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## --- HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE ---

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES rose by an estimated 16.5 per cent during the week ending September 13 as compared with the corresponding week last year.

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REVENUE FREIGHT LOADED by Canadian railways during the seven days ended September 14 totalled 87,001 cars as compared with 73,758 in the preceding week.

. . .

FOREIGN VEHICLES ENTERING CANADA on traveller's vehicle permits in August rose to a monthly peak of 540,376, seven per cent above the previous high of 503,956 in August last year.

. . .

PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON in July amounted to 229,561 net tons as compared with 210,263 in the same month last year, while COMBINED OUTPUT OF STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS totalled 293,408 net tons against 274,602.

. . .

COMBINED EXPORTS OF OATS, BARLEY, RYE, AND FLAXSEED during 1951-52 reached a record 149,200,000 bushels, more than double the 1950-51 total of 71,300,000 bushels.

. . .

CANADA'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS to all countries dropped slightly in total value in July to \$371,000,000 from \$374,500,000 in the corresponding month last year, and the OVERALL VALUE OF IMPORTS fell to \$343,200,000 from \$370,600,000.

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GENERAL INDEX NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT stood at 184.5 at July 1 as compared with 182.5 at June 1, and 183.6 a year ago. PAYROLLS INDEX NUMBER advanced to 423.5 from 420.2 at the beginning of June, and 392.5 at July 1 last year, while WEEKLY WAGES AND SALARIES averaged \$53.90 compared with \$54.08 a month earlier, and \$50.17 at July 1, 1951.

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STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER in nine cities of Canada on September 19 amounted to 52,077,000 pounds as compared with 37,046,000 on the corresponding date last year.

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TONNAGE OF CARGOES LOCKED through Canadian canal systems in July amounted to 3,833,800 tons, down slightly from the all-time record total of 3,842,436 tons established in the same month last year.

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EXPORT SURPLUS OF \$32,600,000 IN JULY Canada had an export surplus of \$32,600,000 in her foreign trade with all countries in July, slightly more than four times as large as last year's corresponding figure of \$7,900,000. With export surpluses in each month of the year except May, the cumulative credit balance for the first seven months of 1952 was \$197,000,000 in sharp contrast to an import balance of \$331,900,000 in the corresponding period last year. The improvement in this period was entirely due to the large export balance with overseas countries, the import balance with the United States being slightly higher.

With a small gain of 1.7 per cent in volume and a drop of 2.5 per cent in prices, Canada's domestic exports to all countries dropped slightly in total value in July to \$371,000,000 from \$374,500,000 in the corresponding month last year. Foreign exports were up narrowly to \$4,700,000 from \$4,100,000. In contrast, the volume of imports rose 10.7 per cent, but prices dropped 16.6 per cent, and the overall value declined 7.5 per cent to \$343,200,000 from \$370,600,000.

In the first seven months of this year, domestic exports to all countries rose in value to \$2,460,700,000 from \$2,114,700,000 in the similar period of 1951, and foreign exports advanced to \$29,800,000 from \$26,400,000. Imports, on the other hand, dropped in value to \$2,293,500,000 from \$2,473,000,000.

Trade with the United States in July produced a larger import surplus of \$54,500,000 as compared with \$29,800,000 a year earlier, bringing the cumulative total for the seven months to \$380,200,000 compared with \$374,000,000 a year ago. Domestic exports to the United States in July were down to \$188,600,000 from \$201,900,000 a year ago, and to \$1,301,900,000 in the seven months from \$1,311,800,000. Foreign exports in July were worth \$3,400,000 against \$3,000,000, and \$22,200,000 in the January-July period against \$20,100,000. Imports were up in the month to \$246,600,000 from \$234,700,000, but down slightly in the cumulative period to \$1,704,400,000 from \$1,705,800,000.

Export surplus in trade with the United Kingdom rose in July to \$35,300,000 from \$30,800,000 in the corresponding month last year, bringing the cumulative total for the seven months to \$270,104,000, sharply above last year's total for the same period of \$60,400,000.

Domestic exports to the United Kingdom were down in value in July to \$68,800,000 from \$73,900,000 a year earlier, but substantially higher in the seven months at \$462,800,000 against \$327,500,000. Foreign exports in July totalled \$600,000 against \$200,000, and \$2,800,000 in the January-July period against \$800,000. Imports from the United Kingdom in July fell in value to \$34,100,000 from \$43,300,000, and to \$195,500,000 in the seven months from \$267,900,000.

There was also a sharp change in the trade balance with the rest of the sterling area in the first seven months of this year. This changed from an import balance of about \$44,000,000 last year, to a substantial export balance of some \$75,000,000 this year. During the same period the export balance with all other countries at \$233,000,000 was more than nine times as large as in the previous year.

#### Imports by Countries

Imports from Commonwealth countries other than the United Kingdom declined in value in July to \$16,836,000 from \$38,700,000 in the corresponding month last year, and were down in the seven months ending July to \$108,674,000 from \$185,482,000. There were smaller purchases in July from Jamaica, Gold Coast, India and Pakistan, Federation of Malaya, Australia, and New Zealand.

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Purchases from Latin American countries as a group rose in value in July to \$27,652,000 from \$23,520,000 in the corresponding month last year and to \$164,486,000 in the seven months from \$157,333,000. There were larger purchases in July from Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, and Peru, but lower imports from Argentina and Brazil.

Imports from European countries were off sharply to \$10,732,000 in July from \$18,477,000 in the corresponding month last year, and to \$81,445,000 in the January-July period from \$98,187,000. Declines were general among the major sources of supply in July.

There was also a marked drop in imports from the remaining group of foreign countries in July. Total for the month was \$6,397,000 as against \$11,602,000 a year earlier, bringing the cumulative total for the seven months to \$35,203,000 as against \$56,251,000. The decline in the month mainly resulted from smaller purchases from Arabia and Lebanon.

#### Imports by Commodities

Higher values were shown in July for three of the nine main commodity groups of imports, while in the seven months there were increases in only two groups.

Iron products -- largest of the nine main classes -- fell in value in July to \$112,700,000 from \$121,100,000 in the same month last year but there was a gain in the January-July period to \$844,300,000 from \$808,100,000. There were smaller purchases in July of iron ore, rolling-mill products, and auto parts, but larger imports of pipes, tubes and fittings, engines and boilers, farm implements and machinery, non-farm machinery, and automobiles.

Non-metallic minerals as a group dropped in value in July to \$62,624,000 from \$69,411,000 in the corresponding month last year, and to \$347,695,000 in the seven-month period from \$383,172,000. There were decreases in July in coal and crude petroleum but a rise in petroleum products.

The non-ferrous metals section rose in value in the month to \$25,005,000 from \$24,079,000, but fell in the seven months to \$159,951,000 from \$172,406,000. There were larger purchases in July of electrical apparatus, but smaller imports of most other major commodities in the group.

Agricultural products as a group rose slightly in value in July to \$45,888,000 from \$45,325,000, but there was a substantial decrease in the seven months to \$281,600,000 from \$334,300,000. In July there were gains in fruits and vegetables, grains and products, but declines in coffee, vegetable oils, and rubber.

The fibres and textile group dropped sharply in value in July to \$26,189,000 from \$44,666,000 a year earlier, and to \$201,732,000 in the seven months from \$330,663,000. There was a particularly marked decline in the imports of raw wool in July, and lesser decreases in cotton and cotton products, flax, hemp and jute, wool products, and synthetic fibres and products.

Chemicals as a group were down in value in July to \$14,718,000 from \$16,893,000 in the corresponding month last year, while the cumulative total for the seven months declined to \$105,786,000 from \$118,612,000. The wood and paper section was moderately lower in July at \$10,468,000 against \$11,710,000 a year ago, and the seven-month value dropped to \$73,285,000 from \$81,055,000.

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With large gains in refrigerators and parts, aircraft and parts, and Canadian tourists' purchases, the miscellaneous commodities section climbed in value in July to \$39,649,000 from \$27,228,000 a year ago. In the seven months there was a rise to \$228,747,000 from \$165,880,000.

For the animals and animal products section the value fell in July to \$5,901,000 from \$10,229,000, and to \$50,398,000 in the seven months from \$78,850,000. (1 and 2)

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS AND AVERAGE  
WEEKLY SALARIES AND WAGES AT JULY 1

Industrial employment was higher at the beginning of July this year than a month earlier, and slightly above July 1 a year ago. Payrolls advanced in both comparisons to reach new high positions, while average weekly wages and salaries dropped slightly from June but were well above July last year.

The general index number of employment, on the base 1939=100, stood at 184.5 as compared with 182.5 at June 1, and 183.6 at July 1 last year. The payrolls index numbered advanced to 423.5 from 420.2 at June 1 and 392.5 a year earlier, while weekly wages and salaries averaged \$53.90 compared with \$54.08 at June 1 and \$50.17 a year earlier.

There were general advances in employment as compared with June in all provinces except British Columbia where labour-management disputes seriously affected the situation. Firms in 25 of the metropolitan areas for which data are available showed moderate improvement. Industrially there were losses in forestry and in manufacturing, mainly due to the West Coast disputes. Heightened activity was reported in manufacturing in the other provinces. The trend in the remaining industrial divisions was generally upward. (3)

HIRING AND SEPARATION RATES IN  
CERTAIN INDUSTRIES OF CANADA

The normal seasonal pattern of hirings and separations prevailed in the principal industries of Canada in the period between September 1949 and August 1951, according to a Dominion Bureau of Statistics report based on data obtained by the Unemployment Insurance Commission. This was evidenced by a considerable excess of hirings over separations during early summer, a tendency towards equality during late summer and early fall, followed by an excess of separations over hirings during the winter months.

In the two-year period national hiring rate was highest in May and June, 1950 and May 1951 when it was 10 for every payroll hundred, while the lowest figure of five per hundred was registered in December 1949, and January and February, 1950. For separations the highest rate of nine per one hundred payroll was recorded in December 1949, and September and December, 1950, and the lowest of five per hundred in February, 1950.

Turnover was consistently higher in industries in the forestry and logging group. The industry rates for hirings ranged from a high of 77 per hundred in May, 1950 to a low of 29 in December 1951, while separations ranged from a peak of 62 in March 1951 to a low of 30 in January of the same year.

Industries in the manufacturing group, which account for the greatest number of workers exerted a stabilizing influence on the overall pattern of hirings and separations by exhibiting a characteristically narrow range of fluctuation. The rates per payroll hundred stood at six hirings and seven separations in August 1951 as compared with seven hirings and seven separations in September 1949. (4)

WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING  
INDUSTRIES AVERAGE HIGHER

Weekly earnings of wage-earners employed in Canadian manufacturing industries during the week ending October 31, 1951 averaged 11.7 per cent higher than in the corresponding week of 1950, while the average for salaried employees rose 12.3 per cent, according to the annual survey of earnings and hours of work of men and women in manufacturing.

Average weekly earnings of wage-earners during the survey week rose to \$51.32 from \$45.94 a year ago, and the average for salaried employees advanced to \$65.97 from \$58.74. Earnings of male wage-earners rose to \$56.46 from \$50.93, and that for women to \$31.31 from \$29.00. Male salaried employees earned an average of \$77.56, up from \$69.35, while the average for women advanced to \$38.39 from \$34.38. (5)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES UP  
16.5 PER CENT IN WEEK

Department store sales rose by an estimated 16.5 per cent during the week ending September 13 as compared with the corresponding week last year, according to preliminary figures. Sales were up in all sections of Canada. In the Maritimes there was a gain of 46.1 per cent, Quebec 9.4 per cent, Ontario 10.7 per cent, Manitoba 8.3 per cent, Saskatchewan 41.4 per cent, Alberta 22.8 per cent, and British Columbia 17.5 per cent.

1951-52 EXPORTS OF  
COARSE GRAINS AND FLAXSEED

Combined exports of oats, barley, rye, and flaxseed during 1951-52 reached a record 149,200,000 bushels, more than double the 1950-51 total of 71,300,000 bushels. Barley exports set an all-time record of 69,900,000 bushels, triple those of 1950-51, while oats exports, at 69,600,000 bushels, were double those of the preceding crop year. However, exports of rye and flaxseed, at 6,800,000 and 2,900,000 bushels, respectively, were below those of 1950-51.

In addition to setting an all-time record, Canadian barley exports during 1951-52 showed a marked change in distribution from the pattern of recent years. Belgium replaced the United States as the leading purchaser, taking some 18,100,000 bushels. Exports to Japan jumped from 1,200,000 bushels in 1950-51 to 15,100,000 and sales to several European countries also showed substantial increases. Other major markets during the crop year were: the United States, 10,200,000; the United Kingdom, 7,700,000; Germany, 5,800,000; Denmark, 3,300,000; the Netherlands, 2,800,000; and Norway, 2,400,000.

The United States retained its position as the chief export market for Canadian oats, taking 58,600,000 bushels of the 1951-52 total. Belgium purchased the second largest quantity at 8,300,000 bushels, and the Netherlands took 1,800,000 bushels. Altogether, exports of oats went to ten countries and colonies. In addition, the equivalent of another 1,100,000 bushels was exported as oatmeal and rolled oats to 29 countries and colonies.

Exports of rye were down 27 per cent, totalling 6,800,000 bushels compared with 9,400,000 in 1950-51. The United States took 2,300,000 bushels, slightly more than one-third of the total, while Germany and Norway purchased 1,100,000 and 1,000,000 bushels, respectively. Exports of rye went to ten countries in 1951-52 as compared with eight in the preceding crop year. Flaxseed exports, at 2,900,000 bushels, went to six different countries but Belgium, with purchases of 2,400,000 bushels, accounted for 83 per cent of the total. The United Kingdom purchased 448,000 bushels while the Netherlands took 42,000 bushels. (6)

STOCKS AND MARKETINGS OF WHEAT Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on September 11 totalled 197,784,230 bushels as compared with 138,416,816 on the corresponding date last year. Farmers' marketings of wheat amounted to 14,273,008 bushels against 4,239,842 a year earlier, bringing the aggregate for the crop year to date to 50,783,159 bushels compared with 10,063,946. Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week amounted to 3,926,018 bushels against 5,105,466, and in the cumulative period were 32,495,061 bushels against 23,879,774. (Mem. 1)

STOCKS OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN NINE CITIES OF CANADA Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on September 19 amounted to 52,077,000 pounds as compared with 37,046,000 on the corresponding date last year. Holdings were as follows by cities, totals for the same date last year being in brackets (in thousands): Quebec, 3,378 (3,129) pounds; Montreal, 23,882 (12,978); Toronto, 9,875 (5,524); Winnipeg, 7,888 (7,026); Regina, 1,166 (594); Saskatoon, 528 (753); Edmonton, 2,168 (3,085); Calgary, 597 (1,209); Vancouver, 2,595 (2,748).

STOCKS OF FISH IN COLD STORAGE Stocks of fish in cold storage on September 1 rose to 61,029,000 pounds from 55,450,000 on August 1, and 51,931,000 on the corresponding date last year. Cod stocks increased to 12,162,000 pounds from 9,193,000 a year ago, salmon to 8,663,000 from 7,578,000, sea herring to 9,714,000 from 7,599,000, and inland fish to 6,117,000 pounds from 4,390,000. Stocks of haddock were slightly lower at 2,065,000 pounds compared with 2,381,000. (Mem. 2)

HOG POPULATION UP 17 PER CENT AT BEGINNING OF JUNE There was an increase of 17 per cent in the estimated number of hogs on Canadian farms at June 1 this year as compared with the same date last year, according to the June 1 survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with provincial departments of agriculture. The survey also indicated that the spring pig crop -- December, 1951 to May, 1952 -- was 17 per cent above that of the previous year, and that three per cent fewer sows are expected to farrow during the June to November period this year.

With increases in all provinces, the June 1, 1952 hog population was 5,741,000 as compared with last year's June 1 census of agriculture total of 4,914,300. Estimates follow by provinces, totals for June 1 last year being in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 77,000 (72,500); Nova Scotia, 51,000 (48,200); New Brunswick, 83,000 (78,400); Quebec, 1,312,000 (1,108,300); Ontario, 1,937,000 (1,755,500); Manitoba, 399,000 (338,000); Saskatchewan, 646,000 (533,300); Alberta, 1,170,000 (930,700); British Columbia, 66,000 (49,400). (Mem. 3)

FOREIGN VEHICLE ENTRIES AT HIGH LEVEL IN AUGUST Foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits rose seven per cent in August to reach a new high for any month of 540,376. This compares with the previous peak of 503,956 in August last year. Cumulative entries for the first eight months of this year numbered 1,759,545, six per cent above last year's corresponding total of 1,660,707. (Mem. 4)

PRODUCTION OF EGGS IN AUGUST Production of eggs in August amounted to an estimated 24,400,000 dozen, unchanged from the revised July estimate, but up from last year's August total of 22,400,000 dozen. During the first eight months of this year 247,600,000 dozen were produced as compared with 224,200,000 in the similar period of 1951. (Mem. 5)

STOCKS OF RAW AND REFINED SUGAR Refinery stocks of raw and refined sugar were sharply lower at the end of August than on the same date last year. Month-end stocks of raw sugar amounted to 77,017,000 pounds as compared with 168,483,000, and refined stocks totalled 83,968,000 pounds against 169,038,000.

Meltings and sales of raw sugar during the month increased to 126,897,000 pounds from 114,975,000 in August last year, and refined sugar manufactured was up to 118,019,000 pounds from 114,299,000. Total sales of refined sugar in August rose to 127,726,000 pounds from 119,163,000 a year earlier. (7)

FARM WAGES HIGHER AT MID-AUGUST Wages paid to male hired help on farms were higher on the average at mid-August than at the same time a year ago. Daily rates with board rose from \$5.20 to \$5.60, and without board from \$6.30 to \$6.70. Monthly rates with board advanced from \$101.00 to \$105.00, and without board from \$135.00 to \$139.00.

With board provided by the employer, daily wage rates were highest in Saskatchewan at \$7.30, and lowest in the Maritimes at \$4.50. Without board the range was from \$5.60 in the Maritimes to \$8.30 in Saskatchewan. Monthly wages with board ranged from \$91.00 in the Maritimes and Ontario to \$119.00 in Saskatchewan, and without board from \$122.00 in the Maritimes to \$155.00 in Alberta. (Mem. 6)

RETAIL SALES FINANCING AT RECORD HIGH IN 1951 Financing of retail instalment sales reached a record high of \$467,302,000 in 1951, according to data received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 118 sales finance and acceptance companies. This was nine per cent higher than the \$429,196,000 reported by 109 companies in 1950. Balances outstanding at the end of 1951 totalled \$313,234,000, an increase of seven per cent over the \$293,163,000 at the end of 1950.

Consumers' goods continued to account for a large proportion of total financing -- 64 per cent in 1951. This percentage fell below the 1941 and 1950 proportions of 77 per cent and 71 per cent, respectively. Consumers' goods were financed to the extent of \$299,558,000 in 1951, a decrease of two per cent from the 1950 total of \$305,278,000.

Financing of used passenger cars formed the largest item within the consumers' goods section. Used passenger cars were financed to the extent of \$141,488,000 in 1951, 30 per cent of the total paper purchased and 16 per cent higher than the 1950 total of \$122,318,000. New passenger car financing accounted for 24 per cent of total financing and decreased 14 per cent in volume from \$132,408,000 in 1950 to \$113,660,000. Financing of other consumers' goods amounted to \$44,410,000, a drop of 12 per cent from 1950's total of \$50,553,000.

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The amount outstanding on consumers' goods on the books of sales finance companies at the end of 1951 was \$185,492,000, eight per cent under the 1950 year-end total of \$202,011,000. Balances outstanding at the end of 1951 on new car financing amounted to \$80,717,000, a decrease of 14 per cent from the \$94,321,000 owing at the end of 1950. Balances on used passenger cars increased nine per cent from \$73,445,000 to \$80,359,000, while outstanding amounts on other consumers' goods totalled \$24,416,000, 29 per cent below 1950.

Financing of commercial and industrial goods continued to increase in 1951, forming a higher proportion of total financing than in any previous year. Commercial and industrial goods were financed to the extent of \$167,744,000, accounting for 36 per cent of all financing, and a gain of 35 per cent over the \$123,918,000 for 1950. Financing of new commercial vehicles advanced 34 per cent, used commercial vehicles 54 per cent, and all other commercial and industrial goods 20 per cent.

Balances outstanding on commercial and industrial goods at the end of 1951 amounted to \$127,742,000, an increase of 40 per cent over the \$91,152,000 owing at the end of 1950. Of the total balances outstanding at the end of 1951, \$64,281,000 was on new commercial vehicles, \$31,062,000 on used commercial vehicles and \$32,399,000 on other commercial and industrial goods, representing increases of 40 per cent, 55 per cent, and 28 per cent, respectively, over balances outstanding on these items at the end of 1950. (8)

#### PRODUCTION AND SALES OF STOVES AND WARM AIR FURNACES

Canadian manufacturers produced 167,610 stoves of all kinds in the first six months of this year as compared with 276,116 in the same period of 1951, and 25,267 warm air furnaces as against 44,497. Factory sales of stoves in the half year totalled 177,506 valued at \$17,084,761 compared with 237,017 at \$23,562,351 in 1951, and the sales of furnaces amounted to 21,976 worth \$3,662,534 against 37,019 with a value of \$4,468,660.

In June, 29,574 stoves were turned out compared with 50,533 a year earlier, while the number of furnaces manufactured was 4,918 against 5,909. Producers' sales of stoves in the month aggregated 40,262 valued at \$3,814,528 compared with 32,914 at \$2,739,813. Factory sales of furnaces in June totalled 5,623 with a value of \$914,133 against 5,123 worth \$820,968. (Mem. 7)

#### SHIPMENTS OF PRIMARY SHAPES IN JUNE AND HALF YEAR

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, in June totalled 263,685 tons, practically unchanged from the 263,789 tons shipped in the same month last year. Cumulative shipments for the first six months of this year amounted to 1,595,359 tons, down slightly from last year's corresponding total of 1,597,004 tons. Amount of producers' interchange in June was 141,580 tons against 135,513 a year earlier, and in the half year 914,261 tons against 858,257.

Imports of primary forms of iron and steel in June comprised 105,777 tons of carbon compared with 139,997 a year ago, 2,575 tons of alloy compared with 4,058, and 522 tons of stainless compared with 658. In the half-year period, 908,005 tons of carbon were imported against 729,814, 23,645 tons of alloy against 25,252, and 3,940 tons of stainless against 4,305.

Exports of primary iron and steel in June amounted to 39,065 tons as compared with 24,956 in the same month last year, bringing the half-year total to 221,725 tons against 124,026 in the like period of 1951. (9)



PIG IRON AND STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS  
OUTPUT HIGHER IN JULY AND SEVEN MONTHS

Production of pig iron and steel ingots and castings was higher in July and the first seven months of this year than in the corresponding periods of 1951, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Output of pig iron in the month amounted to 229,561 net tons as compared with 210,263 in July last year, bringing the seven-month total to 1,559,306 tons as against 1,468,464 in the same period of 1951. Combined output of steel ingots and castings in July totalled 293,408 net tons against 274,602 a year ago, and in the seven months amounted to 2,208,323 tons compared with 2,099,293. (Mem. 8)

PRODUCTION OF IRON CASTINGS

Production of iron castings of all kinds in July declined to 55,800 tons from 61,100 in the same month last year, and in the first seven months of the year dropped to 472,700 tons from 566,100 in the similar period of 1951. Consumption of pig iron and steel in the month fell to 63,800 tons from 76,100 in July last year, and in the seven months to 563,400 tons from 714,400. (Mem. 9)

CRUDE PETROLEUM OUTPUT HIGHER  
IN JUNE AND HALF-YEAR PERIOD

Canadian production of crude petroleum rose 14 per cent in June over the same month last year, while the cumulative output for the first six months of this year advanced 30 per cent over a year earlier to reach a new peak for the period. The month's output amounted to 5,398,547 barrels as compared with 4,756,710 in June last year, and in the half year totalled 25,905,931 barrels against 19,970,351.

Wells in Alberta accounted for 5,230,801 barrels of the all-Canada output in June as compared with 4,605,548 a year ago, bringing the six-month total to 24,863,830 barrels against 19,123,717. Output from fields in Saskatchewan increased to 129,455 barrels from 111,620 in June last year, and in the half-year period to 749,914 barrels from 579,985. Production in Manitoba in June advanced to 1,913 barrels from nil, and in the six months to 10,560 barrels from 222.

Output in the Northwest Territories dropped in the month to 17,895 barrels from 20,227 in June, 1951, but rose in the half year to 177,088 barrels from 163,892. Ontario's output in June declined slightly to 17,208 barrels from 17,922, but was higher in the six months at 97,511 barrels compared with 95,030. Total for New Brunswick was down in June to 1,275 barrels from 1,393, and in the six months to 7,028 barrels from 7,505.

Production of natural gas in June amounted to 6,214,798,000 cubic feet as compared with 4,845,683,000 in the same month last year. In the half-year period, 49,080,120,000 cubic feet were produced against 40,764,605,000 in the same months of 1951. (Mem. 10)

SALES OF PAINTS, VARNISHES  
AND LACQUERS IN JULY

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for all but a small percentage of the total Canadian production in July amounted to \$9,321,712 as compared with \$8,695,562 in the same month last year. This brought cumulative sales for the first seven months of this year to \$64,088,103 as against \$63,195,810 in the similar period of 1951. (Mem. 11)

PASSENGERS CARRIED BY TRANSIT SYSTEMS IN MAY Passengers carried by principal transit systems across Canada in May numbered 125,599,000, down 2.5 per cent from last year's May total of 129,838,000. Volume of urban service dropped to 117,242,000 from 121,613,000, while interurban fares continued to rise at 8,357,000 against 8,225,000.

With fares generally higher, total transit revenues advanced 8.4 per cent in May to \$13,796,000 -- a new peak for the month -- as compared with \$12,724,000 in May last year. Urban receipts were up to \$10,016,000 from \$9,209,000 a year earlier, and inter-urban revenues to \$3,780,000 from \$3,515,000. (Mem. 12)

RAILWAY REVENUES AT PEAK IN JUNE Revenues of leading Canadian railways climbed to a peak of \$98,902,030 in June, an increase of \$7,289,048 or eight per cent over last year's June total of \$91,612,982. At the same time operating expenses rose \$7,187,710 or nearly nine per cent to \$89,020,211, while operating income slipped to \$5,380,392 from \$5,871,025 a year ago.

Revenue accounts were all much improved over the previous June. Freight earnings rose 7.5 per cent or \$5,452,387 to \$77,959,551. Although revenue tonnage was down 6.2 per cent, revenue ton miles rose 1.3 per cent due to longer hauls. Passenger fares produced \$8,811,431, or nearly five per cent more than a year ago. Passengers carried rose 47,965 or 2.1 per cent and passenger mileage 4.2 per cent. Mail earnings were 12.9 per cent better at \$1,047,560 and express on the strength of higher rates jumped 18.2 per cent or \$663,268 to \$4,309,697.

Expenses were also generally higher this June which affords the first month-to-month comparisons under the five-day work week. Way and structures maintenance needed \$2,734,422 or 14.1 per cent more this June at \$22,172,652, while equipment took 7.5 per cent more at \$19,641,376. Traffic charges increased nine per cent and transportation rose 5.6 per cent to \$39,375,481.

An appreciable advance of 22.5 per cent was shown in empty freight car miles occasioned partly by the grain movement, while loaded mileage was slightly reduced. Average load increased from 30.7 to 31.5 tons, and average receipt per revenue ton mile advanced to 1.410 cents from 1.329. June employment advanced 5.4 per cent to 205,000 with a payroll of \$52,216,964 versus \$50,015,638 going to 194,460 employees one year earlier. (Mem. 13)

RAILWAY REVENUE FREIGHT IN MAY Revenue freight carried by principal Railways in Canada during May amounted to 13,802,314 tons, a minor decline of 72,103 tons or 0.5 per cent from the record established for the month a year earlier, but seasonally above the April total of 12,561,643 tons.

Domestic loadings contributed 10,743,635 tons to the monthly total, up slightly from 10,738,450 in the same month last year. Receipts from foreign connections, however, were 77,288 tons lighter at 3,058,679 tons, all of the decline being in intransit freight. Revenue shipments destined to Canadian points from abroad rose from 1,598,762 to 1,839,251 tons, due mainly to heavier crude bauxite deliveries.

The cumulative total of all freight carried by railways in Canada during the first five months of this year was a new record 64,849,210 tons, an increase of 3.7 per cent or 2,331,869 tons over the similar period last year. (Mem. 14)

CARLOADINGS ON CANADIAN RAILWAYS The threatened strike of grain handlers at the Lakehead speeded the movement of grain during the seven days ended September 14 and carloadings climbed to a national total of 87,011 cars compared with 73,758 in the preceding week which contained the Labour Day holiday. The daily average of 12,429 cars was the second highest this year. Receipts from foreign connections were also much heavier at 36,575 cars versus 31,315 in the period ended September 7.

Available comparisons with the similar period of last year show large advances in grain deliveries and other agricultural products. Fruits, ores, meats, gasoline and petroleum oils, other mine products, logs, canned foods, autos and trucks, fertilizers, and l.c.l. were moved in larger volume this year. The significant declines were in livestock, coal, pulpwood, woodpulp and paper, and miscellaneous manufactures.

Cumulative totals to September 14 this year show 2,890,522 cars of revenue freight loaded at Canadian points and 1,241,124 cars received from connections. Domestic loadings are just slightly under the record volume attained in 1951. (Mem. 15)

CANAL TRAFFIC LOWER IN JULY Tonnage of cargoes locked through Canadian canal systems in July amounted to 3,833,800 tons, down slightly from the all-time record total of 3,842,436 tons established in the same month last year. Less activity was shown on the Sault Ste. Marie and Welland Ship canals, while a gain was registered for the St. Lawrence system.

The cessation of iron ore shipments from the Lakehead to lower lake ports caused by the United States steel strike resulted in a sharp reduction in the volume of freight handled by the Sault Ste. Marie canals in July, the tonnage dropping to 5,146,624 tons from 17,538,564 a year earlier. As there had been grain congestion at the Lakehead, some of the iron ore carriers were diverted to this traffic and, consequently, the movements of wheat and other grains increased considerably.

Traffic through the Welland Ship canal, at 2,060,228 tons, was down only 6,698 tons from last year's July total. The amount of freight passing through the St. Lawrence system rose four per cent to 1,410,209 tons from 1,356,322. Traffic was also heavier on the Richelieu, St. Andrews and Rideau canals. (Mem. 16)

FURNITURE INDUSTRY IN 1950 Gross factory value of production of Canada's furniture industry reached \$172,331,000 in 1950, and the net value or value added by manufacture totalled \$90,624,200. Salaries and wages amounting to \$57,111,744 were paid to 27,259 employees, materials used were valued at \$79,803,630, and fuel and electricity consumed cost \$1,903,314. These figures are not strictly comparable with those for 1949 owing to changes which have been made in the classification of establishments covered by the industry.

Wooden furniture, valued at \$78,931,347, was the principal product of the industry in 1950, consisting mostly of household furniture valued at \$52,673,512 and furniture and fixtures for offices, stores, churches, schools and other public buildings at \$18,909,343. Upholstered furniture was valued at \$35,211,520, and metal furniture at \$21,604,409, mattresses \$15,887,470, springs \$6,282,148, pillows and cushions \$1,168,353, and comforters \$269,279. (10)

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, July (10 cents).
2. Imports for Consumption -- Summary Bulletin -- July (20 cents).
3. Employment and Payrolls, July (20 cents).
4. Hiring and Separation Rates in Certain Industries, September 1949 to August 1951 (25 cents).
5. Earnings and Hours in Manufacturing, October, 1951 (25 cents).
6. Coarse Grains Quarterly, August (25 cents).
7. The Sugar Situation, August (10 cents).
8. Sales Financing, 1951 (25 cents).
9. Primary Iron and Steel, June (20 cents).
10. The Furniture Industry, 1950 (25 cents).
11. Trade of Canada: Articles Imported to Each Country, Six Months Ended June (50 cents).

Memoranda

1. Grain Statistics Weekly (10 cents).
  2. Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, September 1 (10 cents).
  3. Report on the Live Stock Survey of June 1, 1952 (10 cents).
  4. Volume of Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Traveller's Vehicle Permits, July (10 cents).
  5. Poultry Estimates, August (10 cents).
  6. Farm Wages, August (10 cents).
  7. Stoves and Furnaces, June (10 cents).
  8. Production of Pig Iron and Steel, July (10 cents).
  9. Iron Castings and Cast Iron Pipes and Fittings, July (10 cents).
  10. Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas and Manufactured Gas, June (15 cents).
  11. Sales of Paints, Varnishes and Lacquers, July (10 cents).
  12. Transit Report, May (10 cents).
  13. Operating Revenues, Expenses and Statistics of Railways, June (10 cents).
  14. Monthly Traffic Report of Railways, May (10 cents).
  15. Carloadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
  16. Summary of Canal Traffic, July (10 cents).
  17. Asphalt Floor Tiles, August (10 cents).
  18. Rigid Insulating Board Industry, August (10 cents).
  19. Statistics on Hides, Skins and Leather, July (10 cents).
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