previous month



After a marginal decline in November, gross domestic product at factor cost rebounded, increasing by 0.4% in December.

Composite Leading Indicator

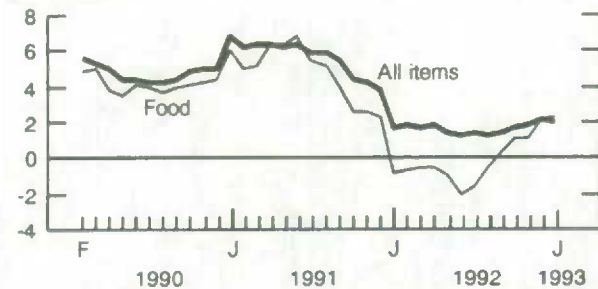
% change,
previous month



The growth of the composite leading indicator accelerated from 0.4% in January to 0.7% in February.

Consumer Price Index

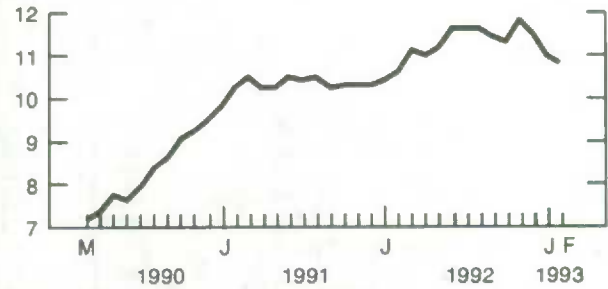
% change,
previous year



The year-over-year increase in the all-items CPI rose to 2.0% in January. The food index rose by 2.2%, its largest increase since December 1991.

Unemployment Rate

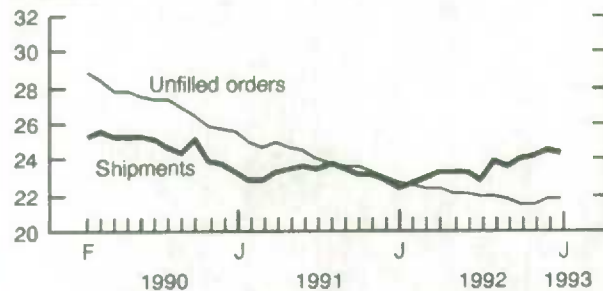
%



In February, the unemployment rate fell to a one-year low of 10.8% from 11.0% in January.

Manufacturing

Billions
of dollars



Canadian manufacturers' shipments edged down by 0.3% in January to \$24.3 billion. The level of unfilled orders increased by 0.4%, the second straight monthly increase.

Merchandise Trade

Billions
of dollars



The seasonally adjusted value of merchandise exports increased by 3.6% in January to \$14.6 billion while imports fell by 3.0% to \$12.7 billion, pushing Canada's trade balance to \$1.9 billion.

Note: All series are seasonally adjusted except the consumer price index.

LATEST MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Period	Level	Change Previous Period	Change Previous Year
GENERAL				
Gross Domestic Product (\$ billion, 1986)	December	506.0	0.4%	1.7%
Composite Leading Indicator (1981 = 100)	February*	149.8	0.7%	4.2%
Operating Profits of Enterprises (\$ billion)	4th Quarter	8.6	-18.9%	-12.8%
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail Trade (\$ billion)	December	15.7	0.0%	3.5%
New Motor Vehicle Sales ('000 units)	January	97.1	-10.1%	-9.7%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	February*	12.3	0.1%	0.5%
Unemployment Rate (%)	February*	10.8	-0.2	0.1
Participation Rate (%)	February*	65.0	-0.2	-0.6
Labour Income (\$ billion)	December	32.9	0.4%	2.9%
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	December	557.89	0.3%	3.2%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise Exports (\$ billion)	January*	14.6	3.6%	18.2%
Merchandise Imports (\$ billion)	January*	12.7	-3.0%	9.0%
Merchandise Trade Balance (\$ billion)	January*	1.9	0.9	1.2
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billion)	January*	24.3	-0.3%	9.4%
New Orders (\$ billion)	January*	24.4	-1.2%	12.0%
Unfilled Orders (\$ billion)	January*	21.7	0.4%	-3.5%
Inventory/ Shipments Ratio	January*	1.39	-0.01	-0.17
Capacity Utilization (%)	4th Quarter	77.6	2.4	4.1
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1986 = 100)	January	129.6	0.4%	2.0%
Industrial Product Price Index (1986 = 100)	January	111.4	0.4%	3.9%
Raw Materials Price Index (1986 = 100)	January*	108.3	-1.7%	10.4%
New Housing Price Index (1986 = 100)	January	134.5	-0.1%	0.6%

Note: All series are seasonally adjusted with the exception of average weekly earnings and the price indexes.

* New this week.

I·N·F·O·M·A·T

A Weekly Review

Published by the Communications Division Statistics Canada,
10-N, R.H. Coats Bldg, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

Senior Editor: Greg Thomson (613) 951-1187

Editor: Louise Larouche (613) 951-1197

Catalogue: 11-002E. Price: Canada: \$2.50 per issue, \$125.00
per year; United States: US\$3.00 per issue, US\$150.00 per year;
Other Countries: US\$3.50 per issue, US\$175.00. Canadian
customers please add 7% GST.

To subscribe: send money order or cheque payable to the
Receiver General for Canada/Publication Sales, Statistics
Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6. To order by telephone dial:
1-800-267-6677 from Canada and the United States or 613-
951-7277 from all other countries.

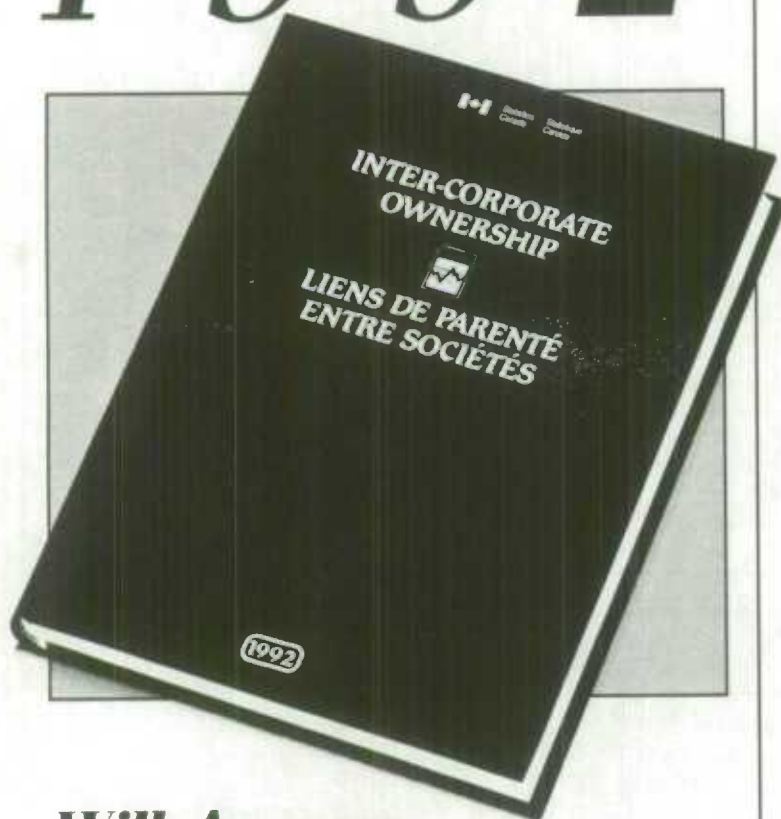
Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics
Canada. © Minister of Industry, Science and Technology, 1993.
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any
means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or
otherwise without prior written permission from Licence Services,
Marketing Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1A 0T6.

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum
requirements of American National Standard for Information
Sciences - Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials,
ANSI Z39.48 - 1984.





INTER- CORPORATE OWNERSHIP 1992



***Will Answer
Your Questions
About Canada's
Corporate Pyramids***

Inter-Corporate Ownership 1992

is the most comprehensive and authoritative source of information available on Canadian corporate ownership.

Inter-Corporate Ownership lists over 65,000 corporations providing the names of all holding and held companies, ownership percentages and the position of each within the overall corporate hierarchy.

Inter-Corporate Ownership is an indispensable reference source for researching:

- Business-to-business marketing: who owns your corporate clients?
- Purchases: who owns your suppliers?
- Investments: what else does a company own or control?
- Corporate competition: what do your competitors own and control?
- Industrial development: in which province and industry is a corporation active?

Inter-Corporate Ownership 1992

(Cat.no.61-517) is available for \$325 in Canada, US\$390 in the United States and US\$455 in other countries. To order, write Publication Sales, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6. Or contact your nearest Statistics Canada Reference Centre listed in this publication. For faster ordering, fax your order to 1-613-951-1584. Or call toll-free to 1-800-267-6677 and use your VISA or MasterCard.