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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT PAYMENTS rose in January to \$13,434,000 from \$9,367,000 in the corresponding month in 1951, while the unemployed days for which compensatory payments were made increased to 5,037,000 from 3,788,000.

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VISITORS TO CANADA spent \$271,000,000 in this country in 1951, a slight drop of one per cent from 1950's total of \$275,000,000. Total number of 24,900,000 visits was exceeded only by the record 25,100,000 visits three years earlier.

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FOREIGN VEHICLES ENTERING CANADA on traveller's vehicle permits rose to a new peak for February, the number of entries, at 52,436, rising 35 per cent over last year's February total of 38,935.

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RAILWAY CARLOADINGS of revenue freight totalled 76,255 cars during the first seven days of March for a daily average of 10,894 cars, as compared with a revised total of 90,376 cars during the preceding eight-day period ended February 29 when the average was 11,297 cars.

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OUTPUT OF ELECTRIC ENERGY by central electric stations rose to a new all-time monthly peak in January, at 5,268,094,000 kilowatt hours, 10 per cent above the 4,786,427,000 produced in January, 1951.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES rose by an estimated two per cent during the week ending March 8 as compared with the corresponding week last year.

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CANADA'S TOTAL OCCUPIED FARM AREA in June, 1951 was 174,046,654 acres as compared with 173,566,063 acres reported in the 1941 Census.

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VISIBLE SUPPLIES OF CANADIAN WHEAT in store or in transit in North America on March 6 amounted to 214,358,614 bushels as compared with 201,175,727 on the corresponding date last year.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF FOREIGN TRADE IN FEBRUARY

A summary of foreign trade figures for February released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shows an increase in the value of Canada's total domestic exports to \$309,700,000 from \$233,900,000 in February last year, and an increase in estimated total imports to \$282,100,000 from \$274,200,000.

Domestic exports to the United States rose to \$168,800,000 from \$152,400,000, and to the United Kingdom advanced to \$43,600,000 from \$33,600,000. Estimated imports from the United States increased to \$212,200,000 from \$199,000,000, but from the United Kingdom were down to \$21,200,000 from \$27,800,000.

February import figures are only preliminary and therefore subject to revision; final and detailed figures of imports will not be available for about three weeks. Those for exports will be issued in a few days.

The preliminary figures on the month's foreign trade are summarized in the following table:

	<u>February, 1951</u>		<u>February, 1952</u>	
	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Foreign</u>	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Foreign</u>
	Millions of Dollars			
<u>Exports:</u>				
United Kingdom	33.6	0.1	43.6	0.3
Other Commonwealth countries .	14.1	0.1	25.1	0.2
United States	152.4	2.5	168.8	2.9
Other foreign countries	33.8	0.2	72.2	0.3
Total, all countries	<u>233.9</u>	<u>2.9</u>	<u>209.7</u>	<u>3.7</u>

	<u>February, 1951</u>	<u>February, 1952^{xx}</u>
	<u>Imports:</u>	
United Kingdom	27.8	21.2
Other Commonwealth countries	14.8	16.5
United States	199.0	212.2
Other foreign countries	<u>32.6</u>	<u>32.2</u>
Total, all countries	<u>274.2</u>	<u>282.1</u>

^{xx} Estimate only. Subject to revision.

IMPORTS DECLINE IN JANUARY WHILE EXPORTS INCREASE

Canada had a credit balance on foreign trade account with all countries of \$21,000,000 in January -- fifth export surplus in as many months -- as compared with a debit balance of \$38,400,000 in the corresponding month last year. Total exports rose about 14 per cent to an all-time record value for January, while total imports were down six per cent from last year's high January value.

Gains in both volume and prices contributed to the rise in the overall value of domestic exports in January over a year earlier. Prices advanced 7.6 per cent and the volume increased 5.5 per cent. In contrast, prices of imports were slightly lower than a year earlier, and the volume declined 6.3 per cent.

Trade with the United States produced an import surplus of \$37,600,000 in January as compared with \$43,000,000 a year earlier, while there was an export balance of \$19,300,000 in trade with the United Kingdom, three times as large as last year's corresponding total of \$6,200,000. There were also substantial credit balances in January in trade with the group of Latin American countries and with European countries as a whole.

Merchandise imports from all countries in January were valued at \$307,100,000, up from \$273,000,000 in December, but down from \$327,200,000 in January last year. Domestic exports totalled \$323,700,000, down from \$379,300,000 in December, but up from \$285,100,000 a year earlier. Rounding out the overall trade picture were foreign exports valued at \$4,400,000 as against \$5,700,000 in December, and \$3,700,000 a year ago.

Commodity imports from the United States were moderately lower in January at \$228,700,000 as compared with \$233,300,000 a year ago, but there was a small rise in domestic exports to \$187,900,000 against \$186,900,000. Foreign exports amounted to \$3,300,000 as compared with \$3,400,000.

Imports from the United Kingdom dropped to \$24,300,000 in January from \$33,900,000 in the corresponding month last year, while the value of domestic exports advanced to \$43,300,000 from \$40,100,000, and foreign exports were unchanged at \$100,000.

Imports by Countries

Imports from Commonwealth countries other than the United Kingdom fell in value in January to \$14,361,000 from \$22,007,000 in the corresponding month last year. There were lower totals for India, Ceylon, Federation of Malaya, Australia, but increases for British Guiana, and New Zealand.

Purchases from countries of the Latin American group were moderately higher in value in January at \$22,220,000 as compared with \$22,028,000 in the same month last year. Among major sources, there were increased purchases from Brazil, Colombia, and Venezuela, but a decline from Mexico.

Imports from Europe were up in value to \$11,395,000 from \$9,491,000, Belgium and Luxembourg, Germany, and Switzerland, accounting for most of the gain. Purchases from the remaining group of foreign countries fell in value to \$5,688,000 as compared with \$6,202,000, with smaller purchases from Arabia, Netherlands Antilles, and an increase from Syria.

Main Commodity Groups

Declines were shown for six of the nine main commodity groups of imports in January as compared with the same month last year, most marked decreases being in the agricultural and textiles groups. Wood and paper, iron products and miscellaneous commodities were the three groups with higher values.

With marked declines in fruits, sugar, tea, vegetable oilers, and rubber, the agricultural and vegetable products group fell in value from \$47,086,000 to \$37,433,000. The fibres and textiles group was down sharply from \$45,344,000 to \$32,380,000, due in the main to decreases in cotton products, wool and wool products, and synthetic fibres and products.

The non-metallic minerals and products section dropped from \$51,219,000 to \$48,072,000, non-ferrous metals and products from \$22,526,000 to \$21,529,000, chemicals and allied products from \$17,597,000 to \$14,805,000, and animals and animal products from \$13,426,000 to \$9,241,000.

Iron products -- largest of the nine groups -- rose in value from \$100,380,000 to \$107,813,000 -- with large gains in rolling-mill products, engines and boilers, and machinery other than farm. The wood and paper group was up in value from \$10,830,000 to \$11,547,000, while the miscellaneous commodities section rose in total from \$18,783,000 to \$24,264,000, mainly as a result of large imports of aircraft and parts.

Large Individual Commodities

There was a mixed trend in the value of imports of major commodities in January. Among 16 individual commodities valued in excess of \$5,000,000 each, there were increases in nine and declines in seven. These 16 commodities, which are listed in the following table, accounted for almost 59 per cent of the total value of imports in January this year as compared with 53 per cent in January, 1951. (1 and 2)

	<u>January, 1951</u>	<u>January, 1952</u>
	(figures in thousands)	
Machinery, other than farm	\$25,671	\$27,416
Rolling-mill products	10,952	17,980
Petroleum, crude	19,277	17,588
Automobile parts	19,197	15,739
Farm implements and machinery	12,152	13,375
Coal	12,413	12,157
Engines and boilers	6,318	11,197
Electrical apparatus	9,462	10,662
Cotton, raw and linters	10,694	10,238
Petroleum products	7,924	8,311
Aircraft and parts	2,466	8,105
Fruits	7,434	5,843
Cotton products	9,818	5,821
Rubber and products	11,850	5,777
Coffee and chicory	4,086	5,246
Books and printed matter	4,228	5,043

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

During the latter half of 1951 the Dominion Bureau of Statistics held numerous meetings with groups and organizations to explain and discuss the plans for the revised index which is to be renamed more accurately the Consumer Price Index. The groups and organizations included not only a wide variety of interests but also competent technical opinion. They represented consumers, labour, management, farmers, and professional economists. In addition, it has been possible to discuss the most up-to-date techniques for constructing consumer price indexes with experts of several countries which have highly developed statistical organizations. During the course of these discussions it was decided to use 1949 as a base period and work resulting from this decision will require several months to complete. Therefore, publication will not commence before the summer of 1952, at which time a comprehensive explanation of the index will be issued. The present statement outlines briefly some of the main features which appear to have wide public interest.

Purpose and Title

The main purpose of the revision has been to bring up to date the list of items and quantities included in the index budget and to place the series on a post-war base. Thus there will be no change in the fundamental purpose of the index which is to measure changes in the prices which the consumer pays for goods and services.

While the title, "Cost-of-Living Index", has historically been used to describe indexes which serve this purpose, it has proved confusing, and will therefore be changed to "Consumer Price Index". This change in title is one which is being adopted widely in other countries and is made to clarify the real purpose of the index. That is to measure changes in prices of a representative basket of goods and services.

Base Period

The post-war period selected as the base for the new index is the calendar year 1949, and the index for that year will be 100. Since prices were higher in 1949 than they were in the period 1935-39, which is the base of the present index and which now equals 100, the new index numbers will be lower, of course, that if they were on the 1935-39 base. This does not mean that prices have risen less; the percentage change in the price level shown by the new index would be the same from month to month which-ever base is used.

The Index Budget

In determining the items to be included in the budget it was first necessary to decide what families should be selected from the nation-wide sample of household expenditures collected for the year ending September 1948, and supplemented by four food surveys in October 1948 and March, June and September 1949. The new index has been designed to reflect the experience of families located in 27 cities, each having more than 30,000 population. They ranged in size from two adults to two adults with four children and the annual incomes of these households during the survey year ranged from \$1,650 to \$4,050 with the majority of incomes between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

The income and size limitations were selected to secure a wide coverage within which expenditure patterns could be adequately represented by the same price index. The families have not been restricted to those with wage-earner heads. Actual tests showed that expenditure patterns of households with wage-earner heads were almost identical with those of other urban families within the same size and income ranges. This is not surprising when it is considered that wage-earners and non-wage-earners are found living on the same streets, buying in the same stores, and generally living in the same manner. It was thus possible to include families with all types of income, without making the index less representative of wage-earners.

Although there have been considerable changes between pre-war and post-war purchasing habits, the general pattern of spending has altered surprisingly little. Changes in the classification of items to give more useful group indexes prevent exact comparison of the old and new index patterns, but the degree of similarity can be judged from the following summary table. The new Household Operation group compares roughly with a combination of the two series for Fuel and Light and Home-furnishings and Services. Likewise, the new Other Commodities and Services group contains many of the items listed in the present index under Miscellaneous.

Group Base Weights of New and Old Indexes

<u>Budget Group</u>	<u>New Index</u> per cent	<u>Old Index</u> per cent
Foods	32	31
Clothing	11	12
Shelter	15	19
Household Operation	17	
(Fuel and Light		6)
(Homefurnishings and Services		9)
Other Commodities and Services	25	15
Miscellaneous		23
Total	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Final decisions remain to be made on a few items in the new budget, but in general the changes to be made can now be stated. In total the new index will be calculated from prices of approximately 225 items as compared with the present list of 160. Additions to foods will include a considerable number of fresh fruits and vegetables; and items of children's wear will be added to the clothing index. In addition to rents it is planned to price the principal home-ownership costs if certain technical difficulties can be overcome. Fuel oil will be added and the list of household equipment and services has been expanded. The Other Commodities and Services index will include a number of additional items, in particular, a wide representation for transportation and recreation. Life insurance premiums will be dropped because they include a large element of savings, while the other major element, risk, is related to future rather than current purchasing power measurements.

Joint Publication of the Old and New Series

The substitution of any new statistical series for an old one almost invariably leads to some confusion. Cost-of-living or Consumer Price Indexes are used for numerous purposes, including the adjustment of wages. It seems advisable, therefore, to make available for some months, both the old series and the new. However, it is not the intention to continue the old series after the end of 1952.

PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS

Advances in living costs, farm wage rates, and prices of equipment and materials, raised the all-Canada index number of prices of commodities and services used by farmers to higher levels in January as compared with the same month last year. As a result of a seasonal drop in farm wages, the overall index was slightly under that for August. The composite index, including living costs, rose 12 per cent over January last year, but was 0.1 per cent below August. Excluding living costs, there was a gain of eight per cent over January, 1951, but a drop of 0.5 per cent from August.

Farm family living costs increased 0.5 per cent over August and 17.2 per cent over January, 1951. The index of wage rates moved down 10.3 per cent from August, but rose 12.1 per cent over January a year earlier, while that for farm equipment and materials advanced 5.1 per cent over August and 8.5 per cent over January last year.

The composite index for all Canada, including living costs, on the base, 1935-39=100, stood at 228.3 as against 228.5 in August and 204.6 in January last year. Excluding living costs, the figure was 236.5 in January as against 237.7 in August, and 218.3 a year ago. Indexes for both eastern and western Canada were higher than a year earlier, but there was a drop from August in the western index.

The index of farm family living costs was 215.8 as against 214.7 in August and 184.1 last year. The eastern-Canada index was 213.9 as against 212.8 in August and 181.7 a year earlier, and the western index was 217.8 as against 216.6 in August and 186.4 last year.

Farm wages moved to an index level of 410.3, seasonally below the August figure of 457.3, but above the January, 1951 standing of 365.9. The eastern index was 430.0 as against 441.5 in August and 382.0 last year, and the western index was 382.4 as against 479.7 in August and 342.9 in January last year.

Farm operating equipment and materials index for all Canada stood at 218.1 compared with 207.5 in August and 201.0 in January last year. The eastern index for January this year was 219.1 against 208.0 in August and 200.5 a year ago, and the western index was 217.3 against 207.0 in August and 201.4 in January, 1951. (3)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND
PAYROLLS IN JANUARY

Seasonal curtailment in the outdoor and food processing industries, shutdowns for holiday and inventory purposes and absenteeism were main factors in reducing the level of industrial employment at the beginning of January below December, but there was a rise over a year earlier.

The general index number of industrial employment, on the base 1939=100, was 180.9 -- a new high for January -- as compared with 186.6 for December, and 175.3 for January 1, 1951. The payrolls index stood at 389.0 against 416.7 for December, and 338.2 for January last year, while average weekly earnings were \$50.46 as against \$52.41 a month earlier, and \$45.27 a year ago.

Losses in industrial employment as compared with December 1 were widely distributed both geographically and industrially. The trend was downward in all provinces, in all but two of the 31 centres for which data are compiled by the Bureau, and in most industrial divisions and groups. Among the metropolitan areas, the exceptions were Saint John and Sault Ste. Marie.

Employment in construction was reduced 14.1 per cent as compared with December 1, but the drop was somewhat less-than-average in the experience of earlier years. There were also losses in other industrial divisions, as follows: logging 3.3 per cent, manufacturing 2.7 per cent, transportation, storage and communication 2.5 per cent, services (mainly hotels, restaurants, laundries and dry cleaning plants) 2.2 per cent, mining 1.6 per cent, public utilities 1.5 per cent, and wholesale trade 1.8 per cent.

Fairly large gains took place in the manufacture of agricultural implements -- 2.7 per cent -- aircraft 2.5 per cent, steam railway maintenance of equipment 2.3 per cent, and retail trade 2.1 per cent. (4)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT
PAYMENTS HIGHER IN JANUARY

Unemployment insurance benefit payments rose in January to \$13,434,000 from \$9,367,000 in the corresponding month of 1951, while the unemployed days for which compensatory payments were made increased to 5,037,000 from 3,788,000.

Initial and renewal claims filed in local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission during January increased to 212,293 from 172,269 a year earlier. Number of claimants on the live unemployment register rose to 358,091 from 255,753.

Initial and renewal claims filed in Ontario in January increased to 67,339 from 42,431, Quebec to 60,888 from 50,785, British Columbia to 33,143 from 29,857, Manitoba to 9,814 from 9,713, New Brunswick to 7,683 from 7,523, and Newfoundland to 6,294 from 2,999. There was a drop in number in Nova Scotia to 10,401 from 10,626, Alberta to 9,004 from 9,702, Saskatchewan to 6,250 from 7,037, and Prince Edward Island to 1,477 from 1,596. (5)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP
TWO PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales rose by an estimated two per cent during the week ending March 8 as compared with the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures. There were advances in sales in all areas except Ontario where the drop was eight per cent. Saskatchewan had the largest increase of 25 per cent, followed by Alberta with a rise of 11 per cent, British Columbia nine per cent, Manitoba seven per cent, Quebec five per cent, and the Maritimes one per cent.

CANADA MOST TO NEAR-RECORD
NUMBER OF VISITORS IN 1951

First estimates of 1951 travel between Canada and other countries by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics indicate that Canada last year was host to more visitors from other countries than in any year except 1948 and that the year was a record one for Canadian travel abroad.

More motorists entered the country in 1951 than ever before. Other visitors, contrary to the trend of the previous year, were also more numerous, the number of travellers arriving by train advancing for the first time in six years and entries by air continuing to increase. Total number of 24,900,000 visits was exceeded only by the record 25,100,000 visits three years earlier.

Number of visitors from the United States was six per cent higher, in sharp contrast to a three per cent drop in 1950 and 1949. Traffic from overseas countries likewise increased, with a substantial gain in the number of visitors from western Europe.

All told, Canada's visitors spent \$271,000,000 in the country last year, a slight drop of one per cent from 1950's total of \$275,000,000, and down from the peak figure of \$285,000,000 in 1949. Travel receipts from overseas countries rose to \$16,000,000 from \$15,000,000 in 1950, but those from the United States declined to \$255,000,000 from \$260,000,000.

Canadians visited other countries, particularly the United States, in greater numbers than in any previous year, and their estimated expenditures reached a record peak of \$280,000,000. This was an increase of \$54,000,000 from the 1950 total of \$226,000,000, and more than double the expenditures of 1948 when Canadian travel and travel expenditures in the United States was sharply curtailed by the emergency exchange conservation measures.

Canadians spent an estimated \$246,000,000 in United States last year as compared to \$193,000,000 in 1950, and \$34,000,000 in other countries as against \$33,000,000. Canadian shopping in the United States was an important item in the increase in total expenditures across the border, purchases declared under the \$100 customs exemption amounting to \$46,800,000, 43 per cent higher than in the same period of 1950.

Travel between Canada and the United States resulted in a credit balance of \$9,000,000, down from \$67,000,000 in 1950. In travel account with other overseas countries Canada, as usual, had a debit balance which amounted to \$18,000,000, unchanged from the previous year.

Coupled with the increase in the number of visits, the drop in total spending by United States visitors, indicates a drop in average spending per visit, due to shorter visits or lighter spending per day, or a combination of both. There appeared to be little change in the average length of stay of non-automobile visitors, but average expenditures per day were six per cent lower than in 1950. Incomplete information on automobile visitors in 1951 points towards a continuation of the drop in length of visit which has occurred every year since 1947. Excluding such special groups as summer residents and commuters, there has been a drop of 11 per cent between 1947 and 1950 in the average length of stay of motorists entering on customs permits.

A record number of 11,448,000 vehicles crossed the border into Canada in 1951, more than double 1945's volume and 1,423,000 above 1950's peak. Foreign entries accounted for 7,546,600 vehicles, 514,000 more than the year before, while Canadian vehicles returning from trips numbered 3,901,500, over 900,000 more than the previous year.

Of the foreign inflow, 2,219,600 vehicles entered on traveller's vehicle permits, nearly eight per cent more than in 1950; 5,058,200 were non-permit or local entries, an increase of over seven per cent in the year; and 268,800 were commercial vehicles, a gain of nearly three per cent.

Canadian traffic comprised 538,700 vehicles remaining abroad for more than 24 hours, an increase of over 35 per cent in the year; 3,044,700 vehicles staying for shorter periods, a gain of more than 29 per cent; and 318,100 commercial vehicles, up nearly 33 per cent in number over 1950.

Regionally, the largest proportionate increase over the previous year was made by vehicles entering through the Prairie Provinces. Recovery from the Red River floods of 1950 helped bring the increase in this area to 15 per cent. British Columbia came next with a gain of 12 per cent, followed by Ontario with nine per cent, Quebec with three per cent, and the Maritimes with two per cent. However, in actual volume of traffic, the rise in Ontario of 107,000 vehicles was more than twice the aggregate gain of all the other provinces. (6)

FOREIGN VEHICLE ENTRIES AT NEW PEAK FOR FEBRUARY

Foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits rose to a new peak for February, the number of entries, at 52,436, rising 35 per cent above last year's February total of 38,935. Traffic was heavier in all areas, the largest gains occurring in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec.

Entries into Ontario in February totalled 25,862 as compared with 18,687 a year earlier, and in British Columbia numbered 11,617 compared with 8,310. Total for Quebec was 9,930 (7,710 in February, 1951); New Brunswick, 2,938 (2,785); Manitoba, 1,103 (623); Alberta, 596 (585); Saskatchewan, 244 (128); and Yukon Territory, 120 (74). (Mem. 1)

OUTPUT OF ELECTRIC ENERGY AT NEW PEAK IN JANUARY

Output of electric energy by central electric stations rose to a new all-time monthly peak in January this year, at 5,268,094,000 kilowatt hours, 10 per cent above the 4,786,427,000 produced in January, 1951, and three per cent above the previous high in May last year.

A total of 881,250 horse power of new hydro capacity was brought into operation during 1951 and given normal water flow, 1952 should be a year of new records in the industry. In addition, considerable new thermal capacity was added last year, particularly in southern Ontario.

Consumption of primary power -- production, less net exports and secondary power -- aggregated 4,783,761,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 4,370,086,000 a year ago. Gross exports to the United States totalled 210,135,000 kilowatt hours as against 172,499,000.

Quebec's output in January rose to 2,603,940,000 kilowatt hours from 2,463,305,000 in the same month last year, and that for Ontario to 1,598,810,000 kilowatt hours from 1,351,426,000. Total for British Columbia was 421,004,000 kilowatt hours (389,063,000 in January, 1951); Manitoba, 263,147,000 (251,341,000); Alberta, 106,732,000 (87,519,000); Saskatchewan, 101,240,000 (86,035,000); Nova Scotia, 85,362,000 (76,216,000); New Brunswick, 70,155,000 (66,660,000); Newfoundland, 15,489,000 (12,778,000); and Prince Edward Island, 2,215,000 (2,084,000). (Mem. 2)

FARM AREA SLIGHTLY GREATER IN 1951
BUT NUMBER OF FARMS SMALLER THAN 1941

Total area of Canada's occupied farms was slightly greater in 1951 than in 1941, increases in area in the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia outweighing by a narrow margin decreases in each of the eastern provinces, but the total number of farms was considerably smaller, with decreases in number in every province except British Columbia, according to a special compilation on final figures of the 1951 Census of Agriculture on number and area of farms released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Canada's total occupied farm area in June last year was 174,046,654 acres. This compares with 173,566,063 acres reported in the 1941 Census. Excluding Newfoundland, for which 1941 figures are not available, the 1951 total shows an increase of 395,551 acres or 0.2 per cent over that of 10 years earlier.

Farm areas declined from 1941 to 1951 in each of the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Ontario, the decreases ranging between 6.3 per cent in Prince Edward Island and nearly 17 per cent in New Brunswick and totalling 3,994,480 acres in the five provinces. On the other hand, there were gains in each of the Prairie Provinces ranging from 2.7 per cent to five per cent, with a total increase of 3,723,676 acres, while British Columbia's farm area rose by 666,704 acres or nearly 17 per cent.

The number of occupied farms recorded in last year's Census was 623,091 for all Canada, or 619,465 exclusive of Newfoundland. This compares with a total of 732,858 recorded in 1941, making an apparent decrease of 113,393 farms. Due to changes in the definition of a farm used in 1951 from that of 1941, however, these figures do not give a true indication of the decrease in number. On the basis of the 1951 definition, there were an estimated 677,500 farms in 1941, the decrease in the 10 years being thus about 58,000 or approximately nine per cent.

In the 1951 Census a farm was defined as a holding, on which agricultural operations are carried out, of three acres or more in size or from one to three acres in size with agricultural production in 1950 valued at \$250 or more; while the 1941 Census counted as farms all holdings one acre or more in size with 1940 production valued at \$50 or more.

In British Columbia, the number of farms, under the 1951 definition, was 21 per cent greater last year than in 1941. Among the other provinces, there were decreases in number ranging from 3.7 for Manitoba to 15.7 per cent for Nova Scotia.

As a result of the decline in number of farms and the slight increase in area, the average area per farm for all Canada, on the basis of the 1951 definition, increased about 25 acres in the 10 years to 281 acres from 256 acres in 1941. This continues an unbroken upward trend from 124 acres at the Census of 1901.

In this special compilation on the 1951 Agriculture Census, the Bureau gives the number and area of occupied farms in 1951 for each province, with comparative 1941 figures (Newfoundland excepted), by counties and townships or census divisions and subdivisions, and also the number of non-resident farms.

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on March 6 amounted to 214,358,614 bushels as compared with 201,175,727 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week totalled 5,986,720 bushels against 1,340,074 a year earlier, and the overseas export clearances aggregated 4,300,612 bushels against 2,456,918. (Mem. 3)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN NINE CITIES OF CANADA Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on March 14 rose to 14,471,000 pounds from 6,246,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings in Quebec City increased to 1,258,000 pounds from 366,000, Montreal to 7,037,000 pounds from 3,213,000, Toronto to 1,769,000 pounds from 887,000, Winnipeg to 1,113,000 pounds from 672,000, Saskatoon to 370,000 pounds from 122,000, Edmonton to 644,000 pounds from 414,000, Calgary to 150,000 pounds from 149,000, and Vancouver to 2,090,000 pounds from 330,000. Stocks in Regina were down to 40,000 pounds from 93,000.

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF WASHING MACHINES AND REFRIGERATORS IN 1951 Fewer washing machines and electric refrigerators were produced in Canada in 1951 than in the preceding year, while manufacturers' year-end inventories were larger. December output of both appliances was also below a year earlier.

Production of domestic-type washing machines in the full year totalled 240,161 units as compared with 281,643 in 1950, and the December output was 11,912 units as against 25,239. Year's output of domestic-electric refrigerators amounted to 276,611 units against 346,608, and the December total was 6,600 units against 31,335.

Manufacturers' inventories of washing machines as at the end of 1951 were 29,933 units as compared with 10,230 a year earlier, while the stocks of electric refrigerators totalled 45,204 units as against 3,435.

Imports of electric washing machines in the year 1951 totalled 4,304 units as against 1,721 a year earlier, while the exports aggregated 19,623 units against 12,601. Year's imports of electric refrigerators -- domestic or store -- amounted to 109,624 units as against 11,088, and exports numbered 3,263 units as against 2,350. (Mem. 4)

PRODUCTION OF LEADING MINERALS IN 1951 Output of a majority of Canada's 16 leading minerals was at a higher level in 1951 than in the preceding year, according to the Bureau's monthly summary. Advances were recorded for 11 and declines for five -- gold, coal, gypsum, lead and silver.

Output was as follows during the year, totals for 1950 being in brackets: asbestos, 971,640 (875,344) tons; cement, 16,949,690 (16,741,826) barrels; clay products, \$22,492,432 (\$20,574,662); coal, 18,557,995 (19,139,112) tons; copper, 269,293 (264,209) tons; gold, 4,364,255 (4,441,227) fine ounces; gypsum, 3,619,467 (3,666,336) tons; iron ore, 4,658,722 (3,605,261) tons.

Lead, 157,844 (165,697) tons; lime, 1,237,763 (1,124,188) tons; natural gas, 78,485,406 (67,822,230) M cubic feet; nickel, 137,031 (123,659) tons; petroleum, 48,123,370 (29,093,724) barrels; salt, 970,362 (858,896) tons; silver, 22,709,020 (22,221,431) fine ounces; zinc, 328,368 (313,227) tons. (7)

SHIPMENTS AND EXPORTS OF
ASBESTOS IN JANUARY

Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines advanced three per cent in January this year over the corresponding month of 1951, while there was a drop of eight per cent in exports. The month's shipments amounted to 76,287 tons as compared with 74,125 in January last year, and the exports totalled 71,407 tons as against 77,505. (Mem. 5)

SALES OF ELECTRIC STORAGE BATTERIES
20 PER CENT HIGHER IN YEAR 1951

Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers in the calendar year 1951 totalled \$20,579,672, an increase of 20 per cent over the preceding year's figure of \$17,120,365. In December, sales were valued at \$1,849,137 as compared with \$1,398,581 in the corresponding month of 1950. (Mem. 6)

DELIVERIES OF OIL BY
PIPE-LINE IN NOVEMBER

Net deliveries of oil through all Canadian pipe-lines in November totalled 8,048,232 barrels as compared with the high October total of 8,740,427 barrels. This brought the cumulative total for the first 11 months of the year to 81,190,531 barrels. Net deliveries through trunk lines during the month amounted to 7,870,201 barrels as against 8,537,820 in October, bringing the 11-month total to 78,540,954. (Mem. 7)

PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS
OF ASPHALT FLOOR TILES IN FEBRUARY

Production and domestic shipments of asphalt floor tiles both were lower in February than in the same month last year. The month's output amounted to 1,454,104 square feet as compared with 1,511,775 in February last year, while shipments totalled 1,438,301 square feet against 1,465,904. (Mem. 8)

PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC SALES
OF RIGID INSULATING BOARD

Production and domestic sales of rigid insulating board both were lower in February than in the corresponding month last year, according to preliminary figures. The month's output amounted to 21,078,306 square feet as compared with 22,646,466 in February last year, while the sales totalled 13,710,846 square feet as against 21,708,272. (Mem. 9)

STOCKS OF RAW CATTLE HIDES AND
PRODUCTION OF FINISHED LEATHER

Stocks of raw cattle hides held by tanners, packers and dealers at the end of January this year amounted to 333,418, down three per cent from last year's corresponding total of 344,939. There were 653,037 calf and kip skins on hand against 431,587 a year earlier, 102,793 goat and kid skins against 43,981, 42,436 horse hides against 54,295, and 52,294 dozen sheep and lamb skins against 47,411.

Production of cattle sole leather in January declined to 829,271 pounds from 1,607,239 a year ago, cattle upper leather to 2,970,300 square feet from 4,395,128, glove and garment leather to 308,327 square feet from 435,032, and calf and kip skin upper leather to 506,549 square feet against 1,122,622. (Mem. 10)

RAILWAY CARLOADINGS OF REVENUE FREIGHT

Railway carloadings of revenue freight totalled 76,255 cars during the first seven days of March for a daily average of 10,894 cars as compared with a revised total of 90,376 cars during the preceding eight-day period ended February 29 when the average was 11,297 cars.

Cumulative loadings to March 7 this year amounted to 724,821 cars, of which the eastern division accounted for 473,816 cars or 65.2 per cent, and the western division for 251,005 cars. Connections brought an additional 352,225 cars for a grand total freight movement of 1,077,046 cars during the nine periods or a daily average of 16,075 cars. (Mem. 11)

The following table shows the loadings of principal commodities on Canadian railways in the period ended March 7 this year, a week and month earlier:

	<u>March 7</u> (7 days)	<u>February 29</u> (8 days)	<u>February 7</u> (7 days)
Grain	8,638	9,736	6,945
Grain products	2,584	3,182	2,759
Coal	4,817	5,521x	6,578
Ores & concentrates	2,274	2,749	2,339
Sand, stone, gravel, etc.	2,988	3,314x	2,879
Pulpwood	7,550	8,976	8,416
Lumber, lath, shingles & plywood	3,644	4,168x	3,290
Gasoline, petroleum oils, etc.	4,594	5,603	5,108
Iron & steel products (manufactured)	2,364	2,823	2,342
Woodpulp and paper	5,296	6,414	5,526
Other manufactures & miscellaneous ..	4,853	5,963x	5,074
Merchandise, l.c.l.	15,750	18,018x	15,192
Total revenue cars loaded	76,255	90,376x	78,064
Total revenue cars received from connections	37,322	44,858x	39,333
Daily average loadings	10,894	11,297x	11,152

x Revised.

LOADINGS OF REVENUE FREIGHT IN NOVEMBER

Volume of revenue freight handled by Canadian railways in November totalled 14,537,806 tons, down seasonally from the all-time monthly peak of 15,597,351 tons in October, but five per cent above the November, 1950 figure of 13,797,334 tons. Cumulative loadings for the first 11 months of 1951 advanced 12 per cent over a year earlier to reach 148,049,965 tons -- a new record for the period.

Loadings at Canadian stations in November totalled 11,104,986 tons as against 10,432,292 in the same month of 1950. Receipts from foreign connections included 2,002,070 tons for domestic use compared with 1,859,772, while intransit freight amounted to 1,430,750 tons against 1,505,270. (Mem. 12)

COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRIES

Factory value of products manufactured by the cotton textile industries in 1950 reached a peak of \$276,595,000, almost 22 per cent above the preceding year's figure of \$227,252,000. The number of establishments in operation during the year was 67, two less than in 1949. These plants furnished employment for 28,430 workers who received \$58,431,000 in salaries and wages, up from 26,661 employees paid \$52,306,000 in 1949. Cost of materials used rose 25 per cent to \$168,361,000 from \$134,332,000.

Raw cotton consumption was at an all-time high level for the post-war period, totalling 218,599,516 pounds valued at \$80,649,556 compared with 186,210,426 pounds at \$59,653,361 the year before. Purchased yarns of all kinds used cost \$27,519,612 compared with \$23,071,042, and dyes, bleaches, chemicals, etc., amounted to \$5,088,302 against \$4,677,917.

Production of broadwoven fabrics in the industry totalled 486,251,090 yards valued at \$157,530,140 against 430,096,340 yards worth \$134,534,350 in 1949. Grey cotton fabric was the main item, 224,054,922 yards being produced with a value of \$60,656,834. In connection with this item, a very considerable yardage goes to other mills for further processing, the amount so disposed of in 1950 totalling 105,165,659 yards. Yarns spun for sale amounted in value to \$45,608,423 against \$35,205,954, and thread was valued at \$10,493,421 compared with \$8,929,814.

Domestic cotton mills satisfied approximately 60 per cent of domestic piece goods requirements during 1950 and met 80 per cent of the domestic demand for cotton sales yarn. (8)

LAUNDRIES, CLEANERS AND DYERS' RECEIPTS UP SEVEN PER CENT IN 1950

Gross receipts of 1,242 Canadian power laundries, dry cleaning and dyeing plants totalled \$86,836,564 in 1950, up seven per cent from the 1949 total of \$81,234,045 receipts of 1,237 establishments. Receipts were larger in all provinces, the largest gain, 12 per cent, occurring in Alberta.

Laundry accounted for 35 per cent of the total gross receipts in 1950, cleaning and dyeing for 56 per cent, linen rentals for five per cent, and miscellaneous items for four per cent.

Two-thirds of the industry's business was done in Ontario and Quebec. Ontario, with 42 per cent of the plants, took in 41 per cent of the total receipts. Quebec, with 20 per cent of the plants, collected 26 per cent. British Columbia ranked third in both number of plants (148) and volume of business (\$10,964,060). (9)

EARNINGS AND HOURS OF WORK IN MANUFACTURING, 1950

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released its report for 1950 of a special annual survey of earnings and hours of work of wage-earners and salaried employees in manufacturing, supplementing the monthly data on these subjects. This annual record permits differences between levels of earnings and hours of work of men and women, and of wage-earners and salaried employees, to be assessed, and the proportions of employees according to sex and work status to be measured.

The report contains data for all employees -- a total of 1,051,911 -- on the paylists of 8,575 establishments usually employing 15 or more persons. The coverage differed from that of previous years in that the 1950 survey included travelling salesman directly employed by the plant, and watchmen and charwomen, the latter a comparatively small group. In addition, data were reported for the first time for most of the larger plants in Newfoundland. (10)

LIST OF HOSPITALS IN CANADA The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released its annual list of hospitals for the year 1951. The list contains the names and addresses of hospitals in each province by type -- public, private, sanatoria, and units for tuberculosis in other hospitals, institutions for mental diseases. Code letters and numbers have been added to the name of each hospital to indicate ownership or control, type of facilities, and types of special hospitals. (Mem. 13)

RELEASED DURING THE WEEK -- (The numbers in this list correspond with those at the end of news items, indicating the report on which an item is based).

Reports and Bulletins

1. Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade, January (10 cents).
2. Imports for Consumption -- Summary Bulletin -- January (20 cents).
3. Price Index Numbers of Commodities and Services Used by Farmers, January 1952 (10 cents).
4. Employment and Payrolls, January (25 cents).
5. Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, January (25 cents).
6. Travel Between Canada and the United States, December 1951, Including First Estimates of International Travel Expenditures in 1951 (20 cents).
7. Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, December (10 cents).
8. The Cotton Textiles Industries, 1950 (40 cents).
9. Laundries, Cleaners and Dyers, 1950 (25 cents).
10. Earnings and Hours of Work in Manufacturing, 1950 (40 cents).
11. Miscellaneous Non-Metallic Mineral Products Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
12. Miscellaneous Non-Ferrous Metal Products Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
13. Electric Railways, 1950 (25 cents).
14. The Sporting Goods Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
15. Census of the Prairie Provinces, Volume III -- Housing and Families -- 1946 (\$1.50).

Memoranda

1. Volume of Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Traveller's Vehicle Permits, February (10 cents).
2. Central Electric Stations, January (10 cents).
3. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
4. Domestic Washing Machines and Electric Refrigerators, December (10 cents).
5. Asbestos, January (10 cents).
6. Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, December (10 cents).
7. Pipe Lines (Oil) Statistics, November (10 cents).
8. Asphalt Floor Tiles, February (10 cents).
9. Rigid Insulating Board Industry, February (10 cents).
10. Statistics on Hides, Skins and Leather, January (10 cents).
11. Carloadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
12. Traffic Report of Canadian Railways, November (10 cents).
13. List of Hospitals, 1950 (50 cents).
14. Stoves and Furnaces, January (10 cents).
15. Salt, January (10 cents).
16. Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipes and Fittings, December (10 cents).

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