



D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA, CANADA

Vol. XX -- No. 28

Saturday, July 12, 1952

\$3.00

~~xxxx~~ a year

--- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES rose by an estimated 8.1 per cent during the week ending June 30 as compared with the corresponding week last year.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX of industrial materials declined from 250.5 to 249.4 between May 30 and June 27.

FARM PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS continued to decline in May, the overall index for the month, at 258.3, falling 6.5 points below the revised figure of 264.8 for April and 34.7 points below last year's May index of 293.0.

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION rose nine per cent in the first six months of this year to 120,222,000 pounds as compared with 110,180,000 a year earlier. MARGARINE OUTPUT in the same period declined four per cent to 52,618,000 from 54,879,000 pounds.

CANADA'S OFFICIAL COST-OF-LIVING INDEX advanced 0.6 points or 0.3 per cent to 187.3 between May 1 and June 2, to mark the first upward movement in the index since January. Increases in the indexes of food and rent were sufficient to overbalance decreases in clothing, fuel and light, and homefurnishings and services. Indexes were higher for five cities, unchanged for one, and lower for three.

REVENUE FREIGHT LOADED by Canadian railways during the nine days ended June 30 totalled 100,917 cars as compared with 82,343 in the preceding seven days, while cumulative loadings for the first half of this year amounted to 2,011,130 cars against 2,049,488 in the similar period of 1951.

PRICE INDEX OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES used by farmers, including farm family living costs (on the base 1935-39=100), advanced 0.7 per cent from 228.3 in January to 229.8 in April this year, at which level it was 4.8 per cent above last year's April index of 219.2. Exclusive of living costs, the index rose 2.8 per cent from 236.6 to 243.2, bringing it 4.0 per cent over the revised index of 233.9 for April, 1951.

SHIPMENTS OF ASBESTOS from Canadian mines in May amounted to 83,358 tons as compared with 93,241 in May last year.

C-O-L INDEX ROSE 0.6 POINTS
BETWEEN MAY 1 AND JUNE 2

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index advanced 0.6 points or 0.3 per cent to 187.3 between May 1 and June 2, to mark the first upward movement in the index since January. Increases in the indexes of food and rent were sufficient to overbalance decreases in clothing, fuel and light, and homefurnishings and services.

Excluding potatoes, food prices were down on average, but an exceptionally large increase of nearly thirteen cents per ten pounds of potatoes, combined with higher prices for most other fresh vegetables and fresh pork, was sufficient to raise the food index from 235.3 to 237.0. Among other foods, decreases were registered for beef, butter, bacon, coffee, and oranges.

The homefurnishings and services index declined from 198.2 to 197.2, reflecting lower prices for electrical equipment, furniture and floor coverings which outweighed higher laundry charges. A decrease in the clothing series from 210.1 to 209.3 was largely due to reductions in women's nylon hosiery and men's sweaters, pyjamas, and socks.

Further seasonal decreases in coal and coke lowered the fuel and light index from 150.6 to 149.8, while the miscellaneous items index remained unchanged at 147.4. Reflecting the results of a June survey, the rent index advanced from 146.3 to 147.9.

From August 1939 to June 1952 the percentage increase in the total index was 85.8. (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- aneous
June 2, 1952	187.3	237.0	147.9	149.8	209.3	197.2	147.4
May 1, 1952	186.7	235.3	146.3	150.6	210.1	198.2	147.4
June 1, 1951	184.1	239.8	139.8	146.2	202.5	197.1	141.0

WEEKLY WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES
DECLINED MODERATELY IN JUNE

The Bureau's index for 30 industrial material prices declined moderately from 250.5 to 249.4 between May 30 and June 27. The preliminary monthly average for June was 248.4 as compared with an average of 251.0 for May and 304.0 for June last year.

There were scattered decreases during June for wheat, raw sugar, beef hides, sisal and jute. These overbalanced advances for oats, steers, raw rubber, raw cotton, raw wool, lead and copper.

The composite index for prices of Canadian farm products at terminal markets also receded between May 30 and June 27 from 250.6 to 248.9, due to a drop in field products which outweighed an advance in animal products. The field products index fell nearly ten points from 231.2 to 221.8, reflecting substantial declines in potatoes coupled with a slight decrease for hay. Firmer prices for livestock, eggs and raw wool raised the animal products index from 269.9 to 276.0. (1)

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES
SHOW FIRMER TONE IN JUNE

Common stock prices, as measured by the Bureau's security price indexes (based on 1935-1939=100), presented a firmer tone in June.

The composite index for 105 issues advanced from 168.7 for the week ended May 29 to 172.0 for that of June 26. In the same interval the index for 82 industrials moved up from 172.1 to 175.1, the index for 15 utilities from 165.3 to 167.7, and the index for eight banks from 142.6 to 150.0.

Mining stock prices stiffened in the period, the composite index for 30 representative issues moving up from 101.1 to 102.5 due to an advance in base metal issues. The index for the latter series advanced from 159.7 to 164.2, while the index for 25 representative golds registered no net change, standing at 75.5 for the first and last weeks of the period. (1)

COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES
FOR NINE REGIONAL CITIES

Cost-of-living indexes for five of the nine regional centres advanced between May 1 and June 2 while three declined and one remained unchanged. Substantial geographical differences in food price movements, notably fresh vegetables, were mainly responsible. Food prices averaged lower at St. John's, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Vancouver, but were higher in the remaining five centres with increases ranging between 0.4 index points for Winnipeg to 5.4 points for Halifax.

Among other groups, clothing prices were moderately lower at all centres, and home-furnishings and services declined at all except Saskatoon where a small advance occurred. Except for further seasonal decreases in coal and coke at Montreal, fuel and light indexes remained unchanged as also were the miscellaneous series indexes except for a small decline in the Edmonton index. The quarterly rentals survey resulted in higher rent indexes for all centres except Saskatoon, which remained unchanged.

Composite city indexes for May 1 and June 2, and June 2 group index detail are shown in the following table. The indexes show changes in retail prices and services in each city. They do not indicate whether it costs more or less to live in one city than another.

Index Numbers of the Cost-of-Living for Nine Cities of Canada
at the beginning of June 1952
(Base: August 1939=100)

	Total Indexes		Group Indexes - June 2, 1952					
	May 1, 1952	June 2, 1952	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Cloth- ing	Home- furnish- ings and Services	Miscel- aneous
St. John's*	103.1	102.7	102.2	105.3	107.6	103.5	101.8	100.2
Halifax	177.4	179.2	236.8	127.6	152.5	223.6	189.7	138.4
St. John	184.2	185.6	235.6	127.7	146.6	230.5	188.9	151.4
Montreal	191.0	192.5	252.8	150.8	141.0	196.3	203.0	141.5
Toronto	182.9	184.4	227.5	154.4	176.0	208.9	191.3	147.0
Winnipeg	180.5	180.6	239.8	134.0	131.1	208.3	198.1	139.8
Saskatoon	181.0	180.9	233.0	132.3	151.7	217.7	203.2	134.0
Edmonton	177.8	177.5	237.0	125.0	121.8	218.4	190.2	139.9
Vancouver	190.6	190.6	244.2	135.4	176.9	222.2	194.2	152.7

* Index on the base June 1951=100.

PRICE INDEXES OF COMMODITIES
AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS

The Bureau's all-Canada composite price index of commodities and services used by farmers, including farm family living costs, (on the base 1935-39=100), advanced 0.7 per cent from 228.3 in January to 229.8 in April this year, at which level it was 4.8 per cent above last year's April index of 219.2. Exclusive of living costs, the index rose 2.8 per cent from 236.6 to 243.2, bringing it 4.0 per cent over the revised index of 233.9 for April, 1951.

Seasonal increases in farm wages, notably in western Canada, mainly accounted for the advances in the composite indexes. The all-Canada wage index increased 10.7 per cent from 410.3 in January to 454.2 in April, the Western series rising 26.7 per cent from 382.4 to 484.6, and the Eastern series moving up only 0.7 per cent from 430.0 to 432.8. The latest standings for these series compare with 444.8 and 413.7, respectively, for April last year.

Farm operating equipment and materials receded 0.6 per cent to 216.9 between January and April. Seed prices fell off 7.9 per cent and feed 2.3 per cent, while fertilizer prices advanced 7.3 per cent due largely to higher quotations in eastern Canada and binder twine increased 2.8 per cent. Price changes for other sub-groups were small.

Farm family living costs declined 2.9 per cent in the period, the index dropping to 209.6 from a peak of 215.8 in January. At the new level it was still 6.3 per cent above the April, 1951 figure of 197.1. Markedly lower prices for clothing and food, coupled with a small decrease in household equipment, more than offset price increases for fuel, health maintenance and miscellaneous items. Clothing and food indexes fell 6.6 per cent and 4.5 per cent, respectively, between January and February, while fuel increased 4.0 per cent, health maintenance 2.6 per cent, and miscellaneous items 1.4 per cent. Differences in index movements between the Eastern and Western series were negligible. (2)

FARM PRICES INDEX
DOWN AGAIN IN MAY

Farm prices of agricultural products, as measured by the Bureau's index numbers, continued their general downward movement of the preceding months during May, although increases were recorded for four of the nine provinces for which the indexes are available.

A preliminary estimate places the overall index at 258.3 for the month, 6.5 points below the revised figure of 264.8 for April and 34.7 points or nearly 12 per cent below the figure of 293.0 for May last year. It was the fourth successive decline since January, when the index moved upward after an uninterrupted series of monthly declines from the high point of 307.2 in July last year.

The May decline in the index was due to lower prices for grains, live stock, dairy products, poultry and eggs, which more than offset a substantial increase in potato prices. Compared with May last year, prices were also lower in the month for grains, live stock, dairy products, poultry and eggs and higher for potatoes. As regards to the latter comparison, western farm prices for grains used to construct the May 1951 index were final prices, while those used in the latest index are only initial prices for oats and initial prices plus interim payments for wheat and barley.

The farm prices index fell in the month from April levels for each of the provinces from Quebec to Alberta, but rose for the three Maritime Provinces and British Columbia. The index for Quebec declined to 286.1 from 293.8; Ontario, to 279.0 from 284.6; Manitoba, to 238.8 from 251.0; Saskatchewan, to 209.9 from 218.0; and Alberta, to 234.7 from 243.2. The index for Prince Edward Island moved up to 414.6 from 394.9; Nova Scotia, to 288.3 from 287.0; New Brunswick, to 386.2 from 377.0; and British Columbia, to 303.2 from 302.1. The indexes for each of these four provinces were also above and those of the other five below the levels of a year earlier. (Mem. 1)

CROP CONDITIONS IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Crop prospects throughout the Prairie Provinces are generally good to excellent. Timely rains have improved conditions in many areas where the threat of drought was present. Further rains will be needed, however, in much of the West to satisfy heavy moisture requirements of the thick stands of grain. Compared with the last two years, crops are well advanced for this date. Damage from insects and other causes has been generally light this season, although moderate to severe hail losses have already occurred in some localities.

Manitoba. - Conditions were nearly ideal for crops of all kinds in Manitoba during the past week and the general outlook has improved greatly. Apart from lack of rainfall in the Dauphin area moisture is in ample supply for another week or longer. Early cereal crops are well headed and later-sown ones are growing rapidly. Field peas are generally promising, corn shows a marked improvement and other special crops are doing better. Pastures have also improved. Haying operations are now under way. Scattered hail damage occurred in the Reston district on July 5. A sprinkling of stem rust is reported from the Morden area.

Saskatchewan. - Appearance and growth of crops in Saskatchewan continues to be very satisfactory. Wheat averages 19 inches in height and coarse grains 16 inches. About 80 per cent of the crops are in the shot blade and 33 per cent headed out. Although moisture conditions are generally good, further rains are needed to replenish reserves being rapidly depleted by the heavy stands of grain. Little insect damage has been reported to date. Scattered hail damage occurred on July 5 in the southeastern and northwestern parts of the province.

Alberta. - Rain was received over much of Alberta last week and moisture conditions remain good to excellent with the exception of the extreme north, where rain is needed. Growth and development of all crops is generally very good, although lower than normal temperatures have retarded growth, especially in west-central areas. Percentage of wheat in head varies from about five per cent in the western areas to 10 per cent in central areas and up to 50 per cent in the Medicine Hat and Lethbridge districts. While haying has been delayed by rains it is estimated that the first cutting of alfalfa will yield from one to one and a half tons per acre. Sugar beets and canning crops in the irrigated areas are doing well. Scattered hail storms have caused light to severe damage in several sections of the province. (3)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT SHARPLY ABOVE 1951

Visible supplies of wheat in store or in transit in North America on June 26 amounted to 204,671,819 bushels as compared with 168,787,470 on the corresponding date last year. Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces totalled 7,815,362 bushels against 7,131,036 a year earlier, bringing the aggregate for the crop year to date to 409,681,954 bushels compared with 332,604,423 in the similar period of 1950-51. Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week amounted to 7,567,619 bushels as against 6,030,445, and in the cumulative period were 225,857,623 bushels against 137,151,416 in 1950-51. (Mem. 2)

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF PROCESS CHEESE

Production of process cheese in June amounted to 3,027,000 pounds, an increase of 18 per cent over the revised figure of 2,565,000 pounds in May, but nine per cent below last year's June output of 3,327,000 pounds. Cumulative total for the first half of this year aggregated 20,614,000 pounds, five per cent above the 19,654,000 pounds produced in the similar period of 1951. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of June totalled 1,254,000 pounds as compared with 1,266,000 on the same date last year.

OUTPUT OF CREAMERY BUTTER UP NINE PER CENT IN HALF-YEAR; SEVEN PER CENT IN JUNE

Canadian production of creamery butter rose nine per cent in the first six months of this year as compared with the same period of 1951, and there was a gain of seven per cent in June. Domestic disappearance of creamery butter advanced three per cent in the half-year and six per cent in June.

Output in the half-year amounted to 120,222,000 pounds as compared with 110,180,000 a year earlier, and in June totalled 42,119,000 pounds as against 39,181,000. Domestic disappearance of creamery butter in the six months aggregated 125,633,000 pounds compared with 121,541,000, and in June was up to 24,167,000 pounds from 22,897,000.

Half-year output of cheddar cheese fell to 26,361,000 pounds from 32,207,000, and in June was down to 11,016,000 pounds from 14,285,000. Ice cream production in the January-June period rose to 12,160,000 gallons from 11,839,000, and in June was up to 3,301,000 gallons from 3,279,000.

Output of concentrated milk products in the half-year increased to 230,343,000 pounds from 210,570,000, and in June advanced to 70,014,000 pounds from 66,252,000. Production of evaporated milk increased in the half-year to 161,617,000 pounds as against 148,897,000 last year, and skim milk powder to 33,471,000 compared with 22,980,000 pounds. (4)

STOCKS OF DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS ON JULY 1

Stocks of creamery butter in Canada on July 1 increased to 43,675,000 pounds as compared with 25,873,000 on June 1, and 32,562,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings of cheese rose to 37,094,000 pounds from 30,369,000 a month earlier, and 27,438,000 on July 1, 1951.

Stocks of evaporated whole milk held by or for manufacturers on July 1 totalled 64,534,000 pounds compared with 35,881,000 at the beginning of June, and 36,189,000 a year ago, while holdings of skim milk powder amounted to 11,760,000 pounds against 8,276,000 on June 1, and 6,664,000 on July 1 last year. Stocks of eggs, shell and frozen, aggregated 702,000 cases against 708,000 on June 1, and 410,000 on July 1, 1951, while holdings of poultry meat totalled 16,886,000 pounds compared with 19,814,000 on June 1, and 7,963,000 on the same date last year. (Mem. 3)

MARGARINE PRODUCTION DOWN FOUR PER CENT IN HALF-YEAR

Canadian production of margarine declined four per cent in the first six months of this year from the corresponding period of 1951, while there was a gain of six per cent in June over a year earlier. Stocks on Hand at the beginning of July were lower than on July 1 last year.

Output of margarine in the half-year amounted to 52,618,000 pounds as compared with 54,879,000 in the same months of 1951. In June, 7,857,000 pounds were produced as against 7,380,000 in June last year. Stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and other warehouses on July 1 totalled 2,265,000 pounds against 3,212,000 on the same date last year. (Mem. 4)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Department store sales rose by an estimated 8.1 per cent during the week ending June 28 as compared with the same week last year. All provinces participated in the gain except Manitoba, where sales fell 5.1 per cent. Sales in the Maritimes were 20.4 per cent higher, Alberta 15.9 per cent, Ontario 12.3 per cent, Saskatchewan 8.7 per cent, and Quebec 8.6 per cent. Results for British Columbia are not available.

PRODUCTION OF PREPARED STOCK AND POULTRY FEEDS

Estimated production of prepared stock and poultry feeds in the first four months of this year was 18 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1951. Total for the January-April period was 701,050 tons as compared with 594,518 a year earlier. Output of calf meals rose to 11,333 tons from 9,801; dairy and cattle concentrates to 22,235 tons from 18,225; swine feeds to 155,712 from 123,258; swine concentrates to 32,134 from 26,870; poultry feeds to 251,611 from 215,224; poultry concentrates to 33,495 from 29,680; and chopped, ground or crushed grain feeds to 84,333 tons from 62,723. Production of dairy and cattle feeds declined to 86,652 tons from 88,693. (5)

RELEASES OF CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO AND BEER AND SPIRITS OUTPUT IN MAY

Releases for consumption in Canada of domestically manufactured cigarettes and cut tobacco were up sharply in May over April and May last year, while the number of cigars released was above April but below a year earlier. May production of beer was substantially larger and the output of new spirits smaller in both comparisons.

Cigarettes released in May increased to 1,750,000,000 as compared with 1,494,000,000 in April and 1,487,000,000 in May last year. Cigar releases totalled 15,700,000, up from 15,000,000 the previous month but down from 17,800,000 a year earlier. Releases of cut tobacco amounted to 3,126,000 pounds as compared with 2,464,000 and 2,733,000 pounds respectively, plug tobacco to 162,000 against 122,000 and 205,000 pounds, and snuff to 85,000 compared with 68,000 and 109,000 pounds.

Beer production in the month rose to 786,200 barrels in comparison with 725,700 in April and 727,200 barrels in May last year. Output of new spirits was down slightly to 2,080,000 proof gallons against 2,170,000 and 2,190,000 and spirits bottled amounted to 820,000 compared to 810,000 and 730,000 proof gallons. Stocks of distilled liquor at the end of May increased to 89,770,000 proof gallons as against 88,840,000 at the end of April and 83,690,000 proof gallons at the end of May last year.

RAILWAY REVENUE FREIGHT LOADINGS

Revenue freight loaded by Canadian railways during the nine days ended June 30 totalled 100,917 cars as compared with 82,343 in the preceding seven days. Daily average loadings amounted to 11,213 cars against 11,763. Receipts from foreign connections, at 40,318 cars, continued to be affected by the prolonged steel strike in the United States where weekly carloadings have broken sharply below 1951 and 1950 levels since the beginning of June.

For the first six months of this year, 2,011,130 cars were loaded as compared with 2,049,488 in the similar period of 1951 and 1,867,071 in 1950. Major advances in the half-year were shown in grain, up from 184,316 cars last year to 247,886, and in other packing-house products, logs, other forest products, gasoline and petroleum oils, and in implements and machinery. Automobile shipments were somewhat better. Sizeable declines were indicated in hay and straw, fruit, livestock, coal, pulpwood, lumber, crude oil, miscellaneous manufactures and l.c.l. merchandise. Receipts from connections fell from 924,473 to 894,265 cars. (Mem. 5)

RAILROADS HAULED 2.8 PER CENT MORE REVENUE FREIGHT IN MARCH

Canadian railroads hauled a total of 12,909,758 tons of revenue freight in March, 357,108 tons or 2.8 per cent more than the 12,552,650 tons carried in the same month last year. This brought the total traffic for the first quarter of this year to 38,485,253 tons, an increase of 2,456,851 tons or 6.8 per cent over the corresponding period of 1951, and set a new first-quarter record. (Mem. 6)

SHIPMENTS OF ASBESTOS LOWER IN MAY AND FIVE-MONTH PERIOD Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines were lower in May and the first five months of this year than in the corresponding periods of 1951, while exports advanced in the month but declined in the five-month period.

The month's shipments amounted to 83,358 tons as compared with 93,241 in May last year, and in the five months ending May totalled 382,041 tons against 420,501 in the similar period of 1951. Exports in May aggregated 85,091 tons compared with 83,235 a year earlier, and in the January-May period amounted to 366,595 tons as against 403,043. (Mem. 7)

MAY PRODUCTION OF MINERAL WOOL Production of mineral wool batts in May declined to 11,598,955 square feet from 11,923,912 in the same month last year, and output of granulated wool fell to 461,569 cubic feet from 724,151, and bulk or loose wool to 53,208 cubic feet from 189,754. In the first five months of this year, 44,875,206 square feet of batts were produced, down from last year's corresponding total of 60,637,841. Output of granulated wool decreased to 2,906,755 cubic feet from 3,573,988, and bulk or loose wool to 369,721 from 848,489. (Mem. 8)

PRODUCTION OF GYPSUM PRODUCTS IN MAY Production of gypsum wallboard in May amounted to 17,513,526 square feet as compared with 19,023,988 in the same month last year, lath 13,816,088 square feet compared with 20,070,908, and sheathing 877,656 square feet compared with 1,339,246. In the first five months of this year, 90,304,360 square feet of wallboard was produced against 98,616,905 a year earlier, 70,250,769 square feet of lath against 104,336,951, and 1,851,932 square feet of sheathing against 2,838,414. (Mem. 9)

SALES OF PAINTS, VARNISHES AND LACQUERS IN APRIL Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for all but a small percentage of the total Canadian production, rose five per cent in April, amounting to \$10,190,704 as compared with \$9,749,307 in the same month last year. For the first four months of this year, however, sales were four per cent lower at \$32,696,339 as against \$33,884,400 in the similar period of 1951. (Mem. 10)

CRUDE PETROLEUM OUTPUT UP SHARPLY IN MARCH AND FIRST QUARTER Canadian production of crude petroleum and natural gasoline rose sharply in March and the first three months of this year as compared with the same periods of 1951, with gains in all producing areas except New Brunswick and the Northwest Territories. The month's output amounted to 3,674,700 barrels as compared with 2,493,700 in March last year, and the quarter's total was 11,164,797 barrels as against 8,290,564 in the similar period of 1951.

First-quarter totals by regions were as follows, (1951 figures in brackets): Alberta, 10,664,906 (7,848,250) barrels; Saskatchewan, 357,036 (304,242); Northwest Territories, 86,433 (87,922); Ontario, 47,913 (46,206); Manitoba, 5,363 (222); New Brunswick, 3,146 (3,722). (Mem. 11)

FIRST QUARTER GAINS IN SALES
MANUFACTURED AND NATURAL GAS

Sales of manufactured gas were slightly higher in March and the first three months of this year as compared with the corresponding periods of 1951, while natural gas sales declined in the month but rose in the quarter.

Sales of manufactured gas in March amounted to 2,489,392,000 cubic feet as compared with 2,461,604,000 a year earlier, and in the three months totalled 7,772,-821,000 cubic feet against 7,710,740,000 in the like 1951 period. Sales in Eastern Canada in March were up to 2,076,062,000 cubic feet from 2,036,359,000, and in the quarter to 6,494,228,000 cubic feet from 6,465,360,000. In the West, sales were down in March to 413,330,000 cubic feet from 425,245,000, but rose in the three-month period to 1,278,593,000 cubic feet from 1,245,380,000.

Natural gas sales in March aggregated 7,564,557,000 cubic feet compared with 7,601,-778,000 in the same month last year, and in the January-March period 25,629,727,000 cubic feet were sold against 23,589,704,000 in 1951. Sales in the East were up to 1,278,070,-000 cubic feet from 1,104,114,000 in March last year, and in the three months ending March there was a gain to 3,970,579,000 from 3,640,373,000 in the same period of 1951. Sales in Western Canada in March dropped to 6,286,487,000 cubic feet from 6,497,664,000, but rose in the quarter to 21,659,148,000 cubic feet from 19,949,331,000. (Mem. 11)

CANADIAN SALES OF FARM IMPLEMENTS AND
EQUIPMENT ADVANCED EIGHT PER CENT IN 1951

For the eighth successive year since 1944, the value of farm implements and equipment sold in Canada reached a new high figure in 1951, according to a special compilation of preliminary figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Reckoned chiefly in terms of wholesale prices, Canadian farmers last year purchased \$235,620,345 worth of farm implements and equipment, eight per cent more than the \$218,187,120 worth they bought in 1950. (According to the 1951 Census, Canada's farmers owned \$1,933,312,262 worth of farm machinery on June 1 of that year).

Saskatchewan, which accounted for the largest share of the sales -- 26 per cent or \$61,147,757 -- was the only region where sales were lower than the previous year, the 1951 figure being a drop of 2.4 per cent from \$62,629,271, which represented 28.7 per cent of all sales in 1950. Ontario sales (24.9 per cent of the total) advanced 13.1 per cent from \$51,922,436 in 1950 to \$58,736,885 in 1951, and Alberta sales (20.5 per cent of the total) rose seven per cent from \$45,117,409 to \$48,267,092.

Increases in other regions were: 8.2 per cent from \$29,308,664 to \$31,698,984 in Manitoba; 24.4 per cent from \$19,137,999 to \$23,816,008 in Quebec; 15.7 per cent from \$5,850,741 to \$6,769,116 in the Maritime Provinces; 22.8 per cent from \$4,125,132 to \$5,064,558 in British Columbia; and 25.6 per cent (the highest percentage increase) from \$95,468 to \$119,945 in Newfoundland.

In contrast, the value of sales of repair parts dropped last year for the first time since 1944, declining 3.6 per cent from a peak of \$29,862,034 in 1950 to \$28,772,869. Saskatchewan sales, which accounted for 28.6 per cent of the total as against 26.9 per cent in 1950, totalled \$8,230,364, 2.4 per cent above the previous year's total of \$8,035,003. There were also increases of: 2.1 per cent from \$6,038,045 to \$6,166,312 in Ontario; less than one per cent from \$3,801,813 to \$3,802,524 in Manitoba; and 18.8 per cent (the biggest percentage increase) from \$17,272 to \$20,524 in Newfoundland. However, sales dropped 5.1 per cent from \$7,186,798 to \$6,820,867 in Alberta; 11.7 per cent from \$2,746,-377 to \$2,424,565 in Quebec; 28 per cent from \$1,084,897 to \$780,653 in the Maritime Provinces; and 44.6 per cent from \$951,829 to \$527,060 in British Columbia.

SALES OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES IN 1951
LOWER IN NUMBER BUT HIGHER IN VALUE

A total of 385,648 new motor vehicles with a retail value of \$950,159,511 were sold in Canada in 1951, a drop of nine per cent in number and a gain of seven per cent in dollar value over the 429,695 new vehicles sold for \$885,669,039 in 1950. New passenger car sales were 15 per cent below the previous year's level, and new commercial vehicle sales five per cent above.

During the year, 275,686 new passenger cars were sold for \$683,182,846 as compared with 324,903 sold for \$661,673,944 in the previous year, the average purchase price advancing to \$2,478 in 1951 from \$2,037 in 1950. British cars accounted for only eight per cent of the total number of new passenger car sales last year as against 20 per cent in 1950.

New commercial vehicle sales totalled 109,962 with a retail value of \$266,976,665, compared with 104,792 units sold for \$223,995,095 in the previous year, and the average purchase price increased to \$2,428 in 1951 from \$2,138 in 1950. Sales of commercial vehicles represented 29 per cent of all new vehicle sales last year as compared with 24 per cent of the total in the previous year. (6)

MOTOR VEHICLE FINANCING IN 1951

Thirty-three per cent of the new motor vehicles sold in Canada during 1951 were financed by sales finance and acceptance companies as compared with 32 per cent in 1950. Slight increases in the proportion of sales financed were recorded in all regions, except the Atlantic Provinces and Manitoba where small decreases occurred. Quebec recorded the highest proportion (40 per cent) of new vehicle sales financed last year, and Ontario the lowest (28 per cent).

There were 423,830 new and used motor vehicle sales financed by sales finance and acceptance companies in 1951 to the extent of \$376,671,305. This was an increase of 16 per cent in number and 10 per cent in amount over the corresponding periods for 1950 when 364,681 vehicle sales were financed for \$342,080,605. (6)

STARTS AND COMPLETIONS OF NEW
DWELLING UNITS: CORRECTION

In the item appearing on this subject at Page 6 of the D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN dated July 5 last, the month and cumulative period covered by the report reviewed were erroneously referred to as May and the first five months of the year. This should, of course, have been April and the first four months of the year.

Through an accompanying error, the figures of starts for May instead of April last year were given in comparison with those for April this year. The comparison in the second sentence of the first paragraph should have shown starts at 7,451 a year earlier instead of 11,699 (last year's May figure). The third paragraph should also have reported decreases in starts in three regions only, instead of all, the April against April figures being as follows: Ontario, 2,915 compared to 3,026 in April last year; Quebec, 1,913 (2,251); Maritime Provinces, 212 (290); Prairie Provinces, 1,373 (1,265); British Columbia, 630 (579); Newfoundland, 84 (40). Correct comparative figures were shown for completions.

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, June 2 (10 cents).
2. Price Index Numbers of Commodities and Services Used by Farmers, April, 1952 (10 cents).
3. Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces (10 cents).
4. Dairy Factory Production, June (10 cents).
5. Shipments and Inventories of Prepared Stock and Poultry Feeds, April (25 cents).
6. New Motor Vehicle Sales and Motor Vehicle Financing, 1951 (25 cents).
7. Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, January-March (25 cents).

Memoranda

1. Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, May (10 cents).
 2. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
 3. Stocks of Dairy and Poultry Products, July 1 (10 cents).
 4. Margarine Statistics, June (10 cents).
 5. Carloadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
 6. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways of Canada, March (10 cents).
 7. Asbestos, May (10 cents).
 8. Mineral Wool, May (10 cents).
 9. Gypsum Products, May (10 cents).
 10. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, April (10 cents).
 11. Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas and Manufactured Gas, March (15 cents).
-

Six rooms is the predominant dwelling size in the Maritimes and Ontario.

...

In 1951 the per capita production of milk in Canada was 1,170 pounds.

...

Canada had 16 plants making leather belting at last count.

...

In 1951, 47 per cent of the dwellings in Canada had mechanical refrigeration.

...

In 1951, the average wholesale price of a Canadian rose bush was 44 cents.

...

Saskatchewan had 274 active lumber mills in 1950 and the gross value of their products totalled \$3,641,075.

...

The present pig iron capacity of Canada's steel furnaces is 3,630,900 net tons per year.

...

Five Canadian provinces have cities of 100,000 population and over - Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia.

...

There were 8,401,485 fine ounces of silver mined in Canada in the first four months of this year as against 6,826,132 ounces in the same period of 1951.

...

Between 1941 and 1951 the number of gasoline engines used for power purposes on Canadian farms increased 9 per cent from 168,225 to 183,041. At the same time the number of electric motors rose 238 per cent from 58,192 to 196,681.

...

More than 56 per cent of Canada's urban dwellers live in cities of 30,000 population or over.

...

Ontario and British Columbia are the only provinces where furnaces are the predominant type of heating equipment.

...

The price of a pound of bakers' bread in Canada rose from an average of 4.5 cents in 1933 to 5.8 cents in 1946 and 9.5 cents in 1950.

...

A total of 24,834 bath tubs were made in Canada in the first four months of this year.

...

The average wages of male farm help in Canada at May 15 was \$4.90 a day or \$101 a month with board and \$6 a day or \$135 a month without board.

...

Canada's cement making industry broke all previous production records in 1951 when producers' shipments amounted to 17,007,812 barrels valued at \$40,446,288 compared with 16,741,828 barrels worth \$35,894,124 in 1950.

...

In the first four months of 1952 Canada exported 5,745,661 fine ounces of refined silver and 751,754 fine ounces of silver in ores and concentrates as compared with 5,071,446 and 748,897 ounces in the same period of 1951.

...

Canadian sugar refineries produced 1,310,437,185 pounds of sugar in 1951, of which 1,062,683,736 pounds were made from cane and 247,753,449 pounds were made from beets.

...



1010729481

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..