



D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA



Vol. 21 -- No. 52

Thursday, December 24, 1953 \$2.00 a year

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT in the third quarter of this year was at an annual rate of \$24.2 billion, substantially the same as in the second quarter. (Page 1)

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT and payrolls indexes were at all-time peaks at the start of October; average weekly earnings were also up. (Page 3)

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES were off 0.4 per cent in the week ended December 12 as compared with last year... RETAIL SALES showed a 5.4 per cent gain over 1952 in both October and the 10 months. (Page 6)

BIRTH REGISTRATIONS were up four per cent in the first 11 months, DEATHS three per cent, MARRIAGES five per cent. (Page 5)

FOREIGN VEHICLE ENTRIES set a new November record this year at 99,192, topped last year by 13 per cent. Eleven-month gain: 10 per cent. (Page 7)

RAILWAY CARLOADINGS were down 7,075 cars from last year in the week ended December 14 to 71,787. The year's drop to date: 149,257 cars to 3,840,233, a loss of about three per cent. (Page 6)

GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT

Gross National Product At Annual Rate
Of \$24.2 Billion In Third Quarter Of 1953

Canada's gross national product in the third quarter of 1953 was at an annual rate of \$24.2 billion, substantially the same as in the

second quarter and somewhat higher than in the first quarter after seasonal adjustment. This stability in output has been accompanied by few shifts among major spending sectors. In the third quarter a levelling off in the total of consumer expenditure was offset by a strengthening of the investment sector, while the gap between exports and imports of goods and services (seasonally adjusted) narrowed as imports declined slightly.

On the income side the principal developments of the third quarter occurred in wages, salaries and supplementary labour income, investment income and accrued net income of farm operators from farm production. The stimulating effect of continued increases in real income during the past two years was noted in previous quarterly releases. These gains were associated with the growth of personal expenditure on consumer goods and services and the high level of personal savings. In the third quarter, however, wages, salaries and supplementary labour income, after seasonal adjustment, did not increase as heretofore, and were unchanged from the second quarter.

Corporation profits were down moderately from the second quarter, if seasonal factors

(concluded on page 2)

are taken into account, and were also down from the third quarter of last year. Thus total investment income, (which in addition to profits, includes interest, dividends and rents) dropped from \$3.8 billion in the second quarter to \$3.5 billion in the third. Accrued net income of farm operators from farm production was down 8% from the third quarter last year. The first and second quarters were also lower, and the decline in the nine months was about 13 per cent.

Personal expenditure on consumer goods and services (seasonally adjusted) was at an annual rate of \$14.9 billion in the third quarter, substantially unchanged from the second quarter. The volume of durable goods purchases was running at a level nearly 10% above a year earlier. In non-durable goods, while prices have declined somewhat, there has been a more than offsetting increase in volume of purchases, resulting in a 2 per cent increase in value over last year in the third quarter. Services were subject to continued price increases and value went up accordingly, but there was very little change in volume. In the nine months total consumer expenditure was up 6 per cent in both value and volume. Government expenditure on goods and services in the third quarter amounted to \$1.2 billion, about 8% above last year. This increase was split evenly between price and volume. Federal defence expenditure was the principal item in the advance.

The level of new residential construction continued high in the third quarter at 25 per cent above last year, almost entirely accounted for by volume gains. On a seasonally adjusted basis this component was about the same as in the first and second quarters of this year, both of which were very much above the relatively low level of the first half of 1952.

Investment in new non-residential construction was 10 per cent above last year in the third quarter, but as there were some price increases the volume gain was only 5 per cent. New machinery and equipment purchases were up about 6 per cent in value and 4 per cent in volume. The seasonally adjusted value data show increases between the second and third quarters for both non-residential construction and machinery and equipment. Book value of business inventories continued to show a positive accumulation in the third quarter. Volume changes were of comparable magnitude, as there was very little price change for inventories in general. Changes in all business stocks, from a year ago, were in proportion to the increases in non-farm output of goods and services.

Seasonally adjusted data on imports of goods and services show a small decline between the second and third quarters while exports of goods and services increased fractionally, narrowing the deficit in the third quarter. High levels of personal income in the third quarter were reflected in a continued high level of personal saving, which amounted to \$1.4 billion (seasonally adjusted at annual rates). If farm inventory changes are excluded, the above figure becomes \$1.6 billion, about 10 per cent of disposable income exclusive of farm inventory changes.

In the first nine months of 1953 the volume of output of goods and services (farm and non-farm) was 4 per cent above last year. However, in the third quarter production showed a smaller increment than the gains of preceding quarters, amounting to only 1 per cent. This reflects in part the fact that output in the last half of 1952 was at a very high level, and also the fact that farm output in the third quarter of this year has been smaller than last year. The gain in production volume in the non-farm sector was considerably greater in the third quarter than is suggested by the one per cent overall increase. Available evidence suggests that with agricultural output removed, the gain in production volume was about 4 per cent over last year, compared with a gain of about 6 per cent in the first and second quarters. (1)

D. B. S. NEWS NOTES

Bread: Average bakery selling price in 1952 was lowest in Quebec at 10.1 cents a pound, highest in Prince Edward Island at 12.1.

Muskrat pelts imported during the 1951-52 season numbered 2,442,969 worth \$3,776,563 against exports of 1,415,978 at \$2,623,789.

EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

Employment And Payrolls Indexes
At New High Levels At October 1

Canada's industrial employment and payrolls indexes rose to all-time peaks at the beginning of October, and average weekly earnings continued to climb. The industrial employment index, on the 1949 base, was 116.8 against 116.6 a month earlier and 116.4 last year, and the payrolls index was 158.5 against 157.0 and 143.9.

Employment in manufacturing was quieter at the beginning of October, the index falling 0.3 per cent from September 1, although slightly higher than last year. There was a further small improvement in non-durable manufactured goods, and a decline of 0.8 per cent in the personnel of factories turning out durable goods. In the last 12 months employment in the latter has risen by 1.9 per cent, while there has been no general change in the former. Further curtailment due to industrial disputes took place in metallic ore mining. There was an increase of two per cent in employment in coal mining, but the general index in mining fell 3.2 per cent in the month and 8.5 per cent in the year. There was also a loss of 3.2 per cent from September 1 in construction.

The transportation, storage and communication and public utilities industries showed reductions of 0.8 per cent and 2.5 per cent, respectively. Logging operators increased their staffs by 24.9 per cent. Trading establishments reported a seasonal increase of 2.2 per cent, and employment in finance, insurance and real estate rose 0.9 per cent. (2)

MANUFACTURING

Fewer Domestic Electric Refrigerators
And Washing Machines Made This October

Production of both domestic electric refrigerators and domestic washing machines declined in October compared with last year. The drop in refrigerator output was particularly sharp. However, gains in earlier months raised 10-month outputs of both appliances above last year's levels.

October output of electric refrigerators was 15,224 against 27,787 last year, bringing the 10-month total to 244,556 against 191,460. Production of washing machines in October was 23,367 against 26,329, while 10-month output totalled 217,176 against 197,009. Factory stocks of refrigerators at month's end were 33,747 against 19,609 last year, while stocks of washing machines were 25,913 against 18,655. (3 & 4)

Hard Board Production, domestic shipments, and export shipments of hard board all declined in November compared with last year, but 11-month totals were higher. November output was 10,273,391 square feet (12,703,948 last year); domestic shipments, 8,116,515 (9,174,052); and export shipments, 1,673,871 (4,427,255). Eleven-month production totalled 145,660,604 square feet (136,663,880); domestic shipments, 107,717,373 (92,570,941); and export shipments, 36,450,641 (33,968,576). (5)

Steel Shapes Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 260,115 net tons in September compared with 251,409 in August and 246,591 last year. Producers interchanged 122,137 tons in the month compared with 118,658 in the preceding month and 134,778 last year.

September shipments included 6,042 tons of semi-finished shapes, 15,631 of structurals, 16,986 of plates, 26,228 of rails, 5,290 of tie plates and track material, 37,125 of hot rolled bars, 19,547 of pipes and tubes, 23,515 of wire rods, 41,917 of black sheets, 9,283 of galvanized sheets, 7,432 of castings, and 51,119 of other rolled products. (6)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Production Of Eggs Higher In November Estimated production of eggs in November was 29,900,000 dozen compared with October, 26,800,000 dozen and last year's 28,400,000 dozen. This brought the 11-month output to 316,200,000 dozen against 309,700,000 dozen last year. (7)

Stocks Of Creamery Butter In Nine Cities Of Canada Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on December 17 totalled 53,898,000 pounds as against 39,927,000 last year. Holdings, in thousands by cities (totals for last year in brackets) were: Quebec, 3,570 (2,649) pounds; Montreal, 26,326 (18,429); Toronto, 10,947 (7,571); Winnipeg, 8,454 (5,791); Regina, 817 (821); Saskatoon, 177 (385); Edmonton, 1,483 (1,402); Calgary, 579 (509); and Vancouver, 1,545 (2,370).

Consumption Of Bakers' Bread Increased in 1952 Canadians consumed a record 1,523,882,000 pounds of bakers' bread in 1952, seven per cent more than 1951's 1,419,250,000 pounds. Per capita consumption increased to 105.6 pounds from 101.3 in 1951, but was under the 1946 high of 111.9 and 1949's 110.4. Value of bread consumed in 1952 was \$161,553,000, up from \$149,482,000 in 1951.

Factory selling value of all products manufactured by the industry in 1952 climbed to \$260,181,000 from \$245,288,000. Among principal products, the value of bread was \$161,343,000; pies, cakes, cookies and pastries, \$62,171,000; fruit buns and yeast raised sweet goods, \$14,534,000; plain rolls and buns, \$10,377,000; doughnuts, \$7,864,000; and plain and fancy biscuits, \$236,000. Wholesale sales accounted for 56.3 per cent of the industry's sales compared with 57.1 per cent in 1951, retail house-to-house sales for 25.5 per cent compared with 24.4 and retail sales through their own stores for 18.2 per cent as compared with 18.5. (8)

Sales Of Refined Sugar Up Slightly In November Refinery sales of refined cane and beet sugar were slightly higher this November, totalling 117,207,000 pounds against 108,044,000 last year. Sales in January-November were also moderately higher at 1,303,876,000 pounds against 1,281,851,000.

Refined sugar manufactured in November declined to 218,092,000 pounds from 233,086,000 last year, bringing the 11-month total to 1,249,955,000 against 1,280,454,000. Stocks at month's end were down to 287,628,000 pounds from 311,108,000. Meltings and sales of raw cane sugar in November declined to 107,866,000 pounds from 111,057,000, bringing the cumulative total to 1,063,925,000 against 1,070,686,000. Refinery stocks November's end were 156,212,000 pounds against 187,523,000. (9)

P R I C E S

Security Price Indexes

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>December 17, 1953</u>	<u>December 10, 1953</u> (1935-39=100)	<u>November 19, 1953</u>
Total Common Stocks	154.2	153.3	153.3
Industrials	153.3	152.1	152.1
Utilities	147.7	146.9	148.4
Banks	179.1	180.2	176.3
 <u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total Mining Stocks	79.5	79.7	83.5
Golds	57.1	57.6	59.6
Base Metals	130.7	130.3	138.2

VITAL STATISTICS

Births Increased Again In November; Deaths Declined

Continuing the trend of the last several months, births registered during November increased about four per cent over last year. Death registrations were lower, and marriages were higher than the normal seasonal trend of the last two years. January-November totals show gains of 3.8 per cent in births, 3.1 per cent in deaths and 4.6 per cent in marriages.

Birth registrations in November totalled 34,557 against 33,024 last year, with gains in all except Newfoundland and New Brunswick. Almost 377,000 were registered in January-November against 363,000 last year, and Alberta, British Columbia, Newfoundland and Ontario had increases higher than the national average while there were drops in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Deaths in November numbered 9,439 against 9,680, bringing the 11-month total to 116,641 against 113,123. There were increases in January-November in all except Prince Edward Island and Quebec, where the respective declines were five and 0.9 per cent. Marriages in November numbered 13,820 against 10,351, with Quebec, Ontario, and Alberta accounting for most of the increase. In the 11 months they totalled 123,275 against 117,845, with gains in all provinces except New Brunswick. (10)

HEALTH & WELFARE

Civil Servants Again Averaged Fewer Illness Days In 1952-53

Canada's civil servants were ill an average 9.1 days each during the 1952-53 fiscal year, more than half a day less than in 1951-52 when the average was 9.7 days, and a day and a half less than in 1950-51 when the average was 10.6 days. Until the recent three-day reduction brought about by the adoption of the five-day work week, civil servants were entitled to 18 days sick leave a year, of which eight could be taken without medical certificate for illnesses of three or less days duration.

Medically certified days of illness (including holidays) averaged 7.2 per civil servant in 1952-53 compared with 7.0 in 1951-52 and 7.8 in 1950-51. Casual sick leave (no medical certificate) averaged 1.9 days per employee against 2.7 in 1951-52 and 2.8 in 1950-51. Civil servants ill on medical certificates numbered 36,645 against 32,971 in 1951-52, about one-third of all civil servants in each year. Illnesses reported by medical certificate numbered 55,895 against 49,523, and the number of days of illness reported increased to 823,687.5 from 771,564.5.

Main causes were the same: diseases of the respiratory system accounted for 42.6 per cent of all illnesses in 1952-53 against 41.9 per cent in 1951-52, while diseases of the digestive system caused 14.2 against 14.1 per cent. Influenza remained the most common single disease, causing 22.4 against 19.5 per cent of the illnesses, and accounting for 9.9 against 8.9 per cent of the days lost.

Although there were more illnesses reported on medical certificates in 1952-53, these were generally of shorter duration than in the preceding year. Of the total, 25.2 against 24 per cent in 1951-52 lasted one to three days, 38.5 against 37, four to nine days; 24.5 against 26.2, 10 to 24 days; and 11.8 against 12.8, 30 or more days.

In general female illnesses were of shorter duration than male illnesses in both years. Average number of days per illness was 16.7 for males against 17.3 in 1951-52, while for females it was 11.9 against 13.1 days. About one-third of the females and one-fifth of the males absent on medical certificates in 1952-53 were ill from one to three days. (11)

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

Department Store Sales
Down Slightly In Week

Department store sales during the week ending December 12 were slightly lower than last year. All-Canada sales declined 0.4 per cent. Sales in Quebec were down 1.9 per cent, Ontario 0.6, Manitoba 2.3 and Saskatchewan 0.9. Alberta's sales showed no change, but the Maritimes had a rise of 0.6 per cent and British Columbia of 2.7

Retail Sales Increased 5.4 Per
Cent In October and 10 Months

Canadian retailers sold an estimated \$1,088,379,000 worth of merchandise in October, 9.4 per cent more than the preceding month's \$996,740,000, and 5.4 per cent more than last year's \$1,032,253,000. This brought 10-month sales to \$9,920,338,000, up 5.4 per cent from \$9,412,048,000 last year. All economic areas shared in the rise in both periods. Sales in the Atlantic Provinces rose 1.1 per cent in October and 6.6 per cent in the 10 months; Quebec, 5.3 and 5.2; Ontario, 7.4 and 5.9; Manitoba, 5.4 and 5.7; Saskatchewan, 3.7 and 8.9; Alberta, 3.1 and 4.8; and British Columbia, 5.0 and 3.4 per cent.

Among trades, largest percentage increase in October was in appliance and radio stores (21.1 per cent), followed by grocery and combination stores (10.0), and jewellery stores (8.2). Sales of meat stores advanced 7.7 per cent, motor vehicle dealers 7.1, hardware stores 6.3, lumber and building material dealers 6.0, garages and filling stations 5.5, tobacco stores 5.5, and drug stores 5.3. Most notable declines were shown by fuel dealers (14 per cent) and family clothing stores (5.8). In the 10 months, sales of grocery and combination stores rose 4.3 per cent; meat stores, 3.3; department stores, 3.6; variety stores, 5.9; motor vehicle dealers, 9.9; garages and filling stations, 7.8; women's clothing stores, 4.0; shoe stores, 2.9; hardware stores, 6.9; lumber and building material dealers, 11.6; furniture stores, 4.7; appliance and radio stores, 12.5; drug stores, 3.4; jewellery stores, 5.7; and tobacco stores, 6.9. There were 10-month declines of 2.3 per cent for general stores and men's clothing stores, 1.9 for restaurants and 8.2 for fuel dealers. (12)

T R A N S P O R T

Railway Carloadings

Canadian railway carloadings during the week ended December 14 totalled 71,787 cars, 7,075 fewer than a year earlier. Receipts from connections fell 2,622 cars to 27,994. Cumulative loadings to December 14 aggregated 3,840,233 cars against 3,989,490 in 1952. Grain shipments in the week were down 1,939 cars to 10,299; pig iron and steel, 534 to 110; pulpwood, 997 to 2,120; and L.C.L. loadings, 1,328 to 14,688. Other commodities moving in considerably smaller amounts were livestock, coke, iron and steel products, crude petroleum, gasoline, fuel oil, logs, lumber, and agricultural implements. Improved loadings were shown for building sand, cement, and automobiles and parts. (13)

Railway Freight Movement

The total of 13,441,435 tons of revenue freight moved by Canadian railways in August was just 4,088 tons less than the 13,445,523 carried last year. Grains led a drop of 424,723 tons in the amount of agricultural products moved, which totalled 2,960,511 tons. A gain of 33,375 tons brought the animal products group total to 153,302 tons, while a 165,369 ton rise in mine products made that total 4,864,153 tons. Forest products were down 35,484 tons to 1,466,558, but the manufactures and miscellaneous group, led by cement and L.C.L. shipments, gained 257,375 tons to 3,996,911. Tonnage of revenue freight moved in January-August totalled 103,508,323 tons, down 2,287,613 from 1952. Increased tonnage of agricultural and manufactures and miscellaneous products, led by wheat and automobiles and parts, was more than offset by an 18.5 per cent drop in forest products, and a smaller decline in shipments of mine products. Leading these declines were coal and coke and pulpwood. (14)

T R A V E L

Record Number Of Foreign
Vehicle Entries In November

Foreign vehicles entering Canada on traveller's vehicle permits set a new November record of 99,192 this year, 13 per cent above a year earlier. Entries were 10 per cent more numerous in the first 11 months this year at 2,428,726. All provinces shared in both increases. Distribution of November entries was: Ontario, 50,884 (45,313 last year); Quebec, 19,913 (18,385); British Columbia, 14,310 (12,727); New Brunswick, 9189 (7,798); Manitoba, 1,877 (1,490); Yukon, 1,151 (751); Saskatchewan, 915 (722); Alberta, 893 (805); Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, by ship, 60 (25). January-November entries: Ontario, 1,496,027 (1,330,325); Quebec, 596,328 (381,800); British Columbia, 270,634 (251,089); New Brunswick, 152,728 (144,840); Alberta, 43,763 (41,952); Manitoba, 38,440 (36,799); Saskatchewan, 20,513 (18,689); Yukon, 7,641 (6,752); Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, by ship, 2,652 (2,235). (15)

R E L A S E D T H I S W E E K

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

- 1- National Accounts, Income & Expenditure, Third Quarter, 1953, 25¢
- 2- Employment & Payrolls, Oct., 25¢
- Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings, Oct., 25¢ (Summarized in Bulletin of Dec. 18)
- 3- Ms Domestic Washing Machines, Oct., 10¢
- 4- Ms Domestic Electric Refrigerators, Oct., 10¢
- 5- Ms Hard Board, Nov., 10¢
- 6- Primary Iron & Steel, Aug., 25¢; Sept., 25¢
- 7- Ms Poultry Estimates, Nov., 10¢
- 8- Bread & Other Bakery Products Industry, 1952, 25¢
- 9- The Sugar Situation, Nov., 10¢
- 10- Monthly Report of Vital Statistics, Nov., 10¢
- 11- Illness in the Civil Service, 1952-53, 50¢
- 12- Retail Trade, Oct., 25¢
- 13- Ms Railway Carloadings, Weekly, 10¢
- 14- Ms Monthly Traffic Report of Railways, Aug., 10¢
- 15- Ms Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Traveller's Vehicle Permits, Nov., 10¢
- Trade of Canada: Exports, Detailed Report, Oct., 50¢
Ms Memorandum

D. B. S. NEWS NOTES

Electric Irons: 433,745 were made in 1952, of which 54% were automatic, 21% were non-automatic and 25% were the steam type.

Advertising agencies did \$121,666,983 worth of business in 1952, 18% more than in 1951, two and a half times more than in 1946.

Corn Grits: Prepared breakfast foods industry used 13,283,380 pounds in 1952, nearly three times as much as in 1951.

Hotels: 11 had over 500 rooms in 1952, one less than in 1951. Quebec and Ontario each had four, British Columbia had two, Alberta had one. In 1951 Ontario had five.

Christmas tree light bulbs cost an average of five cents apiece at the factory.

Bread: Average weight of bakery loaf ranges from 15 ounces in British Columbia to as high as six pounds in some parts of Quebec.

Forests: Total 1952 drain is estimated at 4,334,819,000 cubic feet, 18% of which was caused by fires, insects and tree diseases.

Black Irish moss output tumbled to 296,000 pounds in 1951 from 1,602,000 in 1950.

Mental Institutions: Out of every 100,000 Canadians, 431 were patients at the end of 1951, one more than a year earlier but six less than in 1947.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010729454