



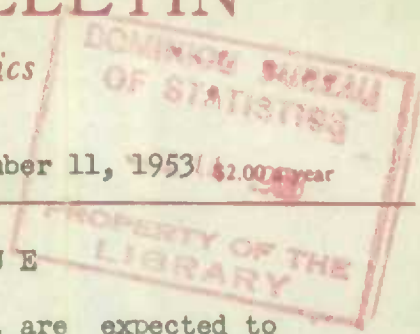
D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

BIRTHS were up nearly four per cent in the first 10 months, are expected to reach an all-time high by year's end. MARRIAGES were two per cent higher in the January-October period, DEATHS about four per cent. (Page 3)

. . .

CHEQUES cashed in 35 clearing centres totalled six per cent higher this October, 10 per cent higher in the first 10 months. (Page 11)

. . .

IMPORTS were valued at \$361,500,000 in October, three per cent under the September value, four per cent below a year earlier. (Page 2)

. . .

MINE shipments of both asbestos and salt were lower in the January-October period this year... Production of nickel, copper, lead, zinc and silver were up in January-September, but gold output was down. (Page 10)

. . .

PRICES of meats, eggs and a few other foods moved lower between October 1 and November 2, were the main cause of an 0.4 per cent drop in the consumer price index to 116.2 from 116.7. The decline offset an increase of the same amount in the preceding month. (Page 4)

. . .

SALES of six types of chain stores were higher this October, the increases over last year ranging from just under three per cent for shoe stores to 18 per cent for food chains... Department store sales were nearly two per cent lower in the same comparison. (Page 6)

. . .

SHIPMENTS of motor vehicles from Canadian factories were 14 per cent below a year earlier in October, while sales of new motor vehicles were off three per cent. In both cases, trucks caused the drop; passenger car shipments and sales were up. (Pages 6-7)

. . .

UNEMPLOYMENT insurance benefit payments totalled \$7,603,667 in October, 13 per cent more than in the preceding month, one-third more than in the same month last year. (Page 10)

. . .

WHEAT stocks in store or in transit had reached 338,124,000 bushels by November 25, some 38 per cent in excess of the visible supplies on the same date last year... Wheat flour output was down almost 11 per cent this October, and 20 per cent in the first quarter of the current crop year. (Page 9)

. . .

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Imports Lower In Value In October

Canada's commodity imports in October were down in value as compared with both the preceding month and October last year, according to preliminary summary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was the first drop as compared with a year earlier in a lengthy period. Total exports, on which figures were released on December 3, were up in value from September but substantially below those of a year earlier.

Estimated value of imports in October stands at \$361,500,000 as compared with \$372,800,000 in September and \$376,400,000 in the corresponding month last year. There were declines as compared with a year earlier in the value of purchases from the United Kingdom and other foreign countries, but increased purchases from the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries.

Total exports — domestic and foreign — in October were valued at \$347,800,000 as compared with \$343,800,000 in September and \$379,300,000 in the same month last year. On the basis of estimated imports, October's trade yielded an import surplus of \$13,700,000 as compared with \$29,000,000 in September, and a small export surplus of \$2,900,000 a year ago.

In the January-October period this year, imports reached an estimated \$3,701,500,000, up 11 per cent from last year's corresponding total of \$3,321,900,000. In the same period, total exports were down to \$3,456,500,000 from \$3,570,200,000, resulting in an import surplus for the period of \$245,000,000 in contrast to an export surplus last year of \$248,300,000.

Imports from the United States in October declined to \$263,000,000 from \$275,200,000 a year ago, and exports fell to \$201,900,000 from \$210,900,000. As a result, the import surplus on the month's trade was reduced to \$61,100,000 from \$64,300,000. In the 10 months from January to October, imports from the United States were up in value to \$2,740,900,000 from \$2,447,500,000, and exports rose to \$2,035,500,000 from \$1,911,200,000. The resulting import surplus for the period was \$705,400,000 as compared with \$536,300,000.

Purchases from the United Kingdom in October were estimated at \$37,700,000 up slightly from \$37,100,000 a year ago, and the cumulative value for the January-October period rose to \$377,000,000 from \$296,500,000. Total exports to the United Kingdom were up in October to \$55,800,000 from \$51,400,000, but declined to the 10-month period to \$565,100,000 from \$641,800,000. The credit balance on the month's trade was larger at \$18,100,000 as compared with \$14,300,000 a year ago, but the 10-month total was down to \$188,100,000 from \$345,300,000.

October's imports from other Commonwealth countries were up to an estimated \$17,300,000 from \$16,700,000 in October last year, but down in the January-October period to \$143,900,000 from \$159,100,000. Exports to these countries in the month were slightly higher at \$16,000,000 as compared with \$15,500,000, but were down in the 10-month period to \$202,900,000 from \$225,900,000. Purchases from foreign countries other than the United States fell in October to \$43,500,000 from \$47,400,000, and the exports dropped to \$74,100,000 from \$101,500,000. In the 10-month period, imports from these countries were up to \$439,700,000 from \$418,800,000, but the exports were down to \$653,000,000 from \$791,300,000.

The preliminary figures on foreign trade in October and the 10 months ending October are summarized in the table on the following page. The import figures are estimates and subject to revision; final and detailed import figures will not be available for several weeks. Figures on exports were issued last week.

(concluded on page 3)

	<u>October</u>		<u>Ten Months ended October</u>	
	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
- millions of dollars -				
<u>Exports (Domestic and Foreign)</u>				
United Kingdom	51.4	55.8	641.8	565.1
Other Commonwealth countries .	15.5	16.0	225.9	202.9
United States	210.9	201.9	1,911.2	2,035.5
Other Foreign countries	<u>101.5</u>	<u>74.1</u>	<u>791.3</u>	<u>653.0</u>
Totals ..	<u>379.3</u>	<u>347.8</u>	<u>3,570.2</u>	<u>3,456.5</u>

	<u>October</u>		<u>Ten Months ended October</u>	
	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953*</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953*</u>
<u>Imports</u>				
United Kingdom	37.1	37.7	296.5	377.0
Other Commonwealth countries .	16.7	17.3	159.1	143.9
United States	275.2	263.0	2,447.5	2,740.9
Other Foreign countries	<u>47.4</u>	<u>43.5</u>	<u>418.8</u>	<u>439.7</u>
Totals ..	<u>376.4</u>	<u>361.5</u>	<u>3,321.9</u>	<u>3,701.5</u>

* Estimate only. Subject to revision

Third-Quarter Security Transactions During the third quarter of this year, portfolio security transactions resulted in a capital inflow of \$1,000,000, contrasting with a capital outflow of \$80,000,000 in the second quarter which was dominated by the repurchase by the Government of Canada in May of \$75,000,000 of 3/63 (External Loan). New issues of Canadian securities which amounted to \$15,000,000 in the third quarter were lower than the amounts recorded in any quarter since the final quarter of 1950.

Trade in outstanding Canadian issues led to a purchase balance of \$4,000,000, as compared with \$36,000,000 in the second quarter. Net repatriation of Government of Canada direct and guaranteed issues amounted to \$6,000,000 compared with \$44,000,000 in the second quarter. For the nine-month period ending September, 1953 a capital outflow of \$30,000,000 was recorded. Outflows to the United States were greater than this as there were inflows of capital from sales of securities to the United Kingdom and other overseas countries.

During September, a slight increase in the volume of international security trading was noted as compared with the previous two months. Trade with the United States led to a purchase balance of \$2,200,000, while trade with the United Kingdom and other countries resulted in sales balances of \$1,900,000 and \$1,100,000, respectively. (1)

VITAL STATISTICS

Births Rose 3.7 Per Cent Marking the sixth consecutive monthly increase as compared
In January-October Period with a year earlier, registrations of births in October rose to 38,032 from 34,333 in October, 1952. October's gain brought registrations for the first 10 months of the year to 342,252 for a gain of 3.7 per cent over last year's 10-month total. Indications are that a record number of births will be registered by the end of the year.

Almost eight per cent more marriages were registered in Canada in October than in the same month last year, the number advancing to 15,423 as compared with 14,286. This brought the January-October total to 109,455 as compared with 107,494. Death registrations declined in October to 10,547 from 10,757 a year ago, but the January-October total rose to 107,202 from 103,443. (2)

P R I C E S

Consumer Price Index Fell
0.4 Per Cent In October

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics' consumer price index decreased 0.4 per cent from 116.7 to 116.2 between October 1 and November 2, offsetting an increase of the same amount which occurred during the previous month.

The latest change was almost entirely due to a decline in the food index which moved down 1.8 per cent from 115.5 to 113.4, under the influence of a sharp drop in the price of eggs and materially lower prices for practically all meats. Prices of most other food items were about the same, the only notable changes being a decrease for grapefruit and an increase for fresh tomatoes.

These changes in food prices were in combination with normal seasonal shifts in consumption which increased the quantities for some fresh vegetables, oranges and a few cuts of meat, and decreased the quantities for fresh tomatoes, lettuce and some fresh fruits.

The clothing index remained unchanged at 110.3 as advances in men's suits and overcoats were counterbalanced by declines in women's and children's wear. The household operations component moved from 117.5 to 117.4 as scattered increases and decreases almost offset each other.

An advance of 0.3 per cent from 116.0 to 116.3 in the index of other commodities and services was mostly attributable to an increase in theatre admission fees. Higher levels for both rent and home-ownership indexes served to increase the shelter component from 124.5 to 125.0. (3)

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
November 2, 1953	116.2	113.4	125.0	110.3	117.4	116.3
October 1, 1953	116.7	115.5	124.5	110.3	117.5	116.0
November 1, 1952	116.1	115.7	121.4	109.8	115.9	116.6

Weekly Wholesale Price Indexes

Industrial material prices at wholesale moved within narrow limits in November, the composite index for 30 commodities closing at 226.6 for the week of November 27 as against 227.1 for the week of October 30. Scattered decreases among commodities were noted for hogs, western oats, fir timber, western wheat, raw sugar, bleached woodpulp, copper, iron ore and raw cotton. Increases were registered for steers, tin, raw rubber, lead, and white lead. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets advanced slightly in November to 207.8 for the week of the 27th as against 207.0 for the week of October 30. This compares with a mid-month level of 202.3 for the 13th. (3)

Security Price Indexes

Following a slightly firmer tone in the opening week of November security prices declined moderately in the last three weeks of the month. The composite index for 102 common stocks moved up from 155.5 for the week of October 29 to 156.4 for the week of November 5 but subsequently receded to 152.7 by the 26th.

Over the full period, two of the three major groups moved lower, the index for 81 industrials dropping from 154.8 to 151.4, while that for 13 utilities changed from 151.6 to 148.4. Bank shares, on the other hand, advanced from 171.2 to 176.6. Among sub-group changes, losses were greatest for textiles and clothing, oils, industrial mines, transportation and power and traction. Pulp and paper, beverages and communication issues were firmer.

(concluded on page 5)

Lower prices for both golds and base metals were reflected in a change in the composite index for 27 mining issues from 84.8 to 82.4 between October 29 and November 26. In the same interval the gold series declined from 61.6 to 59.1, while that for 5 base metals moved down from 137.8 to 135.9. (3)

Security Price Indexes

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>December 3, 1953</u>	<u>November 26, 1953</u>	<u>November 5, 1953</u>
Total Common Stocks	155.6	152.7	156.4
Industrials	154.7	151.4	155.7
Utilities	148.4	148.4	151.5
Banks	181.8	176.6	174.5
 <u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total Mining Stocks	82.8	82.4	85.0
Golds	58.8	59.1	61.5
Base Metals	137.7	135.9	138.7

ANNUAL INDUSTRY REPORTS

Fewer Firms Made Macaroni In 1952 The number of Canadian firms chiefly engaged in making macaroni, spaghetti, vermicelli, noodles and kindred products decreased for the second year in a row in 1952, numbering 13 at year's end against 15 in 1951, 18 in 1947. Employees numbered 558 compared with 571 in the preceding year and the peak of 726 in 1946, but salaries and wages rose to \$1,397,762 from \$1,259,310 in 1951.

Shipments of products were valued at \$8,536,320 last year as compared with a production value of \$8,064,035 in 1951. Some 66,775,308 pounds of macaroni and similar products were shipped as compared with a production of 67,371,352 pounds in the preceding year. (4)

No Steam, 226 Diesel Locomotives Manufactured In Canada Last Year As in 1951, production of railway locomotives in Canada was confined to the diesel-electric type last year, 226 of these being manufactured as compared with 267 in 1951. In 1950 there were 48 steam locomotives and 98 diesel-electric locomotives fabricated in this country. This information is contained in the Bureau's annual report on the railway rolling stock industry for 1952, which shows a drop of one to 36 plants in the industry last year, an eight per cent gain in employees to 36,084, a 15 per cent rise in payroll to \$108,318,766 (over the hundred-million-dollar mark for the first time), an 0.3 per cent advance in fuel and electricity costs to \$4,783,760, a three per cent increase in material costs to \$181,620,234, a 10.5 per cent boost in gross factory value of products to \$332,164,783, and a 22 per cent jump in net value of production to \$145,760,789. (5)

Fewer Bicycles Made Last Year Fewer bicycles were made in Canada in 1952 for the third year in a row, output dropping to 82,375 from 91,611 in 1951 to reach the lowest level since 1945 when 74,337 were produced. In the peak post-war year of 1949 there were 130,413 made. Factory selling value was \$2,837,859 last year, a drop from \$3,158,470 in 1951 and the lowest figure since 1947.

For the bicycle manufacturing industry 1952 was a year of decline except for the number of plants, which increased from seven to nine. Employees numbered only 932, 12 per cent less than the 1,054 employed in 1951; salaries and wages fell 2.5 per cent to \$2,843,674 from \$2,916,941; the cost of electricity was 16 per cent lower at \$126,836 against \$151,170; material costs dropped 23 per cent to \$3,255,112 from \$4,224,024; and gross factory value of products, which ranged from bicycles and tricycles to ice skates and baby strollers, decrease 10 per cent to \$7,645,126 from \$8,496,915. (6)

M E R C H A N D I S I N G & S E R V I C E S

More New Cars, Fewer Trucks Sold In Canada This October

Canadians bought more new cars but fewer new trucks and other commercial vehicles this October. Total new motor vehicle sales for the month were 32,780 worth \$82,767,893 at retail, a 3.3 per cent drop in number from 33,889 last year and a 1.3 per cent drop in value from \$83,879,835.

There were 24,822 passenger cars sold, 1.5 per cent more than the 24,444 sold in October last year, and retail value was 2.1 per cent higher at \$61,282,687 against \$60,016,896. Sales of commercial vehicles were down 15.7 per cent in number to 7,958 from 9,445 and 10 per cent in value to \$21,485,206 from \$23,862,939.

There were also fewer new motor vehicles financed this October, the number dropping 5.7 per cent to 15,325 from 16,252 last year, but the amount of financing was a slight 0.5 per cent higher at \$28,265,037 against \$28,124,851. Passenger cars financed numbered 11,928, up 1.1 per cent from 11,803, while amount of financing was 8.6 per cent greater at \$20,809,769 against \$19,162,738. Only 3,397 commercial vehicle sales were financed, a drop of 23.6 per cent from 4,449, and the amount of financing was 16.8 per cent lower at \$7,455,268 against \$8,962,113.

Fewer used cars and trucks were financed this October, the total number declining by 6.7 per cent in the year to 34,593 from 37,060, and the amount of financing by 5.4 per cent to \$28,609,036 from \$30,227,287. For used cars the drop in numbers financed was 5.5 per cent to 28,764 from 30,447, and the amount of financing was 3.1 per cent lower at \$23,600,897 against \$24,363,224. For used commercial vehicles it was 11.9 per cent in numbers to 5,829 from 6,613 and 14.6 per cent in amount to \$5,008,139 from \$5,864,063. (7)

Chain Store Sales Higher In October

Sales of six types of chain stores surveyed monthly by the Bureau were higher in October than in the same month last year. Month-end stocks were also higher in each of the six trades.

Percentagewise, sales gains over last year ranged from 2.9 per cent for shoe stores to 18 per cent for food stores. October sales, in thousands (1952 figure in brackets): food stores, \$72,233 (\$62,074); women's clothing stores, \$4,170 (\$3,883); shoe stores, \$3,526 (\$3,428); hardware stores, \$1,335 (\$1,294); drug stores, \$3,112 (\$2,992); variety stores, \$16,495 (\$15,944). Advances in month-end stocks over a year earlier ranged from 9.3 per cent for food chains to 37.6 per cent for hardware chains. Holdings in thousands: food stores, \$47,433 (\$43,403); women's clothing stores, \$10,833 (\$9,497); shoe stores, \$21,232 (\$18,791); hardware stores, \$5,985 (\$4,349); drug stores, \$8,933 (\$8,056); variety stores, \$53,358 (\$48,045). (8)

Department Store Sales In October Down 1.7 Per Cent From A Year Ago

Department store sales in October were estimated at \$97,267,000, down 1.7 per cent from a year earlier, but 11.5 per cent above September's estimated value. Selling value of stocks on hand at the end of September amounted to \$249,642,000, 19.4 per cent above the value of department store inventories held at the same time last year.

There were sales declines in October as compared with a year earlier in all areas except Alberta and British Columbia where the respective advances were 1.8 per cent and 10.9 per cent. The declines ranged from 0.4 per cent in Quebec to 7.2 per cent in the Atlantic Provinces. Area sales totals for October were as follows with last year's October values in brackets -- in thousands: Atlantic Provinces, \$7,403 (\$7,977); Quebec, \$17,596 (\$17,667); Ontario, \$31,544 (\$33,380); Manitoba, \$9,285 (\$9,836); Saskatchewan, \$6,068 (\$6,394); Alberta, \$9,927 (\$9,751); and British Columbia, \$15,444 (\$13,926). (9)

(concluded on page 7)

Department Store Sales
Off 5.6 Per Cent In Week

Department store sales declined 5.6 per cent during the week ending November 29 as compared with a year earlier, according to the Bureau's weekly release. Sales were down in all sections. The drop in the Maritimes was 10.1 per cent, Quebec 2.2 per cent, Ontario 5.2 per cent, Manitoba 7.2 per cent, Saskatchewan 9.5 per cent, Alberta 8.9 per cent, and British Columbia 3.3 per cent.

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MANUFACTURING

Motor Vehicle Shipments Took
Third Drop In Row In October

Motor vehicle shipments from Canadian factories dipped for the third straight time in October to 35,898 from 41,659 vehicles last year, but the 10-month total remained substantially above 1952's at 425,948 against 371,488, and indications were for a new record number of shipments this year.

Motor vehicle shipments from Canadian factories dipped for the third straight time in October to 35,898 from 41,659 vehicles last year, but the 10-month total remained substantially above 1952's at 425,948 against 371,488, and indications were for a new record number of shipments this year.

Shipments of Canadian passenger cars totalled 28,748 (5,198 for export) in October against 27,954 (4,943 for export) last year, while 10-month shipments were 317,955 (35,522 for export) against 243,386 (34,197 for export). Shipments of commercial vehicles were 7,150 (2,186 for export) against 13,705 (2,537 for export) in the month and 107,993 (18,217 for export) against 128,100 (30,728 for export) in the January-October period.

Shipments of imported U.S. vehicles were off to 671 from 1,445 in the month, but up to 24,466 from 15,067 in the 10 months. Preliminary returns indicate sales of European-made vehicles were off to 1,691 from 1,804 in the month and 26,103 from 26,636 in the January-October period. (10)

Shipments Of Gypsum Products
Up In October And Ten Months

Canadian factories made and shipped more gypsum products in October and the first 10 months this year than a year earlier, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported this week. Month-end stocks were higher this year for wallboard, lath and sheathing, but lower for block and tile and plasters.

Canadian factories made and shipped more gypsum products in October and the first 10 months this year than a year earlier, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported this week. Month-end stocks were higher this year for wallboard, lath and sheathing, but lower for block and tile and plasters.

October shipments (with 1952 figures in brackets) were: wallboard, 24,796,583 (23,176,563) square feet; lath, 23,284,518 (21,448,395) square feet; sheathing, 758,307 (563,806) square feet; block and tile, 32,617 (5,000) square feet; plasters, 22,881 (20,244) tons. Ten-month shipments: wallboard, 205,029,981 (184,412,535) square feet; lath, 228,183,382 (171,262,253) square feet; sheathing, 5,891,588 (4,324,745) square feet; block and tile, 124,337, (121,189) square feet; plasters, 210,630 (168,983) tons.

Month-end stocks were: wallboard, 5,380,467 (4,424,180) square feet; lath, 2,654,641 (1,945,467) square feet; sheathing, 568,820 (338,667) square feet; block and tile, 108,019 (118,992) square feet; plasters, 1,034 (1,204) tons. (11)

September Sales Of
Stoves And Furnaces

Producers' sales of stoves and furnaces in September were valued at \$7,124,320, slightly under last year's corresponding total of \$7,191,036, according to the Bureau's monthly report. Sales of warm air furnaces rose to 12,672 units valued at \$2,366,283 from last year's September sales of 12,900 units valued at \$2,186,524.

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January-September sales of stoves and furnaces advanced in value to \$46,025,243 from last year's \$38,273,128. Warm air furnace sales increased to 56,074 units valued at \$10,524,751 as compared with 49,840 valued at \$8,482,859 in the nine months of 1952. (12)

Sales Of Electric Storage
Batteries Off In October

Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers in October were valued at \$2,370,000, slightly under last year's corresponding total of \$2,531,000. Sales in the January-October period aggregated \$17,205,000 as compared with \$17,547,000 at the same time last year. (13)

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MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

Alberta Again Outranked Ontario As Most Mobile Province In 1952 Alberta outranked Ontario as Canada's most mobile province for the fourth straight time last year with 10 motor vehicles for every 33 citizens, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics discloses in its annual publication The Motor Vehicle. Ontario, in top spot until 1949, had 10 for every 37 persons.

The province with the highest proportion of farm dwellers among its rural residents (over 69 per cent), Alberta's edge was in trucks and tractors. Ontario still led in the passenger car field with 10 for every 47 citizens, Alberta and British Columbia tying for second place with 10 for every 51.

Newfoundland still had the fewest motor vehicles per capita in 1952--10 for every 158 persons. There were 10 motor vehicles for every 180 Newfoundlanders in 1951, for every 214 in 1950, for every 257 in 1949. The same rapid change was evident for passenger cars alone -- 10 for every 235 in 1952, for every 268 in 1951, for every 322 in 1950, for every 399 in 1949. As to the other provinces, in 1952 there were 10 motor vehicles for every 36 persons in Saskatchewan, for every 37 in British Columbia, for every 42 in Manitoba, for every 55 in Prince Edward Island, for every 57 in Nova Scotia, for every 59 in New Brunswick, and for every 73 in Quebec. The Yukon and Northwest Territories had 10 motor vehicles for every 61 residents.

During the year the population per motor vehicle decreased in all parts of the country, total registrations increasing by 10 per cent to a record 3,155,824 from 2,872,420 in 1951. There were more of all kinds of vehicles in use except motor cycles, which dropped in number for the second year in a row to 42,085 from 43,189 in 1951 and 43,670 in 1950. There were still more motor cycles registered than in any year prior to 1950, however, and nearly two and a half times as many as in 1946. Total motor vehicle registrations were a little less than double the 1946 total.

To further add to the use of Canadian highways last year, the number of U.S. motor vehicles entering Canada increased by 328,520 or more than four per cent to 7,875,154.

Taxable gasoline consumption rose by one-eighth to 1,718,000,000 gallons from 1,529,000,000 in 1951 (total sales were up to 2,344,000,000 from 2,050,000,000), and tax revenues climbed over 10 per cent to \$196,885,566 from \$178,505,307. In all, provincial and territorial governments collected \$278,004,926 from motor vehicle operators (licences, taxes, fines), \$25,791,925 more than in the preceding year. However, these governments spent over \$293,000,000 on highways, roads and streets, almost \$31,000,000 more than they received from motorists. In addition, federal and municipal authorities spent more than \$106,000,000 on highways, roads and streets last year.

Last year for the first time gasoline taxes were collected in all parts of Canada, the Northwest Territories imposing a six-cents-a-gallon tax in April (it was cut to one cent a gallon in April this year). Alberta was the first province to obtain revenue from this source, initiating a tax of two cents a gallon in April of 1922 (in 1952 it was 10 cents a gallon). Present gasoline taxes range from the one-cent-per-gallon low of the Northwest Territories to a high of 15 cents in Nova Scotia.

The average motor vehicle operated in Canada in 1952 cost its owner a little over \$88 in operating taxes and licences, fractionally higher than in 1951 and \$3 more than in 1950. Costs were below the national average west of Quebec, with Manitoba having the lowest average at \$60. In the east, only Prince Edward Island's average of \$86 was under the national figure. The average was highest in Quebec at \$124. Other provinces: Newfoundland, \$111; Nova Scotia, \$109; New Brunswick, \$110; Ontario, \$80; Saskatchewan, \$70; Alberta, \$83; and British Columbia, \$77. The average for the Yukon and Northwest Territories was \$64, less than any province except Manitoba. (14)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Stocks & Marketings Of Wheat Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on November 25 totalled 338,124,000 bushels, slightly above the November 18 stocks of 336,667,000, but 38 per cent above last year's 245,038,000.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending November 25 dropped to 9,620,000 bushels from 12,445,000 a year earlier, while cumulative deliveries from the beginning of the crop year fell to 161,461,000 bushels from 204,651,000. Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week were off to 5,567,000 bushels from 8,462,000, and cumulative clearances were down to 81,212,000 bushels from 102,665,000.

The week's deliveries of coarse grains from farms in the Prairie Provinces were lower than a year earlier. Deliveries of oats were down to 1,733,000 bushels from 1,994,000, barley to 2,171,000 bushels from 3,484,000, rye to 123,000 bushels from 346,000, and flax-seed to 78,000 bushels from 162,000. (15)

Wheat Flour Output Lower This October Canadian mills turned out 1,909,488 barrels of wheat flour in October, a drop from 2,300,445 last year. Total output in the first quarter of the current crop year was 5,075,810 barrels, almost 1,300,000 below a year earlier. During the month 8,420,739 bushels of wheat were milled for flour as compared with 10,328,817 last year, the total including 987,439 as against 491,678 bushels of Ontario winter wheat. For the August-October period of the current crop year the milled wheat total was 22,459,043 bushels, an appreciable drop from the 28,739,850 milled in the same three months last year. Stocks of wheat in mill bins at the end of October this year comprised 3,024,242 bushels for flour and 119,779 bushels of feed wheat. (16)

Landings And Values Of Sea-Fish Up In October Canada's coastal fishermen landed 155,029,000 pounds of sea-fish worth \$4,818,000 this October, a jump of 139.5 per cent in quantity and 38.4 per cent in value over the 64,731,000 pounds worth \$3,481,000 that were landed in October last year when striking net fishermen curtailed Pacific Coast operations. The October gain, however, was not large enough to offset losses in other months this year, with the result that in the first 10 months the catch was down 11.4 per cent in quantity to 978,810,000 from 1,104,923,000 pounds and 1.6 per cent in value to \$56,664,000 from \$57,609,000.

Atlantic Coast fishermen took less in both the month and the January-October period. October landings were down 5.6 per cent in volume to 41,812,000 from 44,311,000 pounds and 16.3 per cent in value to \$1,551,000 from \$1,854,000. The 10-month catch was 13.2 per cent smaller this year at 627,036,000 against 722,253,000 pounds and one per cent less valuable at \$29,075,000 against \$29,372,000.

While the October Pacific Coast catch of 113,217,000 pounds worth \$3,267,000 can not be compared with 1952's 20,420,000 pounds worth \$1,627,000 because of last year's strike, this October's herring catch (84,081,000 pounds) is the biggest on record for any month. In the 10-month period this year Pacific Coast landings were off to 351,774,000 from 382,670,000 pounds, while value was down to \$27,589,000 from \$28,237,000. (17)

Stocks Of Canned Meats Stocks of canned meats held at manufacturers' and wholesalers' levels on November 1 amounted to 62,352,342 pounds as compared with 64,585,394 pounds on October 1. Holdings were as follows by kinds, totals for October 1 being in brackets: beef products -- beef stews and boiled dinners, 2,450,454 (1,988,518) pounds; roast beef, 84,293 (81,318); corned beef, 821,540 (966,287); other beef products, 1,300,573 (1,237,731). Pork products -- spiced pork and ham, 53,925,477 (57,242,494) pounds; roast pork and ham, 769,297 (274,110); other pork products, 1,393,500 (1,327,663). Miscellaneous -- canned fowl, 527,390 (376,981) pounds; meat paste, 797,219 (742,359); and other; 282,599 (347,933) pounds.

EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments Increased In October Unemployment insurance benefit payments climbed in October to \$7,603,667 from September's \$6,739,427 and last year's October total of \$5,710,740. At the same time the number of days from which compensation was paid rose to 2,506,254 from 2,230,702 in the preceding month and 1,932,994 a year ago.

The month's total of initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance benefit increased to 123,177 from 85,623 in September and 87,957 at the same time last year. During October, 65,980 persons commenced the receipt of benefit payments, up from September's 55,802, and last year's October number of 50,848. Ordinary claimants on the live unemployment register at the end of October numbered 153,604 as compared with 119,381 a month earlier and 111,539 a year ago.

Increases were recorded in October in the number of initial and renewal claims in all provinces as compared with a year earlier. Totals follow, those for October, 1952 being in brackets: Newfoundland, 1,907 (1,219); Prince Edward Island, 466 (268); Nova Scotia, 6,500 (5,995); New Brunswick, 5,242 (3,892); Quebec, 37,819 (26,569); Ontario, 44,751 (32,512); Manitoba, 4,827 (3,422); Saskatchewan, 1,259 (900); Alberta, 4,009 (2,144); British Columbia, 16,397 (11,036). (18)

MINING

Asbestos Shipments Lower This October Canadian mines shipped 80,713 tons of asbestos this October, a drop from 89,405 last year. Ten-month shipments were down to 762,862 from 781,581 tons. Exports were lower in both periods, the month's 77,353 tons falling short of the 78,082 exported last year, and the cumulative total showing a drop of 725,871 from 743,603 tons. (19)

Salt Shipments In October Shipments of dry common salt by Canadian producers amounted to 45,046 tons in October as compared with 45,960 in the preceding month and 59,388 last year. Ten-month total was 407,697 tons against 437,546 in 1952. (20)

Production Of Nickel, Copper, Lead, Zinc And Silver Up In Nine-Months Canadian production of nickel, copper, lead, zinc and silver increased in the first nine months of this year compared with a year earlier. Production was as follows with last year's figures in brackets: nickel, 105,892 (105,590) tons; copper, 199,205 (193,272) tons; lead, 139,610 (120,072) tons; zinc, 303,041 (275,006) tons; and silver, 21,407,701 (18,374,353) fine ounces. (21 & 22)

Gold Production Lower In September Canadian production of gold in September declined to 334,448 fine ounces from 383,221 last year, bringing the cumulative output for the first nine months to 3,235,496 fine ounces as compared with 3,289,269 in 1952.

Only in the Yukon and Northwest Territories were there production gains in October as compared with a year earlier. The month's output in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia dropped to 877 fine ounces from 905, Quebec to 76,510 fine ounces from 95,176, Ontario to 174,920 fine ounces from 206,638, Prairie Provinces to 18,359 fine ounces from 20,078, and British Columbia to 21,880 fine ounces from 22,938. The Yukon's output rose to 17,128 fine ounces from 14,669, and the Northwest Territories' to 24,774 fine ounces from 22,817.

January-September output was lower in Ontario and the Prairie Provinces, higher in other areas. Nine-month figures (with 1952 totals in brackets): Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, 8,661 (7,367) fine ounces, Quebec, 832,917 (832,257); Ontario, 1,761,788 (1,857,196); Prairie Provinces, 165,904 (174,164); British Columbia, 202,907 (201,547); Yukon, 44,978 (43,766); and Northwest Territories, 218,341 (172,972). (23)

TRANSPORT

Carloadings On Canadian Railways Also Lower In Last November Week

Carloadings on Canadian railways continued lower in the fourth week of November, the total for the last nine days of the month amounting to 91,950 cars, a decline of 3,288 or 3.5 per cent from the 95,238 cars loaded in the similar period last year. For the first time in nearly two months the loadings of grain were almost as high as those recorded one year ago.

Cumulative loadings in the first 11 months of 1953 were 3,693,944 cars, some 132,737 cars lower than the 1952 equivalent of 3,862,681 cars. Loadings in the East were down from 2,474,703 cars to 2,368,059; and in the West from 1,351,978 cars to 1,325,885. Revenue cars received from connections were down almost 100,000 cars from 1,597,490 in 1952 to 1,498,915 cars. (24)

Freight Traffic On Canadian Railways Increased In July

Canadian railways transported 14,201,657 tons of revenue freight in July, an increase of 1.2 per cent over last year's corresponding tonnage of 14,028,369. This brought the cumulative total for the first seven months of 1953 to 90,066,888 tons as compared with 92,350,413 in the like 1952 period.

July loadings at Canadian stations were slightly lower at 10,895,203 tons against 11,238,765 in the same month last year. In the interval, loadings of agricultural, animal, forest and manufactured and miscellaneous products were down, while those of mine products were slightly higher.

Imports during July amounted to 1,821,163 tons, a gain of 101,593 over the 1,719,570 received as imports in July, 1952. Intransit goods moved in greater volume, amounting to 1,485,291 tons as compared with 1,070,034 a year earlier when a steel strike in the U.S. had affected this traffic. (25)

BUSINESS & BANKING

Six Per Cent Increase In Value Of Cheques Cashed This October

Value of cheques cashed in 35 clearing centres across Canada was \$11,936,346,000 in October, six per cent above last year's October total of \$11,279,136,000, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported this week. For the first 10 months of 1953 the value was \$111,951,763,000, a 10 per cent increase from \$101,481,730,000 in 1952. All five economic areas contributed to the advances in both periods.

This year's 10-month value was nearly three and a half times the corresponding 1938 total, a little less than double the 1929 figure. The increases over these early years varied widely in the different economic areas, ranging from 282 per cent in Quebec to 501 per cent in British Columbia in the 1953-1938 comparison, and from 127 per cent in Quebec to 317 per cent in the Atlantic Provinces in the 1953-1929 comparison.

Compared with last year the 1953 October total was eight per cent higher in Quebec at \$3,370,116,000 against \$3,111,430,000, six per cent in Ontario at \$4,926,459,000 against \$4,659,217,000, 5.5 per cent in the Atlantic Provinces at \$285,191,000 against \$270,396,000, five per cent in the Prairie Provinces at \$2,382,262,000 against \$2,270,780,000, and 0.5 per cent in British Columbia at \$972,318,000 against \$967,313,000.

The 10-month total was higher than 1952's by 13 per cent in Ontario at \$48,193,908,000 against \$42,562,771,000, by over 11 per cent in the Atlantic Provinces at \$2,771,597,000 against \$2,491,680,000, by nearly 11 per cent in the Prairie Provinces at \$20,503,992,000 against \$18,526,308,000, by eight per cent in Quebec at \$30,955,073,000 against \$28,748,893,000, and by four per cent in British Columbia at \$111,951,763,000 against \$101,481,730,000. (26)

RELEASED THIS WEEK

(Publications are numbered similarly to news items to indicate source of letter)

- 1 - Sales & Purchases of Securities Between Canada & Other Countries, Sept., 10¢
- 2 - Monthly Report of Vital Statistics, Oct., 10¢
- 3 - Price Movements, Nov., 10¢
- 4 - Macaroni & Kindred Products Industry, 1952, 25¢
- 5 - Railway Rolling Stock Industry, 1952, 25¢
- 6 - Bicycle Manufacturing Industry, 1952, 25¢
- 7 - New Motor Vehicle Sales & Motor Vehicle Financing, Oct., 20¢
- 8 - Chain Store Sales & Stocks, Oct., 10¢
- 9 - Department Store Sales & Stocks, Oct., 10¢
- 10 - Motor Vehicle Shipments, Oct., 10¢
- 11 - M: Gypsum Products, Oct., 10¢
- 12 - M: Stoves & Furnaces, Sept., 10¢
- 13 - M: Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, Oct., 10¢
- 14 - The Motor Vehicle, 1952, 25¢
- 15 - M: Grain Statistics Weekly, 10¢
- 16 - M: Grain Milling Statistics, Oct., 10¢
- 17 - Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, Oct., 30¢
- 18 - Statistical Report on Operation of Unemployment Insurance Act, Oct., 25¢
- 19 - M: Asbestos, Oct., 10¢
- 20 - M: Salt, Oct., 10¢
- 21 - M: Copper & Nickel Production, Sept., 10¢
- 22 - M: Silver, Lead & Zinc Production, Sept., 10¢
- 23 - M: Gold Production, Sept., 10¢
- 24 - M: Carloadings on Canadian Railways, 10¢
- 25 - M: Monthly Traffic Report of Railways of Canada, July, 10¢
- 26 - Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, Oct., 10¢

M: Memorandum

Hotels: Three out of every five are located in either Quebec or Ontario.

Tanneries numbered 67 in 1952, a loss of 11 since 1946, 21 since 1938, 46 since 1919.

Pulp and Paper industry employed 57,803 in 1952, 512 more than in 1951.

Exports of gypsum totalled 2,764,819 tons in 1952, were nearly 208 times the import total of 13,316 tons.

Newsprint: Canada produced over half (54%) of the world output in 1952, supplied over four-fifths (83%) of world exports.

Forest fires destroyed nearly a third more timber in 1952 than in 1951 — a staggering 289,656,000 cubic feet.

Railway rolling stock industry had one less plant in 1952 (36), hired 8% more (36,084), boosted gross output value 10.5% to \$322,-164,783, net value 22% to \$145,760,789.

Motion Pictures: Three out of every four new feature films distributed during 1952 were Hollywood productions as compared with only 68% of the total in 1951.

Mental Illness: Latest figures reveal that 127 out of every 100,000 Canadians enter mental institutions each year, 94 of them for the first time.

Laundry, dry cleaning and dyeing business passed the hundred-million-dollar mark for the first time in 1952, receipts increasing 9% over 1951 to \$105,331,139.

Food: Sample surveys show families in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver spent an average \$6.78 per person per week on food in the first half of 1953, \$7.52 in the last four months of 1952.

Peaches: More 20, 28 ounce cans were packed in 1953 than in 1952, fewer of other sizes.

Rabbit pelt exports outnumber imports by nearly three to one.

Hotels increased by 85 during 1952, numbered 5,157 at year's end.

Railway: 15 cabooses worth \$293,548 (average: \$19,570 per car) were made in 1952, the first to be built in several years.

Motion Pictures: Average admission price to regular theatres was 45 cents in 1952, two cents more than in 1951.

Sand and gravel output was 102,895,545 tons in 1952, third new record in three years and two and a half times the 1946 output.

Forests of Canada contain 349,580,000,000 cubic feet of merchantable timber, of which 159,529,000,000 are accessible to commercial operations.

Travel: Some 45,551,000 persons crossed the Canada - U.S. border in 1952 via commercial non-railway bridges, tunnels and ferries, an increase of 1,894,000 over 1951.

Finance: Net direct and indirect provincial debt averaged \$218.33 per Canadian at the end of March 1952, an increase of \$13.37 per capita over a year earlier.

Newsprint output was at a new high for the seventh straight year in 1952 — 5,707,030 tons. This was more than double 1938's production, over five times 1922's.

Commercial failures under the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts totalled 1,127 in the first three quarters of 1953, 37 less than in 1952. However, estimated liabilities were 7% higher at \$23,943,000.



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