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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

CANADA'S INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEX in the first quarter of 1952 was slightly below the same period last year, but well ahead of the first quarter of 1950 and in line with the long-run trend.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES were slightly lower in April, totalling \$75,058,000 as compared with \$75,210,000 in the same month last year.

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VALUE OF CHEQUES CASHED in April amounted to \$10,487,472,000 as compared with \$9,017,196,000 a year ago, and in the first four months of this year totalled \$38,439,281,000 against \$34,832,016,000 in the like period of 1951.

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CANADA'S OFFICIAL COST-OF-LIVING INDEX declined 2.0 points or 1.1 per cent between April 1 and May 1, to reach 186.7. This placed the index below the level of January, 1951, and marked the biggest monthly percentage decline since January 1943. From August 1939 to May 1952 the percentage increase in the total index was 85.2.

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INDEX FOR 30 INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES AT WHOLESALE declined from 257.6 to 249.9 between April 25 and May 23. Compared with May 1951 the index registered a drop of 18.4 per cent.

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COMPOSITE INDEX FOR 105 INDUSTRIAL, UTILITY, AND BANK SHARES fell from 169.4 for the week of April 24 to 164.9 for May 1, but recovered to close at 168.7 for May 29.

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VALUE OF INVENTORIES held by Canadian manufacturers rose slightly to \$3,539,400,000 at the end of March from \$3,532,600,000 at the end of February, and was about 20 per cent above last year's March-end value of \$2,956,000,000.

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PRODUCTION OF CANADA'S CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES rose about 17 per cent in 1951 to reach an all-time record value of \$759,350,000 as compared with \$646,871,000 in 1950.

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STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER in nine cities of Canada on June 1 amounted to 16,234,000 pounds as compared with 11,257,000 on May 1, and 6,750,000 on the corresponding date last year.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX DOWN 2.0 POINTS OR 1.1 PER CENT BETWEEN APRIL 1 AND MAY 1

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index declined 2.0 points or 1.1 per cent between April 1 and May 1 to reach 186.7. This placed the index below the level of July 1951, and marked the largest monthly percentage decline since January, 1943.

Lower food prices were again largely responsible for the change, and the drop in this series from 240.2 to 235.3 accounted for three-fourths of the decline in the total index. Among food items showing large declines were: butter, beef, bacon, veal, lard, shortening, and oranges. Fresh vegetables as a group were higher, led by a further substantial advance in potatoes.

The homefurnishings and services index changed from 200.5 to 198.2; materially lower prices within the electrical goods group coupled with smaller decreases for furnishings and cleaning supplies were more important than increases in telephone rates in British Columbia and the Maritimes. Small decreases in footwear and men's wear lowered the clothing index fractionally from 210.4 to 210.1.

The miscellaneous items series receded from 147.9 to 147.4 following a reduction in tobacco products, automobile tires, soap, magazines, and gasoline, which overbalanced higher quotations for theatre admissions, barbers' fees and street car fares. A decrease in the fuel and light index from 152.5 to 150.6 was due to seasonal recessions in coal and coke which outweighed an advance in domestic gas rates. Rents were not surveyed in May, the index remaining at 146.3.

From August 1939 to May 1952 the percentage increase in the total index was 85.2. (1)

Dominion Cost-of-Living Indexes (1935-1939=100)

	Com- bined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Cloth- ing	Home- furnish- ings and Services	Miscel- laneous
May 1, 1952	186.7	235.3	146.3	150.6	210.1	198.2	147.4
April 1, 1952	188.7	240.2	146.3	152.5	210.4	200.5	147.9
May 1, 1951	182.0	235.4	137.6	146.2	201.5	194.9	140.7

WEEKLY WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES

The index for 30 industrial material prices at wholesale declined from 257.6 to 249.9 between April 25 and May 23. Compared with May, 1951 the index has registered a drop of 18.4 per cent. Scattered decreases occurred for numerous items in May, including lead, raw rubber, raw cotton, United States bituminous coal, western oats, raw sugar and white lead. These outweighed small advances in western wheat, steers, beef hides and raw wool.

The composite index for Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets advanced from 241.8 to 247.7 between April 25 and May 23. Higher prices were noted for both field and animal products, and an index for the former series moved from 219.3 to 225.3, while that for the latter strengthened from 264.3 to 270.1. Among commodity changes potatoes moved up substantially, while livestock and raw wool prices were generally firmer. Eggs were higher in western Canada but lower in the east. (1)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES Following a sharp drop in the first week of May, common stock prices recovered in the second week to hold within a relatively narrow range for the remainder of the month. The composite index for 105 industrial, utility and bank shares fell from 169.4 for the week of April 24 to 164.9 for May 1, but recovered to close at 168.7 for May 29.

The group index for 82 industrials registered a decrease of 1.0 points to 172.1 between April 24 and May 29, while 15 utilities declined the same amount to 165.3. The index for 8 banks advanced from 138.5 to 142.6. Mining stock prices moved within narrow limits in May, the composite index for 30 representative issues closing at 101.1 for the 29th against 100.4 for April 24. Both base metals and golds were firmer, the index for the former advancing from 157.8 to 159.7, while that for the latter stiffened from 75.4 to 75.5. (1)

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IN MARCH AND FIRST QUARTER Canada's industrial production index in the first quarter of 1952 was slightly below the same period last year, but well ahead of the first quarter of 1950 and in line with the long-run trend, according to the May issue of the Canadian Statistical Review.

The industrial production index, on the base 1935-39=100, was at a recent low of 200.4 in December, but gains were registered in each of the three succeeding months, bringing it to 211.7 for March, 1952. Changes in the mining and electric power components were relatively minor in March. The manufacturing component increased to 217.8 from 213.3 in February, gains being spread throughout the durable and non-durable goods categories of manufacturing production.

Important sub-groups sharing the increase were foods and beverages, tobacco, rubber products, cotton consumption, wool, yarn and cloth production, clothing, chemical products, wood products, primary iron and steel, and non-ferrous metal products. Particularly noticeable during March were increases in shipments of passenger cars and electric refrigerators. (2)

MANUFACTURERS' INVENTORIES, SHIPMENTS AND OUTSTANDING ORDERS After a decline for two consecutive months, estimated value of inventories held by Canadian manufacturers rose slightly to \$3,539,400,000 at the end of March from \$3,532,600,000 at the end of February. This was almost 20 per cent above last year's March-end value of \$2,956,000,000.

In index terms, March inventories were 190.2 per cent of the average 1947 values as compared with 189.8 at the end of February and 158.8 a year earlier. The index for total shipments was 175.1 as against 167.1 in February and 175.0 a year ago.

A compilation of total outstanding orders for approximately 1,000 plants in 65 different industries showed a level of unfilled orders equal to 5.7 times the January shipment values for reporting firms, a slight decrease from January. Preliminary outstanding orders index at the end of March was 2.3 per cent lower than in February.

Value of inventories held by consumer's goods industries at the end of March was \$2,083,800,000 as compared with \$2,079,500,000 at the end of February and \$1,891,600,000 a year ago, and the total for capital goods was \$526,000,000 as against \$510,800,000 a month earlier, and \$346,900,000 at the end of March last year.

Producers' goods inventories were valued at \$659,600,000 compared with \$663,900,000 at the end of February, and \$485,200,000 a year ago, and the total for construction goods was \$270,000,000 as against \$278,400,000 at the end of February, and \$232,400,000 at the end of March last year. (3)

CHEQUES CASHED HIGHER IN
APRIL AND FOUR-MONTH PERIOD

Financial transactions in the form of cheques cashed were 16.3 per cent greater in April than in the same month last year, while the cumulative total for the first four months of 1952 rose 10.4 per cent to reach a new peak for the period. Gains were recorded in each of the five economic areas both in the month and four months.

Value of cheques cashed totalled \$10,487,472,000 in April as compared with \$9,017,196,000 in April last year, bringing the four-month total to \$38,439,281,000 as against \$34,832,016,000 in the similar period of 1951.

Cheques cashed in Ontario in April advanced 12.3 per cent to \$4,455,789,000 from \$3,969,292,000 a year ago, and in the four months were up 8.9 per cent to \$16,347,703,000 from \$15,007,332,000 in 1951. Total for Quebec in the month rose 23.2 per cent, standing at \$3,068,948,000 compared with \$2,491,914,000 in April, 1951, and in the January-April period increased 6.9 per cent to \$11,177,568,000 from \$10,456,394,000. Payments in the Prairie Provinces in April were 16.5 per cent higher at \$1,777,022,000 compared with \$1,525,466,000, and in the four months totalled \$6,350,838,000, exceeding by 18.6 per cent last year's corresponding figure of \$5,352,772,000.

Transactions in British Columbia in April rose 17.3 per cent to \$942,989,000 from \$803,987,000, and in the four-month period there was a gain of 15.7 per cent to \$3,597,933,000 from \$3,110,399,000. Total for the Atlantic Provinces was 7.1 per cent higher at \$242,724,000 compared with \$226,538,000 in April last year, and in the cumulative period were 6.6 per cent greater at \$965,240,000 against \$905,120,000. (4)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES
SLIGHTLY LOWER IN APRIL

Department store sales were slightly lower in April, totalling \$75,058,000 as compared with \$75,210,000 in the same month last year. Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia reported sales declines, Manitoba's decrease of 6.2 per cent being the largest. Sales in the Maritimes rose 8.5 per cent, and in Ontario and Saskatchewan each 2.1 per cent.

Twelve out of 30 departments had lower sales in April than a year earlier. Major appliance departments recorded the sharpest percentage decline of 41.4 per cent, followed by radio and music which fell by 19.9 per cent, jewellery 14.2 per cent, and piece goods 13.0 per cent. Boys' clothing and furnishings registered an increase of 19.8 per cent, and ladies' apparel and accessories were up 11.1 per cent. (5)

CHAIN STORE SALES AND STOCKS

Sales of chain food stores, women's clothing stores, shoe stores, drug stores, and variety stores were higher in April than in the corresponding month last year, but there was a drop in chain hardware store sales, according to returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The increase over April last year should be considered in the light of the fact that the number of stores in the reporting sample increased in all trades except drug stores to a total of 2,391 as compared with 2,313, and that Easter occurred in March in 1951, but in April this year.

Food store sales climbed 16.7 per cent in April over a year earlier, women's clothing stores 24.1 per cent, shoe stores 29.1 per cent, drug stores 16.3 per cent, and variety stores 26.9 per cent. Hardware store sales fell 5.2 per cent. Value of inventories held by food stores at the end of March increased 6.8 per cent, women's clothing stores 5.6 per cent, shoe stores 5.7 per cent, and hardware stores 11.9 per cent. Stocks held by drug stores were down 2.2 per cent in value, while variety store stocks fell 4.7 per cent. (6)

CROP CONDITIONS IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES Rains during the past week have maintained the generally favourable crop outlook in Alberta, Saskatchewan and northern and west-central Manitoba. Rains were also received across southern sections of Manitoba where crops have been suffering from drought. More rain will be needed soon in this area to prevent further deterioration, particularly of hay, pastures and late-seeded crops. Cutworms and wireworms are causing damage in southern Manitoba and in local areas of Saskatchewan and Alberta. Conditions remain quite favourable in most of northern and west-central Manitoba with some rain-fall received during the week.

General rains up to an inch in depth fell across southern sections of Manitoba on June 2. This moisture was badly needed to stop crop and pasture deterioration. Apart from early fallow crops germination has been uneven and growth slow since early May. Fall rye and hay crops will be below average. Seeding will likely be completed within 10 days as farmers are waiting for rain to complete sowings of flax and coarse grains. A severe outbreak of cutworms is occurring throughout southern Manitoba with considerable damage to field crops, particularly sugar beets.

Recent rains, while unevenly distributed, replenished surface moisture supplies in many areas of Saskatchewan. Soil moisture supplies are now generally adequate for current needs and continued favourable crop development is expected. Growth of wheat, which averages four inches in height, has been fair to good. However, in some areas, particularly in the southeast, stands are patchy and uneven due to lack of sufficient moisture for proper germination of late-seeded fields. Growth of oats and barley, averaging about three inches in height, is also fair to good, with about 60 per cent of these crops showing green. Many fields of fall rye are heading and the general appearance is good. Frosts last week damaged some oats, barley, flax, and garden plants but caused very little permanent damage to wheat. Wireworm activity has been widespread, especially in central and west-central districts, and some reseeding has been necessary.

With the exception of a small proportion of coarse grains seeding is practically completed in Alberta. Quite general rains were received during the past week and except for one or two areas moisture conditions are now very satisfactory. Crops are making rapid growth and development in general is above average for this time of year. Some wireworm damage is reported in south-central areas but apart from this the outlook for most Alberta crops is excellent. (7)

SALES OF FLUID MILK AND CREAM IN MARCH Combined sales of fluid milk and cream rose one per cent in March over the corresponding month last year, while sales in the first quarter advanced three per cent. According to estimates based on data received from 178 markets, sales in the month amounted to 376,692,000 pounds, bringing the quarter total to 1,082,075,000 pounds.

Fluid milk sales were one per cent higher in March at 122,550,000 quarts, and in the three months were up three per cent to 352,477,000 quarts. Cream sales, expressed in terms of butter-fat content, rose eight per cent in March to 2,136,000 pounds and four per cent in the quarter to 6,100,000 pounds.

Combined sales in Quebec rose four per cent in March to 122,192,000 pounds; Alberta, five per cent to 28,769,000; Saskatchewan, one per cent to 16,761,000; Nova Scotia, five per cent to 12,546,000; New Brunswick, one per cent to 6,962,000; and Prince Edward Island, two per cent to 2,058,000. Sales in Ontario declined one per cent to 142,351,000 pounds; Manitoba, five per cent to 16,396,000; and British Columbia, one per cent to 28,657,000. (Mem. 1)

STOCKS OF BUTTER, CHEESE
AND EGGS ON JUNE 1

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on June 1 amounted to 16,234,000 pounds as compared with 11,257,000 on May 1, and 6,750,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of cheddar cheese totalled 15,604,000 pounds compared with 14,333,000 at the beginning of May, and 10,058,000 on June 1 last year. Cold storage holdings of eggs were 223,000 cases against 176,000 a month earlier, and 98,000 a year ago.

Stocks of creamery butter were as follows by cities, totals for June 1 last year being in brackets -- figures in thousands: Quebec, 996 (300) pounds; Montreal, 7,409 (1,974); Toronto, 2,838 (1,580); Winnipeg, 1,797 (788); Regina, 276 (123); Saskatoon, 474 (272); Edmonton, 507 (812); Calgary, 132 (182); Vancouver, 1,805 (719). (Mem. 2)

STOCKS OF HONEY ON APRIL 1

Stocks of honey were higher on April 1 this year, amounting to 5,461,034 pounds as compared with 5,008,205 on the corresponding date last year, according to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Holdings in Ontario rose to 3,176,526 pounds from 2,471,596 on April 1 last year, Alberta to 774,083 pounds from 378,067, and Nova Scotia to 27,678 pounds from 7,776.

There were declines in the stocks in Manitoba to 640,653 pounds from 733,448 a year earlier, British Columbia to 295,053 pounds from 431,351, Quebec to 274,786 pounds from 342,421, Saskatchewan to 262,640 pounds from 633,434, New Brunswick to 8,643 pounds from 9,092, and Prince Edward Island to 972 pounds from 1,020. (8)

TOBACCO PRODUCTION UP
28 PER CENT IN 1951

Tobacco production in Canada in 1951 increased 28 per cent over the preceding year. Although average yields of all types of tobacco were higher in 1951, the main factor in the gain in production was the larger acreage planted in Ontario. The average price to the grower was slightly higher.

The estimated production in 1951 amounted to 153,792,000 pounds as compared with 120,298,000 the year before, and the total farm value was \$66,213,000 against \$51,292,000. Average price per pound rose to 43.05 from 42.64 cents. Harvested area in 1951 was 118,970 acres compared with 101,839, and the average yield per acre was 1,293 pounds against 1,182.

Production of flue-cured tobacco in 1951 advanced to 144,055,000 pounds from 108,202,000 in the preceding year, and dark tobacco to 1,343,000 pounds from 771,000. Burley tobacco output fell to 3,609,000 pounds from 5,660,000, cigar to 3,728,000 pounds from 4,175,000, and pipe to 1,057,000 pounds from 1,490,000. (Mem. 3)

PASSENGER TRAFFIC AND REVENUES
INCREASED IN FEBRUARY

Passengers carried on Canadian transit systems in February numbered 127,063,437 as compared with 123,971,487 in the same month last year. Urban systems transported 118,774,774 fares against 116,534,596 in February last year, while interurban volume totalled 8,288,663 compared with 7,436,891. Aggregate receipts for both services in February amounted to \$13,093,618 compared with \$11,465,328 a year ago, with urban earnings rising to \$9,734,340 from \$8,709,196, and interurban receipts to \$3,359,278 from \$2,756,132. (Mem. 4)

PRODUCTION OF LEADING MINERALS Output of 11 out of 16 of Canada's leading minerals was higher in February than in the same month last year, according to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Declines were recorded in asbestos, clay products, coal, gypsum, and lead.

Output was as follows in February, totals for a year earlier being in brackets: asbestos, 69,036 (71,463) tons; cement, 1,184,013 (960,037) barrels; clay products, \$1,414,030 (\$1,439,864); coal, 1,566,202 (1,617,761) tons; copper, 20,488 (20,301) tons; gold, 352,667 (347,091) fine ounces; gypsum, 162,848 (183,334) tons; iron ore, 85,817 (31,305) tons; lead, 10,995 (12,001) tons; lime, 96,227 (91,134) tons; natural gas, 8,838,438 (7,772,702) M cubic feet; nickel, 10,662 (9,640) tons; petroleum, 3,459,782 (2,800,571) barrels; salt, 80,281 (74,397) tons; silver, 2,015,523 (1,588,617) fine ounces; zinc, 27,450 (25,219) tons. (9)

PRODUCTION OF IRON CASTINGS Production of iron castings of all kinds declined in March to 71,100 tons from 86,300 in the corresponding month last year, while the first-quarter total dropped to 211,200 tons from 249,100. Shipments fell in March to 46,500 tons from 61,400, and to 135,500 tons in the quarter from 170,500. Consumption of pig iron and scrap iron and steel declined to 85,700 tons from 108,900 in March, 1951, and to 256,100 tons in the quarter from 317,700. (Mem. 5)

PRODUCTION OF STOVES AND FURNACES SHARPLY LOWER IN MARCH There was a pronounced drop in the number of stoves and warm air furnaces produced in March compared with the same month last year, according to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total output of stoves of all types amounted to 31,623 units as against 46,443 in March, 1951, while 3,666 furnaces were produced as against 8,102.

Production of solid fuel cooking stoves and ranges in March declined to 3,487 from 7,106 a year ago; solid fuel heating stoves and space heaters, to 1,530 from 4,472; gas cooking stoves and ranges, to 2,014 from 3,263; electric cooking stoves and ranges, 35 amperes and over, to 7,605 from 15,424; and electric rangettes, to 1,870 from 5,655. Output of kerosene and gasoline cooking stoves and ranges rose sharply to 8,520 from 3,476, and fuel oil (distillate) heating stoves and space heaters were up to 5,240 from 4,110. (Mem. 6)

PRODUCTION OF REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT IN 1951 Refrigeration equipment manufactured or assembled in Canada during 1951 was valued at \$78,359,500, of which 278,272 household mechanical refrigerators -- electric and gas -- accounted for \$54,970,000, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. All other types of equipment, including home freezers, fixtures, evaporators, compressors, etc., were valued at \$23,389,500. (Mem. 7)

PRODUCTION OF BUILDERS' AND SHELF HARDWARE Production of builders' and shelf hardware amounted in value to \$902,000 in March as compared with \$1,047,000 in the corresponding month last year, according to a special compilation. Total for the first quarter this year was \$2,667,000 as against \$3,009,000 a year earlier.

HOUSING DATA FROM 1951 CENSUS

In June last year Canada's ten provinces had a total of 3,587,364 dwellings, of which 3,423,010 were occupied and the balance either under construction or unoccupied for various reasons, according to a special compilation by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics of housing data for provinces and cities of 30,000 population and over, based on a 20 per cent sample of Canadian dwellings taken during the 1951 Census.

Of the total number of occupied dwellings, Newfoundland accounted for 71,210, and hotels, institutions and logging, mining and construction camps in the other nine provinces for 15,090. Exclusive of hotels, institutions and camps, there were 3,336,710 occupied dwellings in the nine older provinces in 1951, 760,966 or 29.5 per cent more than the comparable figure of 2,575,744 for 1941. A small part of the increase is due to a change in the definition of a dwelling, but this applies only to multiple dwellings such as apartments and flats.

Single detached houses were still the predominant type of dwelling in Canada in 1951 and represented 66 per cent of all occupied dwellings as against 72 per cent in 1941. There were 2,214,275 in the nine older provinces in 1951, 360,821 or 19.5 per cent more than 1941's 1,853,454. Single detached houses were the predominant type of dwelling in all provinces except Quebec, where apartments and flats accounted for nearly 56 per cent of all occupied dwellings.

In the matter of size the biggest increase was in four-roomed dwellings, which rose in number in the decade to 658,150, 235,195 or 56 per cent more than 1941's 422,235. In 1951, they represented nearly 20 per cent of all occupied dwellings as compared with 16 per cent in 1941. Dwellings with more than six rooms numbered 817,875 in 1951, 81,040 or 11 per cent more than 1941's 736,835, and represented 24.5 per cent of all occupied dwellings as against nearly 29 per cent in 1941. The predominant dwelling size in Canada in 1951 was five rooms. In the Maritime Provinces and Ontario the predominant size of dwellings was six rooms; in Quebec, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia, four rooms; and in Newfoundland five rooms.

Dwellings with wood exterior remained the most numerous, numbering 1,583,320 in 1951, 39,896 or close to three per cent more than 1941's 1,543,424, and representing 47.5 per cent of all occupied dwellings as against 60 per cent in 1941. Dwellings with brick exterior increased by 241,031 or 32 per cent from 752,899 in 1941 to 993,930 in 1951, and represented nearly 30 per cent of the total as against slightly over 29 per cent a decade earlier. Percentagewise, the biggest increase was in dwellings with stucco exterior, which increased by 137,438 or 91 per cent from 150,772 to 288,210, and represented close to nine per cent of the total in 1951 as compared with six per cent in 1941.

Dwellings in need of major repairs decreased in the decade by 247,531 or close to 36 per cent from 695,736 to 448,205, and represented 13 per cent of all occupied dwellings in 1951 as against 27 per cent in 1941.

The number of owner-occupied dwellings increased in the ten-year period by 712,593 or nearly 49 per cent from 1,459,357 to 2,171,950, and represented over 65 per cent of all occupied dwellings in 1951 as compared with nearly 57 per cent in 1941. Owner-occupied dwellings formed the largest proportion of occupied dwellings in nine of the ten provinces in 1951, and constituted 69.5 per cent of the totals in Ontario and British Columbia, over 72 per cent in the Prairie Provinces, 74.5 per cent in the Maritime Provinces, and 86.5 per cent in Newfoundland. In Quebec, tenant-occupied dwellings accounted for 51.5 per cent of all occupied dwellings.

Of the total number of owner-occupied dwellings in the ten provinces, 1,664,855 were non-farm dwellings and 568,445 were farm dwellings, while of the tenant-occupied dwellings 1,116,210 were non-farm and 58,095 were farm dwellings.

Of the total number of owner-occupied non-farm dwellings in the nine older provinces, 519,205 or over 32 per cent reported a mortgage in 1951. This was 243,582 or over 88 per cent more than the 275,623 reporting a mortgage in 1941, when slightly more than 31 per cent of all owner-occupied non-farm dwellings were mortgaged. The number of owner-occupied non-farm dwellings reporting no mortgage increased by 480,466 or over 79 per cent from 607,669 to 1,088,135, and represented close to 68 per cent of the total in 1951 as against nearly 69 per cent in 1941.

Of the total number of occupied dwellings in the ten provinces in 1951, 575,720 were occupied before 1931, 485,110 between 1931 and 1940, 560,615 between 1941 and 1945, 435,500 between 1946 and 1947, 618,045 between 1948 and 1949, 469,290 in 1950, and 263,325 between January 1 and June 1, 1951.

AVERAGE MONTHLY HOUSING RENT
INCREASED \$10.00 IN DECADE

Housing rents in Canada rose an average of a dollar a month per year between 1941 and 1951, according to a special compilation by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics of housing data for the provinces and cities of 30,000 population and over, based on a 20 per cent sample of Canadian dwellings taken during the 1951 Census.

In the decade the average monthly rental in Canada rose from \$24 to \$34, an increase of \$10 or nearly 42 per cent. Regionally the biggest increase was in British Columbia, where the average monthly rental increased by \$13 from \$22 in 1941 to \$35 in 1951. Rents were highest in Ontario, where the average monthly rental stood at \$38 in 1951, \$11 more than the average monthly rental of \$27 in 1941. In the ten-year period the average monthly rental rose \$11 from \$21 to \$32 in the Prairie Provinces; \$9 from \$23 to \$32 in Quebec; and \$9 from \$18 to \$27 in the Maritime Provinces. In 1951 the average monthly rent in Newfoundland was \$24.

In cities of 30,000 population and over the average monthly rental in 1951 stood at \$39 as compared with approximately \$29 a decade earlier. In cities of 100,000 population and over the average monthly rental was \$40 in 1951 as against about \$30 in 1941.

Of the nation's ten largest cities, Toronto had the highest rents in 1951, the average monthly rental increasing \$16 from \$36 to \$52 in the decade. Ottawa, which had the highest rents in 1941, had the second-highest in 1951, the average monthly rental in Canada's capital increasing \$11 in the ten-year period from \$37 to \$48. Vancouver, with the sixth highest rents in 1941 and the third highest in 1951, had the biggest increase in the decade, the average monthly rental in that city rising \$17 from \$26 to \$43.

Between 1941 and 1951 the average monthly rental increased \$16 from \$26 to \$42 in Edmonton; \$14 from \$28 to \$42 in Hamilton; \$9 from \$31 to \$40 in Winnipeg; \$12 from \$27 to \$39 in Windsor; \$11 from \$28 to \$39 in Calgary; \$10 from \$26 to \$36 in Montreal; and \$7 from \$28 to \$35 in Quebec.

Of the 1,106,770 tenant-occupied non-farm dwellings in the nine older provinces in 1951, the number with rents of \$60 and higher was 162,945, 138,911 or 578 per cent more than 1941's 24,034. They represented nearly 15 per cent of the total in 1951 as against over two per cent a decade earlier. The number of dwellings with rents of \$50 to \$59 increased by 66,267 or over 237 per cent from 27,928 to 94,195, representing 8.5 per cent of the total in 1951 as compared with nearly three per cent in 1941.

Dwellings with rents of \$20 to \$49 were the most numerous, increasing by 156,930 or 35 per cent from 450,160 to 607,090, and representing 55 per cent of the total in 1951 as against nearly 46 per cent a decade earlier. The number of houses with rents of under \$20 decreased by 238,855 or nearly 50 per cent from 481,395 to 242,540, and represented 22 per cent of all tenant-occupied non-farm dwellings in 1951 as compared with 49 per cent in 1941.

DECADE SAW SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN NUMBER OF CANADIAN HOMES WITH MODERN CONVENIENCES

The decade between 1941 and 1951 was substantial increases in the number of Canadian homes equipped with modern conveniences, according to a special compilation by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics of housing data, based on a 20 per cent sample of Canadian dwellings taken during the 1951 Census.

Close to 88 per cent of the 3,336,710 occupied dwellings in the nine older provinces were equipped with electric lighting in 1951 as compared with 69 per cent of 2,575,744 occupied dwellings in 1941, their number increasing in the ten-year period by 1,153,763 or nearly 65 per cent from 1,780,667 to 2,934,430.

More than 75 per cent of all occupied dwellings had running water in 1951 as against 60.5 per cent in 1941, their number increasing by 948,904 or 61 per cent from 1,558,586 to 2,507,490 in the decade.

Almost 48 per cent of the total had mechanical refrigeration in 1951 as compared with 21 per cent in 1941. In the ten-year period their number increased by 1,057,060 or over 196 per cent from 538,535 to 1,595,595.

Over 42 per cent of all occupied dwellings had an electric vacuum cleaner in 1951 as against slightly more than 24 per cent in 1941, their number increasing by 791,342 or nearly 127 per cent from 624,178 to 1,415,520 in the decade.

Close to 61 per cent of the total number of homes had telephone service in 1951 as compared with over 40 per cent in 1941, their number increasing by 990,177 or 95.5 per cent from 1,037,298 to 2,027,475 between censuses.

Almost 93 per cent of the total had radios last June as compared with less than 78 per cent ten years earlier. Between 1941 and 1951 their number increased by 1,086,811 or over 54 per cent from 2,002,889 to 3,089,700.

More than 43 per cent of all occupied dwellings had passenger automobiles in 1951 as against less than 37 per cent in 1941, their number increasing by 497,099 or nearly 53 per cent in the ten-year period from 944,591 to 1,441,690.

Regionally, Ontario had the highest proportion of dwellings with electric lighting (over 94 per cent), mechanical refrigeration (62 per cent), electric or gas stove (nearly 75 per cent as compared with a national average of 50 per cent), electric vacuum cleaner (55 per cent), passenger automobile (over 54 per cent), and powered washing machines (nearly 79 per cent as compared with a national average of 73 per cent).

Quebec had the highest proportion of dwellings with running water (close to 90 per cent), private flush toilet (nearly 82 per cent as against a national average of over 64 per cent), and radio (nearly 94 per cent), while British Columbia had the highest proportion of dwellings equipped with bath or shower (over 75 per cent as compared with a national average of 57 per cent).

NUMBER OF FURNACE-HEATED AND OIL-HEATED HOMES
IN CANADA INCREASED GREATLY FROM 1941 TO 1951

Although the stove remains the predominant type of heating equipment in Canada and coal the predominant type of heating fuel, the decade between 1941 and 1951 saw large increases in the number of furnace-heated and oil-heated homes in Canada, according to a special compilation by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics of housing data, based on a 20 per cent sample of Canadian dwellings taken during the 1951 Census.

More than 47 per cent of the 3,336,710 occupied dwellings in the nine older provinces were furnace-heated in 1951 as compared with less than 39 per cent of 2,575,744 occupied dwellings in 1941, their number increasing in the ten-year period by 583,557 or 58.5 per cent from 997,588 to 1,581,145, and over 23 per cent were oil-heated as against less than three per cent a decade earlier, the number of oil-heated dwellings increasing by 703,044 or almost 1054 per cent from 66,716 to 769,760.

However, including Newfoundland (for which comparative 1941 figures are not available) over 50 per cent of Canada's 3,407,605 occupied dwellings were stove-heated in 1951 and in over 43 per cent of the total coal was the predominant fuel. Stove-heated dwellings predominated in all but two regions, accounting for over 91 per cent of all occupied dwellings in Newfoundland, nearly 64 per cent in the Maritimes, nearly 65 per cent in Quebec, and almost 50 per cent in the Prairie Provinces. In Ontario furnace-heated dwellings accounted for over 62 per cent of all occupied dwellings, and in British Columbia for more than 51 per cent. Coal-heated dwellings predominated in Newfoundland (45.5 per cent), Ontario (56 per cent) and the Prairie Provinces (over 50 per cent), and wood-heated dwellings in the Maritime Provinces (47 per cent), Quebec (41 per cent) and British Columbia (36 per cent).

In 1951 coal or coke was the principal heating fuel of 1,439,090 dwellings in the nine older provinces, 232,520 or over 19 per cent more than 1941's 1,206,570. However, they accounted for a smaller proportion of the total number of occupied dwellings in 1951 than in 1941, the percentage dropping from nearly 47 per cent to 43 per cent.

The number of dwellings using wood as principal heating fuel decreased by 270,313 or close to 23 per cent from 1,183,758 to 913,445. They also accounted for a smaller proportion of the total number of occupied dwellings in 1951 than in 1941, the percentage declining from 46 per cent to over 27 per cent.

CANADA'S CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES
REACH PEAK VALUE IN 1951

Production of Canada's chemical and allied products industries rose about 17 per cent in 1951 to reach an all-time record value, according to preliminary figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total for the year amounted to \$759,350,000 as compared with \$646,871,000 in 1950.

Higher prices for chemicals and chemical products accounted for a substantial share of the gains in output values in recent years, but in terms of physical volume it appears that the increase in 1951 compared with 1950 was about six per cent and with 1939 about 140 per cent.

Output values were higher in 1951 than in the preceding year for all industries except polishes and dressings which fell slightly to \$13,323,000. Coal tar distillation rose 13.6 per cent to \$11,402,000; heavy chemicals, 38.8 per cent to \$121,465,000; compressed gases 15.7 per cent to \$14,740,000; fertilizers, 9.0 per cent to \$75,235,000; medicinal and pharmaceuticals 13.3 per cent to \$86,551,000; paints and varnishes 10.4 per cent to \$102,704,000; soaps and washing compounds 8.0 per cent to \$71,309,000; toilet preparations 1.6 per cent to \$21,287,000; inks 0.7 per cent to \$10,292,000; vegetable oils 21.7 per cent to \$57,218,000; adhesives 14.9 per cent to \$11,118,000; primary plastics 27.5 per cent to \$39,171,000; and miscellaneous chemical products 23.3 per cent to \$123,535,000.

There were 1,036 plants in operation in 1951 giving employment to 43,839 persons whose salary and wage payments amounted to \$126,487,000 as compared with 1,033 establishments with 41,475 persons earning \$106,794,000 the year before. Cost of materials used was \$359,835,000 as against \$307,706,000.

Exports of chemicals and allied products increased substantially in 1951 at \$131,000,000 against \$100,000,000 in 1950, with the United States accounting for \$67,000,000, or nearly 52 per cent of the total. Imports rose about 28 per cent to \$191,800,000. About 86 per cent came from the United States, and 8.4 per cent from the United Kingdom. Other principal suppliers were Germany, Switzerland, and France. (10)

1952 EDITION OF HANDBOOK "CANADA"
RELEASED FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

Publication of the 1952 edition of the Official Handbook "CANADA" is announced by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Initiated in 1930 to supplement the field of the CANADA YEAR BOOK, it is especially designed for ready use by businessmen, teachers, students, lecturers, and all those interested in the progress of Canada. This convenient pocket-sized annual contains up-to-date official information on all phases of Canada's economic organization.

The current edition contains over 300 pages of text, reproductions of 180 illustrations, nine coloured plates, as well as diagrams, and maps.

The leading special articles in this edition deal with "Canada in the Chemical Age" and "Canada's Defence Program". The chapter materials covers population and vital statistics, education, scientific research, social and cultural relationships, national income, agriculture, forestry, mines and minerals, water powers, fisheries, furs, manufactures, construction, labour, transportation and communications, domestic and foreign trade, public finance, banking and insurance.

Price of the CANADA HANDBOOK is 25 cents. Applications for copies should be sent to the Queen's Printer, Ottawa, accompanied by a postal script or money order. (11)

OILCLOTH, LINOLEUM AND
COATED FABRICS

The oilcloth, linoleum and coated fabric industry in 1950 operated at a higher level in terms of production, employment and the value of materials consumed. There were 15 establishments in the industry in 1950, with a gross factory value of production of \$30,284,000 as compared with \$28,170,000 in 1949. Cost of materials rose from \$15,658,000 to \$16,618,000. Employment was up from 2,309 to 2,351, and salaries and wages advanced from \$6,054,000 to \$6,638,000. (12)

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. Preliminary Price Movements, May (10 cents).
2. Canadian Statistical Review, May (35 cents).
3. Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing Industries, March (20 cents).
4. Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, April (10 cents).
5. Department Store Sales and Stocks, April (10 cents).
6. Chain Store Sales and Stocks, April (10 cents).
7. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
8. Quarterly Stocks of Canned Fruits and Vegetables, April, 1952 (25 cents).
(Advance Statement on fruits and vegetables published in D.B.S. Weekly Bulletin No. 21, dated Saturday, May 24, 1952).
9. Production of Leading Minerals, February (10 cents).
10. Chemicals and Allied Products -- Preliminary Summary Bulletin -- 1951 (15 cents).
11. Canada, 1952 (25 cents).
12. Miscellaneous Textile Industries, 1950 (25 cents).
13. Illness in the Civil Service, 1950-1951 (50 cents).

Memoranda

1. Fluid Milk Sales, March (10 cents).
2. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products in Nine Cities -- Advance Statement -- June 1 (10 cents).
3. Tobacco Production and Value, 1951 (10 cents).
4. Transit Report, February (10 cents).
5. Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipes and Fittings, March (10 cents).
6. Stoves and Furnaces, March (10 cents).
7. Refrigeration Equipment, 1951 (10 cents).
8. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).

Over 70 per cent of all Canadians live within 100 miles of the U.S.

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More than 87 per cent of all Canadian homes had electric lighting in 1951.

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In 1937, 6,669 persons died from tuberculosis in Canada. In 1949, the number of deaths was only 4,010.

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More than 92 per cent of all Canadian homes had radios in 1951.

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Not counting Quebec, it is estimated that by 1954-55 there will be 2,027,900 pupils in Canadian public schools, some 375,800 more than there were in 1950-51.

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Canada's 1951 tobacco crop totalled 153,792,000 pounds, was almost 28 per cent larger than 1950's crop, and had a farm value of \$66,213,000.

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Canada had 292 plants making leather footwear at last count.

. . .

A total of 276 waterworks in Canadian municipalities reported the use of chemicals in 1950 and 1951 as compared with 235 in 1948 and 1949.

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A total of \$30,283,848 worth of oil-cloth, linoleum and coated fabrics was made in Canada in 1950.

. . .

At last count Canada's 178 box, basket and crate factories employed 3,810 persons and paid them a total of \$6,283,387 a year in wages and salaries.

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Canadian mills produced 20,577,134 barrels of wheat flour with a selling value of \$189,721,264 in 1950.

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More than 65 per cent of the homes in Canada are owner-occupied.

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The per capita expenditure of Canadians on transportation in 1951 was \$110.

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The death rate for mental patients in Canada fell to 41 per 1,000 in 1950 from 44 per 1,000 in 1949.

. . .

Some 5,567 power-chain saws valued at \$1,150,047 at the factory were made in Canada in 1950.

. . .

Close to \$10,000,000 worth of leather gloves and mittens are made in Canada each year.

. . .

A total of 973 mine cars with a factory selling value of \$537,346 were made in Canada in 1950.

. . .

The average Canadian makes one telephone call and receives one telephone call every day.

. . .

At last count Canada had 177 plants manufacturing paper boxes and bags.

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About 13 per cent of the boys and 23 per cent of the girls found delinquent by Canadian courts in 1950 were not attending school. Of these, 32 per cent of the boys and 43 per cent of the girls were unemployed.

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