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--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES advanced by an estimated 26 per cent during the week ending June 7 as compared with the same week last year.

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CANADA'S RETAIL STORES had estimated dollar sales of \$919,903,000 in April as compared with \$859,228,000 in the corresponding month last year.

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ESTIMATED TOTAL OF SALARIES AND WAGES and supplementary labour income in March amounted to \$852,000,000 as compared with \$745,000,000 a year ago.

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AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES paid to hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading Canadian manufacturing establishments at the beginning of April advanced to \$54.18 from \$53.29 a month earlier, and \$47.60 a year ago, while AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS rose to 129.0 cents from 127.8 at March 1, and 112.8 last year.

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VALUE OF CANADA'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS to all countries rose 17.5 per cent in April to \$346,800,000 from \$295,200,000 in the same month last year, while ESTIMATED VALUE OF IMPORTS dropped 17.3 per cent to \$324,000,000 from \$393,000,000.

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FARM CASH INCOME FROM THE SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS and from wheat adjustment and participation payments on previous years' crops in the first quarter of this year totalled \$585,534,000 as compared with \$494,381,000 in the same period of 1951.

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OUTPUT OF ELECTRIC ENERGY by central electric stations rose three per cent in April to 5,030,255,000 kilowatt hours from 4,897,191,000 in the same month of 1951.

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REVENUE FREIGHT LOADED by Canadian railways during the seven days ended June 7 amounted to 83,391 cars as against 114,036 in the preceding 10 days.

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STARTS AND COMPLETIONS OF NEW DWELLING UNITS declined in number in March, starts falling to 3,555 units from 4,064 in the corresponding month last year, and completions to 3,607 units from 5,859.

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TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES by rail, plane, bus and boat was heavier in all four classes in February than in the corresponding month last year.

EXPORT SURPLUS OF \$26,700,000 ON
FOREIGN COMMODITY TRADE IN APRIL

Canada had an export surplus of \$26,700,000 on foreign commodity trade with all countries in April. This was the eighth in as many months and compares with a large import surplus of \$92,900,000 in April last year. With export surpluses of \$21,000,000 in January, \$31,400,000 in February, and \$31,500,000 in March, the cumulative credit balance in the first four months this year advanced to \$110,600,000 as against an import surplus of \$217,100,000 in the same period of 1951.

Combined effects of a further marked gain of 16.7 per cent in volume and a slight rise in prices, the overall value of Canada's domestic exports to all countries rose 17.5 per cent in April to \$346,800,000 from \$295,200,000 in the same month last year. Foreign exports were down to \$3,800,000 from \$5,000,000. In marked contrast, the prices of imports dropped 11.6 per cent, and the volume of imports was seven per cent less than in the high month of April last year. This resulted in a drop of 17.3 per cent in overall value of imports to \$324,000,000 from \$393,000,000. But the volume of imports is again very high, only having been exceeded in several months last year.

Domestic exports to all countries in the first four months this year climbed in value to \$1,334,000,000 from \$1,104,400,000 in the corresponding period last year, and foreign exports to \$16,700,000 from \$15,400,000, the combined total moving up almost 21 per cent to a record \$1,350,700,000 as compared with \$1,119,800,000. The total value of imports fell off more than seven per cent to \$1,240,100,000 from last year's high total of \$1,336,900,000.

Import surplus in trade with the United States was cut in April to \$61,600,000 from last year's peak in April of \$92,300,000, and in the four months fell to \$203,900,000 from \$231,900,000. Domestic exports to the United States in April fell slightly to \$181,100,000 from \$183,200,000, but the four-month total was up to \$723,000,000 from \$712,800,000. Foreign exports were unchanged in April at \$2,900,000, but were up slightly in the four months at \$12,700,000 against \$11,800,000. Imports fell in the month to \$245,600,000 from \$278,400,000, and in the four months to \$939,600,000 from \$956,500,000.

Trade with the United Kingdom in April produced an export surplus of \$42,900,000 as compared with an import surplus of \$7,100,000 in the corresponding month last year. This brought the cumulative surplus for the first four months of the year to \$130,300,000, sharply above last year's corresponding total of \$14,300,000.

Trade with all other Commonwealth countries produced substantial export surpluses both in April and the January-April period in contrast to import surpluses a year earlier. The same was true for Latin American countries. Export surpluses continued to feature trade with European countries as a whole.

Imports by Countries

Imports from Commonwealth countries other than the United Kingdom again were lower in April, at \$13,058,000 as compared with \$22,211,000 a year ago. This reduced the cumulative total for the first four months of the year to \$54,760,000 from \$84,057,000 in the same period of 1951. There were reduced imports from Jamaica, British Guiana, India and Pakistan, Federation of Malaya, and Australia, but a rise from New Zealand.

Overall value of imports from Latin America was slightly lower in April at \$21,481,000 as against \$22,170,000 a year ago, but there was a small gain in the four months to \$86,640,000 from \$83,675,000. There was a sharp drop in purchases from Argentina in April, and a moderate drop from Brazil, but gains from Cuba, Mexico, and Venezuela.

Imports from European countries as a group dropped in value in April to \$11,221,000 from \$14,688,000, and to \$44,070,000 in the four months from \$44,931,000. Declines in purchases were general among the principal sources of supply in April. Imports from all other countries were down in value in April to \$5,842,000 from \$6,495,000, and to \$16,928,000 in the four months from \$25,790,000.

Main Commodity Groups

Eight of the nine main commodity groups of imports were lower in value in April than in the same month last year, while in the January-April period there were declines in seven and increases in two groups.

Iron and its products -- largest of the nine main groups -- dropped in value in April to \$124,500,000 from \$134,000,000, but rose in the four months to \$461,000,000 from \$433,900,000. Among the principal commodities there were decreases in April in rolling-mill products, automobiles and parts, but advances in engines and boilers, mining and metallurgical machinery, and farm implements and machinery.

Non-metallics as a group fell in value in April to \$42,948,000 from \$51,107,000, and to \$175,309,000 in the four months from \$188,167,000. There were decreases in April among most main commodities, principal exceptions being petroleum products. Non-ferrous metals declined in April to \$21,341,000 from \$25,782,000, and to \$86,653,000 in the January-April period from \$95,099,000. Decreases were general among the main commodities.

With declines spread throughout the list of principal commodities, the agricultural group declined in value to \$38,126,000 from \$52,031,000 in April last year, and to \$147,524,000 in the January-April period from \$181,390,000. Chiefly as a result of larger imports of aircraft and parts, and an advance in Canadian tourists' purchases, miscellaneous commodities group rose in total to \$34,595,000 from \$26,440,000, and to \$112,120,000 in the four months from \$82,381,000.

Sharp decreases in cotton and cotton products, wool and wool products, and synthetic fibres, reduced the total value for the fibres and textiles group in April to \$30,263,000 from \$60,560,000, and to \$122,585,000 in the four-month period from \$193,561,000.

Animals and their products fell in total in April to \$6,666,000 from \$11,547,000, and to \$30,968,000 in the January-April period from \$49,029,000. Wood and paper was down in April to \$10,272,000 from \$12,732,000, and to \$43,235,000 in the four months from \$45,615,000. Chemicals fell in group value to \$15,212,000 in April from \$18,830,000, and to \$60,204,000 in the cumulative period from \$67,776,000. (1 and 2)

BIRTHS HIGHER IN MARCH, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES LOWER

Registrations of births were higher in March and the first three months of the year than in the corresponding periods of 1951, while deaths and marriages were lower, according to provisional figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Births in March totalled 31,922 as compared with 31,385 in March last year, and in the three months there were 90,421 against 88,267 in the same period of 1951. Deaths in March numbered 10,092 compared with 12,482, bringing the three-month total to 30,926 from 34,351. Marriages in the month totalled 5,217 compared with 5,394 in March last year, and in the first quarter aggregated 16,641 against 17,038. (3)

LABOUR INCOME HIGHER IN
MARCH AND FIRST QUARTER

Estimated total of salaries and wages and supplementary labour income rose 14 per cent in March over the same month last year, while in the first three months of this year there was a gain of 15 per cent over a year earlier.

Labour income in the month amounted to \$852,000,000 as compared with \$745,000,000 in March, 1951, and in the first quarter totalled \$2,531,000,000 as against \$2,208,000,000 in the similar period of 1951.

Labour income in manufacturing in March aggregated \$292,000,000 as compared with \$260,000,000 a year ago, and in the three months amounted to \$860,000,000 as against \$766,000,000 in 1951. In utilities, transportation, communication, storage and trade, the March total was \$214,000,000 compared with \$191,000,000, and in the quarter \$638,000,000 against \$566,000,000. Total for finance and services, including government, in the month stood at \$187,000,000 compared with \$168,000,000 in March last year, and in the January-March period totalled \$554,000,000 against \$490,000,000.

Labour income in the primary industries -- agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping and mining -- in March amounted to \$70,000,000 compared with \$55,000,000 a year ago, and in the three months it was \$215,000,000 compared with \$173,000,000. In construction, the March total was \$61,000,000, an increase of \$15,000,000 over a year earlier, and in the three months there was a rise of \$40,000,000 to \$179,000,000. Supplementary labour income totalled \$28,000,000 as compared with \$25,000,000 in March, 1951, and in the quarter amounted to \$85,000,000 against \$74,000,000. (4)

AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES IN
MANUFACTURING HIGHER AT APRIL 1

Average weekly wages paid to hourly-rated wage-earners employed by leading Canadian manufacturing establishments at the beginning of April advanced to \$54.18 from \$53.29 a month earlier, and \$47.60 a year ago, while average hourly earnings rose to 129.0 cents from 127.8 at March 1, and 112.8 last year. The average working week at April 1 was 42.0 hours compared with 41.7 at March 1, and 42.2 at April 1, 1951. (5)

FIRST QUARTER COMMERCIAL FAILURES
SAME IN NUMBER AS LAST YEAR

In the first three months of this year the number of commercial failures in Canada under the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts totalled 404, only slightly above the 402 registered in the first quarter of 1951. Estimated liabilities involved amounted to \$6,106,874 as compared with \$6,688,412 in the first three months of last year.

Bankruptcies in the province of Quebec numbered 298 as compared with 299 in the first quarter of 1951, in Ontario 66 as against 62, in the Atlantic Provinces 16 as against 13, in the Prairie Provinces nine as against 13, while in British Columbia the number of failures remained unchanged at 15.

Failures in the trade sector, where the greatest number of business mortalities usually occurs, totalled 167 in the first quarter of the year as compared with 168 in the corresponding period last year. Bankruptcies of manufacturing establishments numbered 74, a decline of five from last year. Service insolvencies increased from 77 in the first quarter of 1951 to 85 in 1952, while failures in the construction field declined by one-third to 26. (6)

TRAVEL BETWEEN CANADA AND U.S. Travel between Canada and the United States by rail, plane, bus and boat was heavier in all four classes in February than in the corresponding month last year. Entries of visitors from the United States by these four modes of travel totalled 61,075 as compared with 52,735, while returning Canadians numbered 86,540 as against 73,877.

Travellers from the United States entering Canada by rail in February totalled 33,918 as compared with 29,877 a year earlier, plane 9,500 compared with 9,298, bus 15,855 compared with 12,397, and boat 1,802 against 1,163.

Canadians returning from the United States by rail numbered 35,942 against 29,937, bus 35,986 against 31,509, plane 11,173 against 9,351, and boat 3,439 against 3,080. (7)

SALES AND FINANCING OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN APRIL Sales of new passenger cars and trucks continued to decline in April but at a less pronounced rate than in recent earlier months, while the financing of both new and used cars rose above last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

New motor vehicle sales in April totalled 41,414 units with a retail value of \$103,789,723, down 10.3 per cent in number and 9.1 per cent in value from the 46,180 units sold for \$114,159,137 in April last year. Drop in number sold in January was 40 per cent, February 42 per cent, and March 34 per cent.

Passenger cars accounted for the decline in new vehicle sales in April with a drop in number of units to 29,942 from 34,947, and a fall in value to \$75,221,050 from \$88,286,551. Commercial vehicles rose in number to 11,472 from 11,233, and in value to \$28,568,673 from \$25,872,586.

Sales of new passenger cars in the first four months of this year were down to 84,717 units valued at \$218,492,730 from 132,755 units at \$316,267,692 in the similar period of 1951. Four-month sales of commercial vehicles fell to 35,014 units from 40,337, and the value to \$90,154,527 from \$92,466,052.

The sales of 10,346 new passenger cars were financed for a total of \$14,491,305 in April compared with 8,458 for \$11,070,582 a year earlier. This brought the cumulative total for the first four months of the year to 29,658 units valued at \$40,650,801 as against 31,138 at \$43,728,263 in the same period last year.

There were 4,514 new commercial vehicles financed for a total of \$8,575,447 in April as against 3,882 at \$6,444,113 in the corresponding month last year. This year's four-month total was 13,645 units involving \$27,536,853 as against 11,317 financed for \$18,811,099 in the January-April period last year.

Number of used vehicles financed in April rose to 43,664 units from 23,865 a year ago, and the amount of financing was up to \$30,243,963 from \$14,537,845. In the four months, 121,812 used vehicles were financed for \$84,685,882 as compared with 80,532 involving \$54,890,016 in the same period of 1951. (8)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP 26 PER CENT IN WEEK Department store sales advanced by an estimated 26 per cent during the week ending June 7 as compared with the corresponding week last year. The Maritime Provinces had a large gain of 69 per cent, followed by Ontario with an advance of 36 per cent, Quebec 21.5 per cent, British Columbia 23 per cent, Alberta 10.6 per cent, Saskatchewan six per cent, and Manitoba four per cent.

RETAIL SALES UP SEVEN
PER CENT IN APRIL

Canada's retail stores had estimated dollar sales of \$919,903,000 in April, an advance of 7.1 per cent over last year's corresponding total of \$859,228,000. This raised the cumulative sales for the first four months of the year to \$3,234,120,000 from \$3,108,846,000 in the similar period of 1951, a gain of four per cent.

Among the provinces, Saskatchewan had the largest increase in April of 25.4 per cent, followed by the Maritimes with a rise of 11.7 per cent. Other areas showed gains ranging from 0.6 per cent in Manitoba to 7.6 per cent in Quebec. Advance in Saskatchewan in the four months was also 25.4 per cent, Alberta being next with an increase of 8.5 per cent, Quebec 5.3, Maritime Provinces 3.7, British Columbia 2.6, Ontario 1.3. The drop in Manitoba was 2.1 per cent.

Variety stores had the largest gain among the trades of 26.0 per cent in April. Grocery and combination store sales increased 11.6 per cent, motor vehicle dealers 3.9, family clothing stores 17.9, drug stores 15.2, and all other stores 14.4 per cent. Largest decreases in sales of 19.8 per cent was reported by appliance and radio dealers; other decreases ranged from 0.2 per cent for department stores to 10.8 per cent for lumber and building materials.

In the January-April period, sales of women's clothing stores increased 14.3 per cent, tobacco stores 13.3, grocery and combination 12.0, variety stores 10.6, and country general stores 10.4 per cent. Other sales ranged from 0.2 per cent for meat stores to 9.4 per cent for shoe stores. Appliance and radio stores had a sales decline of 16.7 per cent, lumber and building materials 6.7 per cent, and motor vehicle dealers 6.6 per cent. (9)

FEWER NEW DWELLING UNITS STARTED,
COMPLETED IN MARCH AND FIRST QUARTER

Continuing the trend of recent months, both starts and completions of new dwelling units declined in number in March. Starts dropped to 3,555 units from 4,064 in the corresponding month last year, and completions fell to 3,607 units from 5,859.

In the first three months this year starts decreased to 7,268 units from 9,801 in the similar period of 1951, and completions dropped to 13,066 from 19,521. Number in various stages of construction at the end of March fell to 37,259 units from 49,294.

Starts in Ontario in March were down to 1,337 units from 2,007 a year earlier, Quebec to 1,195 from 1,323, Maritime Provinces to 48 from 117, and Newfoundland to six from 33. Total for British Columbia rose to 699 from 380, and for the Prairie Provinces to 270 from 204.

There was a decline in completions in Ontario in March to 1,637 units from 2,677, Quebec to 1,117 from 1,874, Prairie Provinces to 394 from 555, British Columbia to 263 from 574, Maritime Provinces to 186 from 170, but in Newfoundland there were 10 completions against nine a year ago.

First-quarter starts were as follows by provinces, totals for the same period of 1951 being in brackets: Ontario, 2,866 (4,846); Quebec, 2,275 (2,922); British Columbia, 1,408 (1,109); Prairie Provinces, 503 (489); Maritime Provinces, 167 (281); and Newfoundland, 49 (154).

Completions in the quarter were: Ontario, 5,652 (7,887); Quebec, 3,417 (6,612); Prairie Provinces, 1,652 (1,987); British Columbia, 1,627 (1,942); Maritime Provinces, 521 (873); and Newfoundland, 197 (220). (10)

CROP CONDITIONS IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Crop conditions continue generally favourable in the Prairie Provinces following widespread rains over the week-end. However, more rain is urgently required to prevent further deterioration in most southern districts of Manitoba, in extreme southeastern and south-central districts of Saskatchewan, in parts of southeastern Alberta and in the northern portion of the Peace River District. Pastures are poor and hay crops will be extremely light in most of Manitoba. Prospects for special crops such as sugar beets and canning crops are good. Grasshopper activity has been limited to date and damage from wireworms and cutworms is abating in most areas.

General week-end rains greatly improved the crop outlook in Manitoba particularly in northern areas. Correspondents in several southern districts report more moisture urgently needed. Early-seeded crops are beginning to head but where land was being worked to destroy weeds, seeding has just been completed. Unevenly germinated fields have shown considerable improvement since the rain of June 2. The outlook for sugar beets and other special crops is much better since the rain.

Twenty-five per cent of the Manitoba's beet acreage has been threshed. The pasture and hay situation has seldom been less promising in this province. Many farmers are pasturing oats and barley especially where the crops were badly infested with wild oats. Millet, sudan grass and corn are being planted in some areas to serve as substitute hay crops. Grasshoppers are hatching in the Red River Valley with field infestation and marginal damage present in Montcalm municipality. Some marginal damage is present in Macdonald municipality but infestation otherwise is generally light and patchy. Cutworm damage to field crops and sugar beets in southern Manitoba is reported by the Entomological Laboratory at Brandon.

Recent rains over most of Saskatchewan have greatly improved crop conditions and, for the province as a whole, prospects remain favourable. In the extreme southeastern and south-central parts of the province, however, rainfall was light and additional rains are needed to replenish surface moisture supplies. Wheat averages about eight inches in height, with about 10 per cent in the shot blade. Oats and barley are also showing good growth and average six inches in height. Flax and grain crops affected by the late May frosts have now fully recovered. Fall rye is headed and prospects are favourable.

Wireworm and cutworm activity is quite widespread in central and west-central districts of Saskatchewan. At many points in southern areas, however, poor seeded emergence had apparently been mistaken for wireworm activity. Patchy spots in these areas have now disappeared as a result of recent rains promoting late germination. Grasshoppers have been reported in the Kerrobert and Manitou Lake regions but no damage is indicated to date.

Widespread rains have brought ample to sufficient moisture to nearly all districts of Alberta with most correspondents describing moisture conditions as good to excellent. However, rains are still required in the southeast and in the northern portion of the Peace River District. The outlook is uniformly good in western regions where crops are well advanced for this date. In this part of the province wheat is up from three to 14 inches, oats from one to 12 and barley from one to 10 inches in height. Hay and the first cutting of alfalfa will vary from light to good. Pastures are now showing general improvement. About 60 per cent of the summerfallow acreage has had one cultivation and a start has been made on the second operation.

The outlook for Alberta's sugar beets and canning crops is good. Forage crop acreages intended for seed are approximately the same as last year with yield prospects above average. Live stock are in good to excellent condition. Wireworm damage was widespread in southern areas but only a relatively small acreage required reseeding. Grasshoppers have been hatching for a month but no threat to crops has developed as yet. (11)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on June 5 amounted to 215,199,000 bushels as compared with 170,620,000 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week totalled 9,655,000 bushels against 8,096,000 a year ago, and for the crop year to date aggregated 386,342,000 bushels compared with 307,874,000 in the similar period of 1950-51. Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week ending June 5 amounted to 9,189,000 bushels against 3,904,000, and in the cumulative period were 202,738,000 bushels against 119,218,000. (Mem. 1)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on June 13 amounted to 20,412,000 pounds as compared with 10,702,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings were as follows, totals for a year earlier being in brackets -- in thousands: Quebec, 1,386 (680) pounds; Montreal, 9,373 (3,696); Toronto, 3,550 (1,968); Winnipeg, 2,413 (1,284); Regina, 476 (191); Saskatoon, 430 (394); Edmonton, 731 (1,135); Calgary, 188 (241); Vancouver, 1,865 (1,113).

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FISH

Overall stocks of fish were lower on June 1, amounting to 35,641,000 pounds as compared with 37,647,000 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks of cod rose to 7,294,000 pounds from 5,232,000 a year ago, and salmon to 4,362,000 pounds from 2,612,000. Holdings of haddock fell to 1,703,000 pounds from 1,893,000, sea herring to 8,154,000 from 9,065,000, and other sea fish to 13,057,000 from 17,017,000. (Mem. 2)

STOCKS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, on June 1 amounted to 22,408,000 pounds as compared with 22,479,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, totalled 7,195,000 pounds as against 8,180,000.

Canadian apples held in cold or common storage on June 1 declined to 96,000 bushels from 267,000 a year earlier. Holdings of potatoes fell to 727,000 bushels from 3,489,000, onions to 53,000 bushels from 105,000, cabbages to 21,000 bushels from 25,000, while stocks of carrots were up to 51,000 bushels from 38,000, and celery holdings remained unchanged at 11,000 crates. (Mem. 3)

FARM WAGES HIGHER AT MID-MAY

Wages paid to male-hired help were higher at mid-May than at the same time a year ago. Daily rates with board rose from \$4.40 to \$4.90, and without board from \$5.40 to \$6.00. Monthly rates with board moved up from \$95.00 to \$101.00, and without board from \$127.00 to \$135.00.

With board provided by the employer, daily wage rates were highest in British Columbia at \$5.90, and lowest in Prince Edward Island at \$3.40. Without board wages ranged from \$4.30 in Prince Edward Island to \$7.20 in British Columbia.

Monthly wages with board ranged from \$71.00 in Prince Edward Island to \$113.00 in Saskatchewan, and without board the range was \$97.00 in Prince Edward Island to \$152.00 in British Columbia. (Mem. 4)

FARM CASH INCOME UP 18.4 PER CENT
IN FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR

Farm cash income from the sale of farm products and from wheat adjustment and participation payments on previous years' crops was 18.4 per cent higher in the first three months of this year than in the same periods of 1951, according to preliminary estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The increase occurred for the most part in the Prairie Provinces, particularly in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Total for the first quarter was \$585,534,000 as compared with \$494,381,000 a year earlier. In addition, supplementary payments made to western farmers under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act amounted to \$1,800,000 against \$7,900,000 in the first quarter of 1951.

Two factors largely contributed to the substantial gain in cash income. First, marketings of western grain were unusually heavy in the first quarter. This situation developed as a result of bumper prairie grain crops and adverse weather conditions which delayed harvesting and, deliveries far beyond their normal seasons. Income from the sale of wheat, totalling \$82,100,000 in 1952, compares with \$34,300,000 a year earlier. Income from the other grains also displayed significant gains. Secondly, the Canadian Wheat Board distributed to farmers nearly \$49,000,000 in the form of wheat payments during the first quarter of this year. This payment compares with a total payment of about \$18,000,000 made on wheat, oats and barley during the corresponding period of 1951.

Income from the sale of live stock in 1952, at \$205,300,000, was 14.7 per cent below the first-quarter figure of \$240,600,000 in 1951. Contributing to this decline were smaller marketings of all live stock except lambs and hogs and a lowering of all prices except those for sheep. Increased production and prices provided an income from the sale of dairy products of \$68,400,000, 8.8 per cent above the estimate of \$62,800,000 in the January-March period of 1951. Increased sales of eggs were almost offset by a decline in prices and income from this source in 1952 was not greatly changed from that of 1951.

Increases in cash income were registered for all provinces except Nova Scotia and British Columbia where the estimates were only slightly below those of a year ago. In absolute terms and on a percentage basis, the greatest gain occurred in Saskatchewan, followed by Alberta. Total for Ontario was \$204,437,000 (\$198,918,000 in 1951); Saskatchewan, \$113,291,000 (\$53,257,000); Alberta, \$91,511,000 (\$72,781,000); Quebec, \$83,225,000 (\$81,881,000); Manitoba, \$41,675,000 (\$39,278,000); British Columbia, \$21,844,000 (\$22,221,000); New Brunswick, \$12,350,000 (\$10,111,000); Nova Scotia, \$10,255,000 (\$10,267,000); Prince Edward Island, \$6,946,000 (\$5,667,000). (Mem. 5)

PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY
UP IN APRIL AND FOUR MONTHS

Output of electric energy by central electric stations rose three per cent in April over the same month of 1951, and was nine per cent higher in the first four months of this year as compared with a year earlier. Gains were recorded in all provinces in the month except Quebec, while in the four months output advanced in all regions.

Total production in April amounted to 5,030,255,000 kilowatt hours as compared with 4,897,191,000 in April last year, bringing the four-month total to 20,486,688,000 kilowatt hours from 18,973,626,000 in the same months of 1951. Consumption of primary power -- production, less net exports and secondary power -- totalled 4,474,730,000 kilowatt hours as against 4,228,887,000 in April, 1951, and in the four months was 18,461,582,000 kilowatt hours compared with 16,980,140,000. Gross exports to the United States in April amounted to 236,150,000 kilowatt hours compared with 208,203,000 a year earlier, and in the January-April period totalled 896,854,000 kilowatt hours against 766,407,000 in 1951. (Mem.6)

SALES OF RADIOS AND TELEVISION SETS
LOWER IN MARCH AND FIRST QUARTER

There was a pronounced decline in the sales of radio receiving sets in March and the first three months of this year as compared with the same periods of 1951, and there was also a drop in the number of television receivers sold. Factory stocks of radios and television sets both were higher at the end of March than a year ago.

Producers' domestic sales of radios in March fell to 31,482 units valued at list prices of \$3,392,676 from 66,006 at \$5,350,843 in March last year, and in the three months dropped to 95,903 units worth \$10,381,286 from 173,539 at \$14,608,751 in the like 1951 period. Month-end inventories of radios rose to 161,103 from 145,900 a year earlier.

Sales of television sets in March totalled 4,082 units valued at \$2,044,527 as compared with 5,428 at \$3,250,663 in March, 1951, and in the first quarter numbered 12,559 with a value of \$6,421,667 as against 13,757 worth \$7,593,953. Inventories at the end of March were 13,442 compared with 3,082.

The number of radios sold in Ontario in March were down to 16,923 units from 32,994 a year ago, Quebec to 5,471 from 11,562, Alberta to 2,346 from 4,385, British Columbia to 2,252 from 4,711, Manitoba to 1,616 from 5,247, Maritimes to 1,575 from 4,452, Saskatchewan to 1,134 from 1,937, and Newfoundland to 165 from 718.

Sales of television sets in the Toronto-Hamilton area in March fell to 2,411 units from 2,660 a year ago, Windsor area to 831 from 2,048, and the Niagara Peninsula area to 540 from 547. Sales in other areas were up to 300 units from 173. (12)

PRODUCTION OF STOVES AND FURNACES
SHARPLY LOWER IN APRIL

There was a pronounced decline in the production of both stoves and warm air furnaces in April as compared with the same month last year. Output of stoves in the month totalled 29,467 as compared with 52,223 in April, 1951, while 3,229 furnaces were produced as against 7,562.

Output of solid fuel cooking stoves and ranges in April fell to 3,479 units from 7,365 a year ago; solid fuel heating stoves and space heaters, to 2,693 from 3,509; gas cooking stoves and ranges, to 2,159 from 4,072; electric cooking stoves and ranges, 35 amperes and over, to 7,058 from 15,730; electric rangettes, to 2,932 from 4,305; kerosene and gasoline cooking stoves and ranges, to 6,445 from 8,554; and fuel oil (distillate) heating stoves and space heaters, to 2,498 from 5,074. (Mem. 7)

PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF
PORTLAND CEMENT IN APRIL

Production and shipments of Portland cement both were higher in April and the first four months of this year as compared with the corresponding periods of 1951. The month's output amounted to 1,494,000 barrels compared with 1,492,000 in April last year, bringing the four-month total to 5,716,000 barrels against 5,403,000 a year ago. Shipments in April aggregated 1,576,000 barrels compared with 1,533,000, and in the January-April period totalled 5,103,000 barrels against 4,760,000. (Mem. 8)

PRODUCTION OF MINERAL WOOL

Production of mineral wool declined in April from a year earlier. Output of batts amounted to 7,668,000 square feet as compared with 11,806,000 in April last year, granulated wool 497,400 cubic feet compared with 619,400, and bulk or loose wool 54,700 cubic feet against 170,300. (Mem. 8)

MINERAL PRODUCTION IN APRIL

Gold.- Output of gold was larger in the month in Ontario and Quebec than a year earlier, but smaller in each of the other producing regions except the Yukon, the total for Canada showing a small gain. Production in Ontario amounted to 215,113 fine ounces as against 209,817 in April, 1951; Quebec, 90,520 compared with 89,806; Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 18,482 (21,630); British Columbia, 21,915 (23,030); Northwest Territories, 15,906 (18,152); Yukon, 477 (13); making a total of 363,116 as compared to 363,077 fine ounces. For the four months ending April, Canadian output aggregated 1,435,066 fine ounces as against 1,457,047 in 1951, production for the period being lower in all regions except Quebec.

Silver.- Canadian production of silver rose sharply in April to 2,527,019 fine ounces as compared with 2,080,585 in March and 1,467,913 fine ounces in April last year. With substantial gains in the two preceding months as well, aggregate output for the four months ending April increased over 23 per cent to 8,401,485 fine ounces from 6,826,132 in the corresponding 1951 period.

Lead.- Production of primary lead in April amounted to 14,447 tons as compared with 15,415 in March and 10,063 in April last year. Cumulative total for the January-April period increased to 55,727 tons as against 50,795 in 1951.

Zinc.- Production of primary zinc continued the gains of the previous three months, amounting to 29,342 tons as against 25,619 tons a year earlier. Output for the four months aggregated 115,385 tons as compared to 102,543 tons in the 1951 period. (Mem. 10 and 11)

PRODUCTION OF LEATHER FOOTWEAR Canada's leather footwear factories produced 3,213,924 pairs of boots, shoes and slippers in March, 247,146 pairs or eight per cent more than the 2,966,778 pairs manufactured in the preceding month but 198,340 pairs or six per cent less than the 3,412,264 pairs produced in March, 1951.

Production of leather footwear in the first quarter of this year totalled 8,697,426 pairs, 493,488 pairs or five per cent less than the 9,190,914 pairs manufactured in the first three months of last year. (Mem. 12)

APRIL STOCKS OF RAW HIDES AND PRODUCTION OF LEATHER Stocks of raw hides and skins held by tanners, packers and dealers were larger at the end of April than a year earlier, while production of finished leather during the month was lower than in April, 1951.

Stocks of cattle hides totalled 356,336 as against 294,090; calf and kip skins, 647,407 as against 440,943; goat and kid skins, 40,928 against 40,092; sheep and lamb skins, 40,804 dozen against 37,181; and horse hides, 48,009 against 37,836.

April production of cattle sole leather amounted to 999,660 pounds against 1,469,453 pounds in April, 1951; cattle upper leather to 2,863,861 square feet as against 3,173,186; calf and kip skin upper leather to 477,279 square feet as against 812,399; and glove and garment horse leather to 136,070 square feet against 457,058. (Mem. 13)

OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES
OF RAILWAYS IN MARCH

Spurred by increased rates and heavier freight volume, operating revenues of Canadian railways in March soared to a new peak for the month at \$98,-512,350, an increase of 11.8 per cent over last year's corresponding total of \$88,-090,851, and second only to the all-time high set in October, 1951. Operating expenses rose 10 per cent to a record \$86,837,765 from \$78,953,008 in March last year. The resulting operating income was \$7,576,174 against \$6,362,976 a year ago. (Mem. 14)

RAILWAY REVENUE FREIGHT LOADINGS

Revenue freight loaded by Canadian railways during the seven days ended June 7 amounted to 83,391 cars as compared with 114,036 in the preceding 10 days. Daily average was 11,913 cars as against 11,404. Receipts from foreign connections totalled 30,812 cars compared with 45,485. Cumulative loadings for the first 21 weeks of this year, at 1,747,090 cars, and receipts from connections, at 792,273 cars, both were lower than in the corresponding period of 1951. (Mem. 15)

FREIGHT TRAFFIC ON CANALS
HIGHER IN APRIL THIS YEAR

With the earliest opening in more than a decade on the Sault Ste. Marie and St. Lawrence canal systems, freight traffic on Canadian canals in April rose to 2,505,944 tons from 1,980,673 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Total freight traffic on the Sault Ste. Marie canals -- Canadian and United States locks -- amounted to 9,456,447 tons, up 1,430,315 tons or 17.8 per cent from April, 1951. On the Welland, freight traffic increased 110,303 tons or 7.2 per cent to 1,646,817, while freight on the St. Lawrence canals advanced to 486,786 tons from 436,806. Traffic on the smaller canals, except the Richelieu, was somewhat lighter than in April last year. (Mem. 16)

SMALL INCREASE IN PROPORTION
HOSPITAL BED CAPACITY TO POPULATION

Canada's public hospitals had a combined bed capacity of 57,885 beds and cribs, and 9,534 bassinets in 1949, an increase of six per cent in the number of hospitals and of 3.8 per cent in the number of beds over the previous year, according to the detailed annual report on hospitals issued by the Bureau. The report covers the operations of 194 private hospitals, 94 federal hospitals and 21 hospitals for incurables, as well as of 719 public hospitals. The 1949 bed capacity compares with 43,374 beds (excluding bassinets) in 549 hospitals in Canada in 1933. In the 17 years the ratio of hospital beds per 100,000 population increased from 408 in 1933 to 427 in 1949.

General and special hospitals with a total capacity of less than 100 beds, cribs, and bassinets numbered 547 in 1949, or over 76 per cent of all public hospitals. Their combined capacity was 19,894, or 29.5 per cent of the total number of beds, cribs and bassinets, an average of 36.4 beds each as compared with an average of 276.3 beds each for hospitals having 100 beds or more.

Admissions per bed increased constantly each year from 1933 to 1949 except in 1939. In 1949 this ratio was double the 1933 ratio mainly because of a more rapid turnover of patients resulting from reduction of the average duration of stay. In 1949 the average patient remained in hospital for 10.5 days, or 5.9 days less than in 1933, a reduction of 36 per cent.

REFERENCE MAPS FOR USE
WITH 1951 CENSUS FIGURES

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released a bulletin containing a series of population reference maps for use with 1951 Census data. Included are maps of the ten provinces of Canada, outlining counties or census divisions, and maps showing the municipalities, or parts thereof, included in the census metropolitan areas of St. John's, Halifax, Saint John, Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, Toronto, Windsor, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver and Victoria. (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, April (10 cents).
2. Imports for Consumption -- Summary Bulletin -- April (20 cents).
3. Births, Marriages and Deaths in Canada, March (10 cents).
4. Estimates of Labour Income, March (10 cents).
5. Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings, April (20 cents).
6. Commercial Failures Under the Provisions of the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts, First Quarter, 1952 (10 cents).
7. Travel Between Canada and the United States, April (20 cents).
8. New Motor Vehicle Sales and Motor Vehicle Financing, April (20 cents).
9. Retail Trade, April (20 cents).
10. New Residential Construction, January 1 to March 31 (10 cents).
11. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
12. Radio and Television Receiving Sets, March (10 cents).
13. Population: Reference Maps, 1951 -- Bulletin 1-A -- (50 cents).
14. Trade of Canada: Articles Imported from Each Country, Three Months Ended March (50 cents).

Memoranda

1. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
2. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, June 1 (10 cents).
3. Stocks of Fruit and Vegetables, June 1 (10 cents).
4. Farm Wages in Canada, May (10 cents).
5. Farm Cash Income, January to March, 1952 (25 cents).
6. Central Electric Stations, April (10 cents).
7. Stoves and Furnaces, April (10 cents).
8. Cement and Cement Products, April (10 cents).
9. Mineral Wool, April (10 cents).
10. Gold Production, April (10 cents).
11. Silver, Lead and Zinc Production, April (10 cents).
12. Production of Leather Footwear, March (10 cents).
13. Statistics on Hides, Skins and Leather, April (10 cents).
14. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, March (10 cents).
15. Carloadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
16. Summary of Canal Traffic, April (10 cents).
17. Non-Ferrous Scrap Metal and Secondary Non-Ferrous Ingot, First Quarter, 1952 (10 cents).

Canada's per capita expenditure on household operation in 1951 was \$111.
...

The C.N.R. collected an average \$2.74 per passenger in 1951, and the C.P.R. an average of \$3.61.
...

There are 3.25 miles of wire for every telephone in Canada.
...

According to latest figures there are 27 nurses for every 100 patients in Canada's public hospitals.
...

Over 66 per cent of the dwellings in Canada are single-detached houses.
...

Canada had 76 plants making leather gloves and mittens at last count.
...

A total of 188,328 hives of bees with a value of \$2,898,166 were reported by 12,408 farms in the nine older provinces of Canada in 1951.
...

Canada's horse population was 1,306,634 in 1951, less than half the number counted in 1941. Decrease in number was common to all provinces, but the drop was most pronounced in the Prairie Provinces, and Ontario.
...

Contracted acreage of peas for processing in Canada in 1952 is estimated at 44,780, down 760 acres from the 45,540 acres contracted in 1951. Increase in Ontario at 23,930 acres from 22,670 in 1951 was offset by declines in the other provinces.
...

The average price paid to Canadian tobacco growers for their product in 1951 was about 43 cents a pound.
...

Average factory price of a Canadian portable typewriter is \$53.66.
...

Coal is the predominant type of heating fuel in Canada and is used in over 42 per cent of all dwellings.
...

About 60 per cent of the dwellings in Canada in 1951 had telephones.
...

Canadian-made commercial and industrial power-type oil burners cost an average of \$402.30 at the factory.
...

The C.N.R. operated 24,176 miles of railroad in 1951, and the C.P.R. 17,009.
...

Canadian-made wooden broom and mop handles cost roughly five and one-half cents apiece at the factory.
...

At last count there were 178 firms in Canada's box, basket and crate industry, and the annual gross value of their products totalled about \$20,000,000.
...

Total value of livestock on Canadian farms in June 1951 was \$2,010,354,000, triple the 1941 total of \$615,584,000. Sharp increases were registered in all provinces. Ontario's cattle population, which accounts for approximately one-third of the all-Canada value, increased to \$683,328,000 as compared with \$203,094,000.
...

