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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX DIPPED to 115.5 at May 1 from 115.6 at April 1 as food and household operation costs lowered. Clothing prices were unchanged, but costs of shelter and other commodities and services rose. (Page 4)

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7% MORE NEW HOUSING UNITS were completed in April this year to put the number finished in the first four months 10% above last year. Starts, however, were down 12% in the month, 6.5% in January-April, and the number under construction at the end of April was up less than 1%. (Page 3)

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LABOUR INCOME INCREASED 2% in March and the first quarter this year, with quarter totals up in utilities, transportation, communication, storage, trade, finance and services, but down in primary industries, manufacturing and construction. Overall gain was result of higher per capita weekly earnings, which averaged \$59.06 at the end of March this year as compared with \$57.33 on the same date last year. (Page 11)

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60% LESS IRON ORE WAS SHIPPED from Canadian mines this April and the total for the first four months was 41% under last year. GOLD OUTPUT WAS DOWN 3% in March and 12% in the first quarter this year. (Page 10)

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32% MORE ELECTRIC REFRIGERATORS for home use were shipped this March, but the first-quarter total was down 8% from last year. (Page 6)

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COAST FISHERMEN CAUGHT 15% LESS sea-fish this April, but better prices and a larger proportion of the more valuable species in Atlantic seaboard landings raised the landed value 14% above last year. (Page 8)

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8% LESS WHEAT FLOUR WAS MILLED this April and total output in the first three-quarters of the current crop year was 12% lower than in the August-April period of 1952-53.

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78% MORE COMMERCIAL FAILURES were reported under the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts in the first quarter this year. The number was up in all industrial classifications and in all economic areas. (Page 10)

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RAILWAY OPERATING LOSS WAS TRIPLED this February when operating revenues dropped 7% below the 1953 level and operating expenses were reduced only 4%. CANAL TRAFFIC INCREASED OVER 6% last year to reach the largest volume since World War I days. (Page 12)

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Imports Showed Mixed Trends
In March And First Quarter

Canada's commodity purchases from the United States, the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries taken together were somewhat lower in value, and those from Latin America,

Europe and other foreign countries as a group somewhat higher in March and the first quarter this year than in 1953, according to final figures. Commodity-wise, imports of agricultural and vegetable products and wood and paper products were above last year, and purchases of fibres and textiles, iron, non-ferrous metals and non-metallic mineral products were smaller, both in the month and quarter, while those of animals and animal products, chemicals and miscellaneous commodities were larger in the month but smaller in the quarter.

Total value of commodity imports in March was \$353,000,000, just under 2% below last year's March total of \$360,100,000. Prices were fractionally higher this March, however, so that the volume was somewhat over 2% less. With substantial reductions in value in January and February, total value for the quarter decreased over 7% to \$925,900,000 from \$998,000,000 last year, while volume was down still more as prices were slightly higher in each month.

March imports from the United States were down moderately in value to \$269,975,000 from \$272,845,000 last year, but the quarter's imports fell sharply to \$690,104,000 from \$763,054,000. Since total exports to the United States showed smaller declines to \$205,200,000 in the month from \$206,400,000 and to \$537,100,000 in the quarter from \$574,900,000, the import balance with the United States was slightly smaller in the month at \$64,800,000 against \$66,500,000 last year and for the three months was down to \$152,900,000 from \$188,100,000.

Canada's purchases from the United States of agricultural and vegetable products, wood and paper products, non-ferrous products and miscellaneous commodities were higher in value both in March and the three months this year, but those of animals and animal products, fibres and textiles, iron and non-metallic minerals and products were lower. Largest decreases were in textiles, especially cotton, primary iron and steel and farm machinery, and non-metallic minerals and products, especially fuels. Imports of chemicals and allied products gained in March but were lower in the three months.

Purchases from the United Kingdom declined sharply in March to \$30,890,000 from \$37,568,000 last year, accounting for most of a drop in the quarter to \$88,219,000 from \$95,279,000. In contrast, total exports to the United Kingdom increased in the month to \$52,800,000 from \$38,800,000 last year and in the three months to \$135,900,000 from \$124,600,000. The export balance with the United Kingdom thus rose to \$21,900,000 for March compared to \$1,300,000 and to \$47,700,000 against \$29,400,000 for the quarter. Imports from the United Kingdom of all commodity groups were lower this March than last, with the textile and iron groups showing the greatest decreases. The fibres and textiles group accounted for most of the decrease in the quarter, when three groups were slightly higher than in 1953.

Total imports from Commonwealth countries declined in March to \$9,432,000 from \$10,937,000 last year and in the quarter to \$28,908,000 from \$29,230,000. Purchases were higher in the month and quarter, however, from the West Indies and Africa groups, and lower in both from Asian countries. March imports were down from Australia and New Zealand, while quarter totals were up for Australia and down for New Zealand.

Imports from Latin America increased in the month to \$24,987,000 from \$22,059,000 and in the quarter to \$70,198,000 from \$64,100,000; from Europe to \$12,436,000 in March from \$11,960,000 and to \$31,953,000 in the three months from \$31,124,000; and from the remaining foreign countries to \$4,820,000 in the month from \$4,225,000 and to \$14,548,000 in the quarter from \$13,528,000.

MORE

The following table shows the values of Canada's major commodity imports in March and the January-March period, together with corresponding 1953 totals, items being arranged in order of size for the latest quarter: (1 & 2)

	March		January-March	
	1953	1954	1953	1954
	(thousands of dollars)			
Non-farm machinery	35,884	36,768	95,607	92,119
Automobile parts	22,134	22,287	59,479	58,969
Petroleum, crude	18,202	18,214	53,597	52,478
Farm implements	22,165	16,341	55,975	34,515
Rolling-mill products	9,561	9,638	28,099	29,007
Engines and boilers	10,492	8,962	29,881	26,360
Aircraft and parts	8,374	9,004	25,665	21,873
Petroleum products, n.o.p.	7,171	6,365	23,551	21,551
Cotton products	10,071	8,275	28,769	21,119
Coal	7,676	6,341	24,107	20,517
Fruits	6,816	8,018	18,614	19,846
Automobiles	9,976	9,774	21,037	19,445
Coffee and chicory	5,665	6,646	14,716	18,781
Books and printed matter	5,717	5,866	15,645	16,346
Wool products	6,202	5,785	17,878	16,238

HOUSING

More Housing Units Completed In April & First Four Months After lagging behind last year in February and March, completions of new housing units picked up in April with 6,774 ready for occupancy, 449 or 7% more than in 1953. January completions were up 36% and the four-month total of 27,101 was 2,384 or nearly 10% more than the number finished in January-April last year.

The number of new dwelling units started, however, was down both in April and the four months, the April total 12% to 8,692 from 9,902 and the January-April total 6.5% to 20,414 from 21,832. Starts were up in February and March, but were lower in January. There were 52,978 units under construction at the end of April, 352 or less than 1% more than on the same date last year and 6,989 or over 13% less than on January 1. At the start of 1954 the number under construction was 4,278 or 8% higher than a year earlier.

More new housing units were started this April in the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and British Columbia, but fewer in Newfoundland, Ontario and the Prairie Provinces. April completions were fewer this year in the Prairie Provinces, but higher elsewhere. In the four-month period starts were up only in Prince Edward Island and Alberta, while completions were fewer in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec, but increased elsewhere. More were under construction at the end of April this year in Newfoundland, Ontario and British Columbia.

Fewer new residential dwelling units were completed in January-April this year in urban centres of less than 5,000 population and in rural non-farm areas, but more in rural farm areas and in urban communities of 5,000 and over. About 86% of the units completed in the first four months of 1954 were located in urban centres of 5,000 and over as compared with 79% of the January-April total last year.

Among the metropolitan areas, Quebec, Ottawa and Hull, Toronto, Windsor, Calgary and Victoria reported more starts and completions in the first four months this year, and more units under construction at the end of April. St. John's, Saint John, London, Winnipeg and Saskatoon had more completions but fewer starts and fewer under construction. Montreal, Regina and Vancouver had fewer starts but more completions and more under construction, while Halifax and Edmonton had fewer starts and completions but more under construction. Hamilton reported fewer starts and completions and fewer under construction.

P R I C E S

Consumer Price Index Off
Slightly At Start Of May

The consumer price index remained practically unchanged between April 1 and May 1, moving from 115.5. Foods declined from 110.4 to 110.2 as lower quotations for butter, eggs, bananas, oranges and some meat items were more than sufficient to offset increases for coffee, tea, processed cheese, apples, pork, beef and several fresh vegetables.

Due to advances in both the rent and home-ownership components, the shelter index changed from 125.6 to 125.8. Clothing remained unchanged at 109.9 as small mixed changes were reported for cotton and rayon items. The household operation group declined 0.7% to 117.3, due mainly to decreases in appliances, furniture and textiles and seasonally lower prices for coal. Increases were reported for linoleum, glassware, and ice, while mixed changes were noted for cleaning supplies. Other commodities and services moved up from 117.2 to 117.5, due principally to higher quotations for theatre admissions and hairdressing. Automobile tire prices were generally lower. (4)

Consumer Price Indexes (1949 = 100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities & Services
May 1, 1954	115.5	110.2	125.8	109.9	117.3	117.5
April 1, 1954	115.6	110.4	125.6	109.9	118.1	117.2
May 1, 1953	114.4	110.1	122.9	110.1	116.6	115.1

Wholesale Prices
Decreased In May

Industrial material prices at wholesale were slightly lower in May, the composite index for 30 commodities declining to 224.6 for the week of May 28 from 225.6 for the week of April 30. Eleven commodity price series moved down, led by linseed oil and beef hides and smaller declines in imported bituminous coal, western oats, raw rubber, tin, raw sugar, bleached sulphite pulp, iron ore, copper and western wheat. Increases over the same period were recorded for steers, hogs, domestic raw wool, African sisal, zinc and raw cotton.

Mainly reflecting strength in animal products, Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets advanced in the week of May 28 to 213.1 from 206.9 for the week of April 30. In the animal products sub-group higher prices for most live stock, raw wool, cheese milk in the east, and eggs in western Canada outweighed lower quotations for eastern and western milk, poultry and eggs in eastern Canada and butterfat in western Canada, to advance the series to 274.0 from 263.3. Field products moved up moderately to 152.3 from 150.5, reflecting strength in potatoes, tobacco and eastern barley and western rye and hay. Prices for western flax and eastern wheat and hay were lower. (4)

Security Prices
Advanced In May

Common stocks prices continued to advance in May and the investors' index rose to 182.0 in the week of May 27 from 176.5 in the week of April 29. Strength was concentrated in industrials and banks, the former series advancing to 183.7 from 177.6 and the latter to 210.2 from 197.2.

Utilities were weaker, the group index receding to 162.4 from 163.1. Sub-group index increases were registered for machinery and equipment, pulp and paper, milling, food and allied products, beverages, building materials, industrial mines and telephone stocks, while decreases occurred for textiles and clothing, transportation and power and traction.

Mining stocks registered no net change in May, the composite index for 27 representative issues standing at 90.0 for the week of May 27 after touching a mid-month low of 88.7. Golds were slightly easier, the index for this series receding from 65.7 to 64.2, but that for 5 base metals stiffened to 149.1 from 145.6. (4)

Security Price Indexes

	<u>June 3, 1954</u>	<u>May 27, 1954</u> 1935-39=100	<u>May 6, 1954</u>
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
Total Common Stocks	184.0	182.0	177.5
Industrials	184.8	183.7	178.7
Utilities	168.4	162.4	163.2
Banks	213.0	210.2	198.8
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total Mining Stocks	90.5	90.0	89.3
Golds	64.1	64.2	64.9
Base Metals	150.9	149.1	145.0

P O P U L A T I O N

Only One Out Of Four Women, One
Out Of Three Men Single In 1952

every five men a decade earlier.
by one-third.

Only one out of every four females and one out of every three males of 15 years and over were single in 1952 as compared with one out of every three women and two out of every five men a decade earlier. In the 10 years the number of married Canadians increased

There were 1,598,200 single males of 15 and over in the 10 provinces in 1952, some 86,100 or 5% fewer than in the nine provinces in 1942, and they represented 32 as against 39% of the total male population 15 years and over. Single females of 15 and over numbered 1,233,000, a decrease of 77,900 or 6% in the decade, and they represented 25 as against 32% of the total female population 15 years and over.

In the 10 years the number of married males increased by 773,700 or more than 31% to 3,245,300, and the number of married females by 810,500 or 34% to 3,217,600. The proportion of the male population of 15 years and over that were married was 64% in 1952, versus 57% in 1942 and the proportion of the female population of 15 years and over that were married was 65 versus 59%. Widowed and divorced males numbered 201,200 in 1952, some 22,900 or 13% more than a decade earlier, but they still represented about 4% of the total male population of 15 years and over. The number of widowed and divorced females rose by 119,000 or 32% to 489,900 in the 10 years and the proportion of the female population of 15 years and over increased to 10 from 9%.

Males under 15 years of age numbered 2,255,800 in 1952, a gain of 627,000 or 38% since 1942. Females under 15 increased by 578,000 or 36% to 2,164,000. All told, the male population of the 10 provinces numbered 7,300,500 in 1952, some 1,338,400 or over 22% more than the nine-province total of a decade earlier. In the same period the total female population increased by 1,429,600 or more than one-quarter to 7,104,500.

Although in the 10-year comparison the number of females increased more than the number of males, the reverse was true in the 1951-52 comparison. In 1952 the male population was 226,137 or 3.2% greater than in 1951 and the female population 194,534 or 2.8% greater. Single males increased by 115,383 or 3.1% and single females by 77,395 or 2.3%; married males by 108,804 or 3.5% and married females by 102,332 or 3.3%; widowed or divorced males by 1,950 or 1% and widowed or divorced females by 14,807 or 3.1%. Gains in both single male and single female populations occurred in 1952 in all age groups except 15-24 years, the number of single females of this age group showing a decrease that was more than offset by an increase in married females of 15-24 years. Married males and married females increased in number in all age groups, with the largest gains in the 25-44 years, and the number of widowed and divorced females increased in all except the 15-24 and 25-44 groups. (5)

MANUFACTURING

Refrigerator Shipments Up 32% In March, Down 8% In First 3 Months

Domestic shipments of household electric refrigerators were up 32% this March to 33,352 from 25,268 last year, but the first quarter total was down 8% to 63,513 from 69,111. Export shipments increased to 111 from 91 in the month but were off to 143 from 1,092 in the three months. March production rose to 25,619 from 24,640, but first-quarter output fell to 60,725 from 68,392. March-end factory stocks were up to 38,173 from 34,180 a year earlier.

Shipments were up this March in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia, but were down in other areas. In the first quarter, shipments were higher only in Alberta (5,016 versus 4,973 last year), the number in Newfoundland decreasing to 68 from 282, the Maritimes to 3,302 from 4,068, Quebec to 14,045 from 16,036, Ontario to 29,753 from 31,611, Manitoba to 3,650 from 4,018, Saskatchewan to 1,760 from 2,098, and British Columbia to 5,919 from 6,025. Factory shipments of individual home and farm freezers dropped to 583 in March from 688 last year, and first-quarter shipments were off to 1,508 from 1,675. March production was up to 609 from 582 but first-quarter output decreased to 1,714 from 1,941. March-end stocks advanced to 1,090 from 722 a year earlier. (6)

Refrigeration Sales Up Last Year

Factory sales of refrigeration equipment manufactured or assembled in Canada increased in value to \$71,271,069 in 1953 from \$65,039,355 the previous year. Sales of household mechanical refrigerators accounted for \$50,205,607 against \$49,005,858 in 1952. Home freezer sales were up to \$2,090,178 from \$1,286,675 and sales of domestic compressors and condensing units, to \$4,274,797 from \$2,301,505. Sales of ice cream cabinets amounted to \$1,756,264 (\$1,976,956 in 1952); beverage coolers, \$1,521,404 (\$1,376,612); display cases, normal temperature, \$1,486,770 (\$1,331,079); and commercial compressors and condensing units, \$1,378,552 (\$1,464,107). (7)

Steel Ingots

Steel ingot production in April amounted to 247,872 tons, down nearly 30% from 351,907 last year. Daily average was 8,262 against 11,730 tons. Four-month output was 1,037,639 tons, down 24% from 1,364,753. (8)

Wire Nails

Canadian producers made larger quantities of wire nails, steel wire, and wire rope, but a smaller amount of wire fencing in the first quarter this year. Output of wire nails amounted to 16,308 tons (13,408 a year earlier), steel wire, 61,002 (59,171), wire rope 3,862 (3,629), and wire fencing, 3,404 tons (3,706). (9)

More Gypsum Products

Production, shipments and month-end stocks of gypsum products were higher in April than a year earlier. Output of wallboard, lath, sheathing and block and tile totalled 51,691,409 square feet (43,379,228), shipments 47,206,601 (42,068,297) and month-end stocks 17,248,891 (10,332,099). Production of gypsum plasters totalled 18,368 tons (18,478), shipments 18,420 (18,632) and stocks 1,075 (977). (10)

Clay Products

Producers' sales of brick and sewer pipe were higher in value this February but there were declines in structural tile, drain tile, fireclay blocks and shapes, and pottery. Sales (last year's figures bracketed) were: building brick, \$1,164,000 (\$1,079,000); structural tile, \$255,000 (\$267,000); drain tile, \$57,000 (\$72,000); sewer pipe, \$199,000 (\$188,000); fireclay blocks and shapes, \$31,000 (\$35,000); and pottery, \$37,000 (\$48,000). (11)

Mineral Wool

Production of mineral wool in April comprised 9,684,000 square feet of batts (10,636,000 last year), and 473,000 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool (487,000). Shipments were 9,640,000 square feet of batts (10,299,000) and 546,000 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool (492,000). (12)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

All But B.C. Fruit Crops
In Good Condition In May

Fruit crops in all parts of Canada except British Columbia were in promising condition in May. Unseasonable frosts at the end of April and at the start of May in British Columbia caused considerable damage particularly to tender tree fruits in the interior and some damage to strawberries on the coast. In practically all fruit growing areas the 1954 season is about one week later than that of 1953.

Indications in May were that the strawberry crop in eastern Canada would at least match last year's, but that some reduction may occur in British Columbia. Raspberry canes were reported in favourable condition in May in Quebec, Ontario and the Lower Fraser Valley of British Columbia. Winter killing was reported in Nova Scotia but it is not expected to be more serious than usual. All varieties of sweet cherries blossomed heavily in Ontario and sour cherries had a prolonged bloom. Some frost damage was reported to both types. Frost damage to cherry blossoms on the west coast was considerable and a sizeable reduction is anticipated.

Apples came through the winter in good condition in eastern Canada and crop prospects were promising in May. In the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia frost damage was limited. Due to low temperatures, peach orchards in Ontario had a very prolonged blossom period, reaching full bloom by May 15 in the early areas. There is some fear that pollination may have been poor due to the cool weather. The cool weather in British Columbia is expected to result in somewhat smaller crops of peaches and apricots, but close to full crops of prunes and pears seemed likely in May. Pear orchards were in full heavy bloom by May 15 in most areas of western Ontario, but although pears appeared to have wintered well in eastern Ontario blossom prospects were varied. Grapes in western Ontario were in good condition with trimming completed, tying nearly finished and buds just breaking at the middle of May. (13)

Creamery Butter And Cheddar
Cheese Stocks Up On June 1

Creamery butter stocks in nine cities of Canada on June 1 totalled 35,781,000 pounds, steeply above last year's 24,033,000 pounds. At the same time, cheddar cheese stocks rose to 12,136,000 pounds from 10,171,000. Holdings of creamery butter by cities, with last year's totals in brackets, were as follows in thousands: Quebec, 3,400 (1,174); Montreal, 17,776 (10,279); Toronto, 6,501 (6,436); Winnipeg, 6,239 (3,488); Regina, 197 (716); Saskatoon, 258 (189); Edmonton, 458 (644); Calgary, 239 (247); and Vancouver, 713 (860). (14)

Wheat Flour Output
Reduced This April

Canadian flour mills produced 1,763,146 barrels of wheat flour during April, considerably below the 1,915,638 barrels milled in the same month last year. Total production in the August-April period of the current crop year was 15,730,047 barrels, down from 17,830,664 in the same months of 1952-53. During April 7,792,667 bushels of wheat were milled into flour as compared with 8,541,850 bushels in the same month last year. This brought the quantity of wheat used for flour in the August-April period of the current crop year to 69,504,490 bushels as compared with 79,855,108 in the same months of 1952-53. Stocks of wheat in mill bins at the close of April totalled 1,810,591 bushels of flour and 115,767 bushels of feed wheat. (15)

Wheat Stocks Still Up On May 26

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on May 26 totalled 341,564,000 bushels, almost unchanged from 341,605,000 a week earlier but far above last year's corresponding total of 256,753,000 bushels. Farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 3,954,000 bushels of wheat in the week ending May 26, considerably less than the 6,976,000 marketed in the corresponding week last year. Marketings of oats were down to 528,000 from 1,605,000 bushels, barley to 1,065,000 from 1,898,000 bushels, rye to 77,000 from 163,000 bushels, and flaxseed to 9,000 from 24,000 bushels. (16)

MORE

Rains Delay Seeding In Prairie Provinces

Rains over most parts of the Prairies have further delayed completion of seeding. Snow has also fallen in local areas of northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Many correspondents,

particularly in northern areas and in western Alberta, anticipate reductions in wheat acreage from earlier indicated levels, with corresponding increases in coarse grains, flaxseed and summerfallow.

Cold, showery weather during the past week has again retarded field work over most of Manitoba. The most seriously affected areas are the Red River, Interlake and northwestern regions. The situation elsewhere is not too alarming. When the weather improves, farmers are expected to work out the heavy weed growth, especially wild oats, and will likely proceed with the seeding of coarse grains and flax. Eighty per cent of the sugar beets has been planted while a somewhat smaller percentage of the other special crops has been seeded. Growth has been generally slow and the season is two weeks or more later than normal. A further reduction in wheat acreage is probable and other crops may not reach their anticipated acreage.

Seeding progress in Saskatchewan continues to show considerable variation. In areas adjacent to the Qu'Appelle Valley 65 per cent of the wheat is sown while in the region northward to the towns of Melfort and Hudson Bay the amount decreases to 25 per cent. Elsewhere, about 90 per cent of the intended wheat acreage has now been seeded. For the province as a whole, about 85 per cent of the wheat, 50 per cent of the coarse grains and 30 per cent of the flax has been sown. Recent rains have further delayed operations but, with favourable weather, seeding is expected to resume within the next few days.

The progress pattern of seeding operations in Alberta has shown little change during the past week. Medium to heavy rains have been quite general and heaviest in those areas where seeding operations are most backward, namely, in western and north-central regions. In these areas the delay in seeding is causing farmers considerable concern. Seeding, including the planting of special crops, is nearing completion in most parts of the southern section of the province and is well advanced in east-central regions. In the Peace River District progress has been good in the Berwyn and Fairview regions and fairly good around Grande Prairie and Beaverlodge. All nearly-seeded wheat is now showing and indicates good germination. However, growth of all crops has been slow due to cold weather. (17)

Smaller But More Valuable Sea-Fish Catch This April

Canada's coastal fishermen caught 64,221,000 pounds of sea-fish this April, 11,679,000 or 15% less than last year, but better prices and a larger proportion of the more valuable species raised the landed value \$376,000 or nearly 14% to \$3,143,000. Total catch in the first four months was 303,003,000 pounds worth \$9,929,000 versus 192,882,000 pounds worth \$8,564,000 last year.

On the Atlantic seaboard April landings were down 16% this year to 60,351,000 from 71,563,000 pounds, reductions in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Quebec outweighing increases in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Landed value was up 18% to \$2,866,000 from \$2,425,000, increases in Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia more than offsetting decreases in Prince Edward Island and Quebec. Mors cod, haddock, halibut, sardines, lobsters, clams and quahaugs were landed this April, but less herring and smelts. January-April catch on the Atlantic coast was 155,036,000 pounds worth \$7,495,000 versus 167,482,000 pounds valued at \$7,579,000 last year.

On the Pacific coast British Columbia fishermen hauled in 3,870,000 pounds of sea-fish worth \$277,000 this April, a decrease of 11% in quantity and 19% in value from last year's April catch of 4,337,000 pounds worth \$342,000. Considerably more grey cod, clams and oysters were landed this year, but appreciably less salmon, soles and herring. The four-month total was up to 147,967,000 pounds valued at \$2,434,000 from 25,400,000 pounds worth \$985,000. (18)

Processed Foods Canadian food processors manufactured larger quantities of baking powder, canned and dry macaroni, salted and roasted peanuts, peanut butter, pudding powders, prepared cake mixes, process cheese, roasted coffee and blended and packed tea in the first quarter of this year, but smaller quantities of plain and fancy biscuits, soda biscuits, chocolate bars, chocolate confectionery in bulk, and boxed and packaged chocolates.

Production of cocoa powder for sale, chewing gum, chocolate coatings for sale, sugar confectionery, marshmallows, maraschino cherries, jams, jellies and marmalades, baked beans, pickles and spirit vinegar increased, but production declines were shown for canned soups, canned infant and junior foods, ready-to-serve cereals, jelly powders, pie filling powders, salad dressing and mayonnaise, fresh yeast, and canned meats. Figures for some main processed food items in the first quarter follow with those for the same period of 1953 in brackets:

Biscuits & Confectionery: plain & fancy biscuits, 43,150,123 (45,898,025) pounds; soda biscuits, 12,912,161 (13,468,288) pounds; chewing gum, 3,726,875 (3,505,477) boxes; cocoa powder for sale, 2,190,603 (1,831,012) pounds; chocolate coatings for sale, 4,156,161 (3,893,527) pounds; chocolate bars, 12,056,296 (12,595,501) dozen; chocolate confectionery in bulk, 3,522,603 (3,689,889) pounds; boxed and packaged chocolates, 4,199,469 (4,878,946) pounds; sugar confectionery, 15,235,865 (14,714,955) pounds; penny goods, 792,458 (771,866) gross; and marshmallows, 1,337,697 (1,276,594) pounds.

Fruit & Vegetable Preparations: maraschino cherries, 659,946 (533,314) pounds; jams, 16,053,694 (15,158,775) pounds; jellies, 1,328,063 (1,269,089) pounds; marmalades, 5,995,998 (4,520,428) pounds; baked beans, 23,802,475 (16,985,515) pounds; pickles, 1,198,541 (1,135,587) pounds; canned soups, 4,138,465 (4,156,663) dozen cans; spirit vinegar, 1,946,694 (1,917,065) gallons; infant & junior foods, 7,355,491 (9,988,710) pounds.

Miscellaneous Foods: baking powder, 2,134,106 (1,550,026) pounds; ready-to-serve cereals, 18,033,935 (18,375,288) pounds; roasted coffee, 21,948,597 (20,573,559) pounds; dry macaroni, 19,965,008 (18,810,601) pounds; canned macaroni, 8,796,306 (8,306,171) pounds; salted & roasted peanuts, 4,685,891 (4,244,904) pounds; peanut butter, 6,578,186 (6,413,924) pounds; jelly powders, 3,180,742 (3,886,229) pounds; pie filling powders, 1,204,743 (1,473,000) pounds; pudding powders, 4,065,494 (2,434,118) pounds; prepared cake mixes, 9,688,666 (8,690,017) pounds; process cheese, 12,368,839 (11,666,692) pounds; salad dressing & mayonnaise, 5,240,020 (5,593,481) pounds; blended & packed tea, 12,011,289 (10,899,523) pounds; fresh yeast, 5,802,902 (5,921,168) pounds.

Canned Meat & Meat Products: ready dinners, 3,671,810 (3,353,637) pounds; spiced pork & spiced ham, 2,142,611 (6,301,394) pounds; roast pork & ham, 3,620,473 (5,815,611) pounds; chicken & turkey, 554,823 (399,242) pounds; meat paste, 1,053,390 (1,403,067) pounds; and weiners & beans, 431,091 (336,334) pounds. (19)

MINERALS

Output of Nine Of 16 Leading Minerals Upped This February Production of nine of Canada's 16 leading minerals was higher this February, but output in the first two months was lower than in 1953 for all but six. February output of cement increased to 1,186,065 from 1,179,271 barrels, clay products to \$1,803,870 from \$1,752,094, coal to 1,374,927 from 1,280,095 tons, gypsum to 191,925 from 166,196 tons, lime to 96,287 from 87,518 tons, natural gas to 11,369,029 from 9,245,963 M cubic feet, nickel to 11,795 from 10,612 tons, petroleum to 7,616,939 from 4,767,695 barrels and salt to 73,591 from 69,206 tons. Output was lower for asbestos at 61,629 versus 65,349 tons, copper at 18,370 versus 20,897 tons, gold at 310,657 versus 352,895 fine ounces, iron ore at 115,184 versus 221,523 tons, lead at 16,854 versus 16,888 tons, silver at 2,014,477 versus 2,255,113 fine ounces, and zinc at 24,926, versus 33,261 tons. Two-month production was higher for gypsum, lime, natural gas, nickel, petroleum and salt. (20)

Gold Production Reduced In
March & First 1954 Quarter

Gold production was lower in March and the first quarter of this year than a year earlier. The month's output amounted to 369,309 fine ounces as compared with 379,224, bringing the January-March total to 973,015 fine ounces as compared with 1,103,384.

The decline in the first quarter occurred in Eastern Canada where the combined output for Newfoundland and Nova Scotia fell to 2,161 fine ounces from 2,741, Quebec to 228,974 fine ounces from 289,830, and Ontario to 543,004 fine ounces from 622,019. In the Prairie Provinces there was a rise to 59,993 fine ounces from 59,009, British Columbia to 64,508 fine ounces from 63,007, Northwest Territories to 74,241 fine ounces from 66,769, and Yukon to 134 fine ounces from 94.

March production with last year's total in brackets, was as follows by provinces: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, 553 fine ounces (1,250); Quebec, 96,540 (100,118); Ontario 203,948 (212,227); Prairie Provinces, 20,343 (20,608); British Columbia, 21,815 (22,089); Northwest Territories, 26,078 (22,932); and Yukon, 32 (nil). (21)

Shipments Of Iron Ore
Down Sharply In April

Canadian mines shipped only 132,950 tons of iron ore this April, a sharp drop from the 323,193 shipped last year. Four-month shipments were off to 549,284 from 932,227 tons. April-end stocks were considerably higher at 1,942,270 versus 841,458 tons.

Both domestic shipments and export shipments were lower in April and the first four months of this year. Shipments to Canadian consumers slumped to 15,391 from 60,126 tons in the month and to 167,308 from 330,489 tons in the four months. Export shipments were reduced to 117,559 from 263,067 in April and to 381,976 from 601,738 tons in January-April.

The drop in shipments was common to both Ontario mines and producers in other provinces. Ontario shipments were off to 65,881 from 176,076 tons in the month and to 119,235 from 293,550 tons in the four months. Shipments from other provinces dropped to 67,069 from 147,117 tons in April and to 430,049 from 638,677 tons in the first four months. (22)

B U S I N E S S

78% Jump In Commercial Failures
In First Three Months This Year

There were 680 commercial failures under the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts in the first quarter this year, 298 or 78% more than in the first three months of 1953. The number was up in all industrial classifications and in all economic areas. Total liabilities reached an estimated \$17,660,000, close to two and one-half times last year's first-quarter total of \$7,151,000. Average liabilities per failure jumped 39% to \$26,000 from \$18,700. The figures do not include insolvencies under the Farmers' Creditors' Arrangement Act, the Companies' Creditors' Arrangement Act and the various provincial Bulk Sales Acts.

Failures in the trade sector, where the greatest number of business mortalities under the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts usually occur, more than doubled to 299 in the first three months of 1954 from 146 in the first quarter of 1953, and accounted for more than half the increase in total failures. Marked increases occurred in the clothing (36 versus 14), automobile (17 versus 6) and electric apparatus (23 versus 3) businesses. Bankruptcies of manufacturing establishments rose to 127 from 85 and insolvencies in the service field increased to 110 from 60. Failures in the construction business numbered 38 as against 25 last year.

Commercial failures in Quebec soared to 505 from 287 in the first quarter comparison and accounted for the major part of the increase in the national total. Ontario failures more than doubled to 104 from 49. In the Atlantic Provinces the number increased to 15 from 8, and in the four western provinces to 56 from 38. (23)

EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

March Labour Income Off From Canadian labour income for March is estimated at \$941,000,000, February, Above Year Earlier 000, down \$6,000,000 from February but \$17,000,000 or 2% higher than for March last year. The cumulative total for the first quarter is estimated at \$2,829,000,000, up \$57,000,000 or 2% over the 1953 first-quarter estimate of \$2,772,000,000.

Estimated income for the primary industry group declined \$4,000,000 in March from February, the decrease being attributable mainly to the curtailment of logging operations in central and eastern Canada. Total income in manufacturing was down \$1,000,000, and in the distributive trades by \$2,000,000.

The estimate for the finance and service group was up \$1,000,000 at \$227,000,000, while that for construction and also for supplementary labour income was unchanged. Compared with March last year, estimates were higher for primary industry, the distributive group, finance and services, and lower for manufacturing and construction.

Comparison of first-quarter totals show losses this year of 4% in the primary industries and in construction, and a decline of 1% in manufacturing, but advances of 3.5% for utilities, transportation, communication, storage and trade, and a gain of 8.5% for the finance and service group.

The moderate growth of labour income in the first quarter this year as compared to the first 1953 quarter, the Bureau reports, was accounted for entirely by advances in per capita weekly earnings. These averaged \$59.06 at the end of March last as compared with \$57.33 at the end of March, 1953. (24)

Hiring & Separation The customary seasonal relationships between hirings and separations Rates In Industry in certain industries were apparent during the two-year period from September, 1951, to August, 1953, according to the Bureau's semi-annual report, released this week.

From January to March, when the level of employment is normally stable and at a seasonal low, hirings and separations were in balance. Commencing in April and continuing through June, a rise in the level of employment was associated with an excess of hirings over separations. Equality of hirings and separations at a high level of employment was characteristic of the remaining late summer months and continued into the harvest season. This equality of hirings and separations, but associated with a somewhat lower level of employment, obtained during October and November, and was followed by a reduction of hirings in relation to separations in December.

Although seasonal fluctuations in hirings and separations are common to all industries, the incidence of seasonality is not uniform either between industries or industry sub-groups. Industries such as construction and forestry and logging exhibit much more extreme fluctuations in both hirings and separations than the total for all industries.

Within the manufacturing industry as a whole a similar situation exists. Such industry sub-groups as foods and beverages, wood products and to a somewhat lesser extent transportation equipment, are highly seasonal in their operations. Balanced against these are industry sub-groups such as printing and publishing, electrical apparatus and supplies, and tobacco and tobacco products which exhibit relatively stable patterns of hirings and separations.

Hirings and separations by regions also display seasonal patterns related to the economic characteristics of the region. In Ontario and Quebec, in which manufacturing occupies an important position, the scope of fluctuations in hirings and separations was less than in the Pacific and Atlantic regions where primary industries are relatively more important. (25)

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

Department Store Sales Declined 17% In Week

Department store sales declined 17% during the week ending May 29 as compared with the corresponding week last year. All provinces shared in the decrease. The drop in the Maritimes was 13.4%, Quebec 16.6%, Ontario 19.4%, Manitoba 10.9%, Saskatchewan 24.4%, Alberta 18.2%, and British Columbia 14.8%.

T R A N S P O R T

Railway Operating Loss Tripled This February

Operating revenues of 16 Canadian railways, including the C.N.R. and C.P.R., were 7% lower this February but operating expenses were reduced only 4%, tripling the operating loss to \$2,103,-275 from \$698,772 last year.

Freight revenues slumped to \$69,213,064 from \$74,888,441 and express revenues were off to \$3,070,221 from \$3,436,261. Passenger revenues improved slightly to \$5,496,851 from \$5,419,835 and mail revenues to \$1,180,259 from \$1,075,475. Other passenger train revenues were lower at \$780,047 versus \$846,228, water line revenues were fractionally higher at \$53,738 versus \$53,150, and all other revenues were down to \$4,290,373 from \$4,419,106. Total operating revenues were \$84,084,553 as compared with \$90,138,496 in February last year.

All operating expense accounts except general expenses were lower this February, the total decreasing to \$82,774,461 from \$86,385,004. Net operating revenue was reduced to \$1,310,092 from \$3,753,493, but improved balances of tax accruals, equipment rentals and joint facilities rentals held the increase in operating loss to \$1,404,503.

During the month the railways moved 11,534,409 tons of revenue freight, 8% less than a year earlier. Average haul was down to 389 from 404 miles mainly as a result of a greatly reduced movement of grain, and revenue ton mileage was 11% lower at 4,492,488,000 ton miles. Passengers transported numbered 2,266,066, a slight increase from 2,211,678 last year, and total passenger miles improved to 190,780,000 from 188,310,000. Loaded freight car miles dropped 8% to 162,817,827 miles and empty freight car miles 6% to 76,-381,741, indicating a slightly higher ratio of empty to loaded cars in trains. Employment was 5% or 9,208 persons lower this February at 185,101, and the payroll was down 4% or \$1,983,938 to \$50,180,671. The ratio of operating payroll to operating revenues rose to 55.5% from 53.8% and the ratio of operating expenses to operating revenues to 98.44% from 95.84%. (26)

Canal Traffic Set New Modern Record In 1953

Last year a modern record of 33,373,064 tons of freight was locked through Canada's 10 canal systems, 2,018,925 tons or over 6% more than in 1952, the Bureau reports in its annual review of canal statistics. Traffic on Canadian canals has not exceeded this amount since the construction of the American Davis and Sabine locks at Sault Ste. Marie during the first world war.

Increases were recorded for 29 of the 41 commodity groups, the most important of which were barley, oats, rye, wheat, petroleum, iron ore and iron and steel. The number of passengers carried and vessel passages also increased, passengers numbering 112,082 versus 104,125 and vessels 27,563 versus 26,322. Total vessel tonnage increased to 32,542,585 from 29,809,378 net tons.

The tonnage of freight locked through the Sault Ste. Marie canal amounted to 3,-389,409 tons, a gain of 93,986 or 3% over the 1952 total. Traffic at the Welland Ship canal rose to an all-time high of 19,542,150, an increase of 1,631,394 tons or over 9%. The St. Lawrence total advanced 2.5% to 10,081,199 tons from 9,836,395. (27)

Highway Construction Accelerated, But Motor Vehicles Still Increasing Faster Than Roads

Canadian expenditures on highways have risen steadily since the war but the number of motor vehicles per mile of surfaced road has increased even faster. Postwar outlay on highways had reached almost \$2,000,000,000 by the end of March last year, and of this amount more than \$1,100,000,000 was put into building new roads and reconstructing old ones. As a result, surfaced road mileage increased by nearly 50,000 miles to 181,306 miles at the end of 1952. However, the number of motor vehicles per mile of surfaced highway had climbed to 17.4 by 1952, even more than the 1928 predepression peak of 16.7.

More highway work was down in 1952 than in any other year, with reported expenditures outside cities, towns and villages of \$404,291,421, over one-fifth more than the \$334,584,262 spent on highways in 1951. Per capita expenditure increased to \$28 from \$24. Construction costs climbed to \$224,614,842 in 1952 from \$192,810,362 in 1951, and maintenance expenses to \$147,719,040 from \$127,790,354. The 10 provincial governments had total expenditures, including grants to rural municipalities, townships and counties, of \$350,248,566 as against \$287,934,225 in 1951, and federal government expenditures were up to \$25,034,650 from \$21,667,085.

More was spent on highways in 1952 in all parts of Canada except Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and the Territories. Expenditures in Ontario increased to \$132,521,717 from \$109,899,789, in Quebec to \$106,999,869 from \$85,167,443, in Alberta to \$49,482,592 from \$35,781,654, in British Columbia to \$40,017,068 from \$33,151,302, in Saskatchewan to \$18,213,225 from \$13,205,777, in New Brunswick to \$15,272,058 from \$13,366,147, in Manitoba to \$14,616,859 from \$12,131,238, and in Prince Edward Island to \$3,368,017 from \$3,201,073. Expenditures decreased in Nova Scotia to \$14,915,147 from \$16,841,065, in Newfoundland to \$5,078,599 from \$6,436,151, and in the Yukon and Northwest Territories to \$2,582,068 from \$3,676,962.

Per capita expenditures on highways were still highest in the territories despite a decline to \$103 from \$147. The figure remained at \$33 in Prince Edward Island, decreased to \$23 from \$26 in Nova Scotia and to \$14 from \$18 in Newfoundland, but increased to \$51 from \$38 in Alberta, to \$33 from \$28 in British Columbia, to \$29 from \$26 in New Brunswick, to \$28 from \$24 in Ontario, to \$26 from \$21 in Quebec, to \$22 from \$16 in Saskatchewan and to \$18 from \$16 in Manitoba.

Total highway mileages increased to 512,795 miles from 511,878 at the end of 1951. Mileage of earth roads decreased to 331,489 from 336,522 miles, while pavements and bituminous surfaces increased to 28,649 from 26,316 miles, and gravel, crushed stone and other surfaces to 152,657 from 149,040 miles. Surfaced roads accounted for 35.4% of all highways at the end of 1952 as compared with only 26.5% of the 1945 mileage. Paved highways represented 5.6% of the total as against 3.5% at the end of the war. (28)

ANNUAL INDUSTRY REPORTS

More Women's, Children's Clothing Shipped In 1952

Although the number of establishments in operation decreased to 1,017 from 1,068, shipments of the women's and children's factory clothing industries were valued at \$259,512,924 in 1952, a substantial increase over the 1951 output value of \$231,519,274. Plants in Montreal and Toronto produced 83% of the total as compared with 86% in 1951.

All sections reported production gains in 1952, the largest occurring in the children's clothing division with shipments valued at \$42,071,853, up \$8,303,513 or 25%. The women's dresses division continued to be the most important with factory shipments valued at \$78,953,129, up from \$75,422,512. Shipments in the women's slacks and jackets division at \$34,866,299 against \$26,817,118, the other outerwear division at \$17,580,549 against \$15,640,528, and the lingerie division at \$30,468,703 against \$25,202,553. (29)

Output Of Men's Factory Clothing
Rose 14% To Record Value In 1952

Shipments of Canada's men's factory clothing industry were valued at an all-time peak of \$277,426,014 in 1952, some 14% more than the 1951 output value of \$238,661,331. Plants in Montreal and Toronto accounted for about 58% of the total in 1952 as compared with 61% in 1951.

It was a banner year for the industry in every way -- besides production, the number of employees, and plants, size of payroll and cost of materials were all the highest on record. Establishments increased by 10 to 587, employees by 8% to 35,583 from 32,732, salaries and wages by 14% to \$72,782,226 from \$62,316,166, and material costs by 13% to \$151,357,963 from \$131,612,306.

Output of suits and overcoats increased in value to \$134,582,880 from \$110,228,038 in 1951, trousers and separate garments to \$25,516,618 from \$17,784,908, windbreakers and work pants \$33,603,181 from \$31,977,528, overalls and work shirts to \$37,577,249 from \$34,351,463, fine shirts to \$32,342,828 from \$31,980,515, neckwear to \$8,367,060 from \$7,826,125, and other men's wear to \$5,436,198 from \$4,512,754. (30)

Cotton And Jute Bag Industry
Output Value Off 22% In 1952

Factory value of products shipped by Canada's cotton and jute bag industry in 1952 grossed \$30,196,000, 22% under the preceding year's \$38,729,000. There were 34 plants in the industry in 1952, one more than in 1951, their employees numbered 1,199 compared with 1,312, and salary and wage payments totalled \$2,527,000 compared with \$2,484,000.

Output of jute bags in 1952 rose to 5,547 dozen from 4,226,000, but their value declined to \$16,326,000 from \$18,247,000. Production of cotton bags fell to 3,479,000 dozen from 4,154,000, and the value dropped to \$10,092,000 from \$14,772,000. The value of bags repaired declined to \$2,585,000 from \$4,951,000.

Consumption by the industry of jute fabrics amounted to 87,985,000 yards costing \$14,569,000 compared with 67,606,000 yards costing \$15,998,000 the year before. Cotton cloth consumption totalled 36,566,000 yards valued at \$8,515,000 compared with 45,917,000 yards valued at \$12,562,000. (31)

General Review of Canada's
Textile Industries In 1951

Factory value of products manufactured by Canada's textile industries in 1951 grossed \$1,626,489,000, 10% above the preceding year's \$1,475,477,000, according to the annual general review. The number of employees rose to 197,400 from 196,600, and salary and wage payments climbed to \$407,395,000 from \$380,398,000. Cost of materials used advanced to \$900,651,000 from \$790,235,000. There were 3,975 establishments in operation in 1951 compared with 3,897 in 1950.

Clothing production rose in value to \$780,012,000 from \$734,214,000 the year before. Output of men's factory clothing advanced in total to \$238,661,000 from \$226,659,000, women's factory clothing to \$197,751,000 from \$194,636,000, and children's factory clothing to \$33,768,000 from \$29,398,000. Hats and caps advanced to \$27,292,000 from \$26,082,000.

Textiles other than clothing were produced in 1951 to the value of \$846,477,000, up from the preceding year's \$741,263,000. In this group, cotton textiles increased to \$297,285,000 from 276,595,000, wool textiles to \$192,218,000 from \$157,359,000, and synthetic textiles and silk to \$166,550,000 from \$147,048,000.

Quebec and Ontario together accounted for the bulk of the output of the textile industries as a whole. Value of production in Quebec's plants climbed to \$907,471,000 from \$826,639,000, and Ontario's to \$596,886,000 from \$536,576,000. Manitoba's plants accounted for \$53,248,000 compared with \$51,506,000. (32)

RELEASED THIS WEEK

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

- 1- Imports for Consumption, Mar., 20¢
- 2- Foreign Trade Summary, Mar., 10¢
- 3- New Residential Construction, Apr., 25¢
- 4- Price Movements, May, 10¢
- 5- Population Estimates by Marital Status, Age & Sex, Canada & Provinces, 1952, 10¢
- 6- M: Domestic Electric Refrigerators, Mar. 10¢
- 7- Refrigeration Equipment, 1953, Preliminary, 10¢
- 8- Steel Ingots, Apr., 10¢
- 9- M: Steel Wire & Specified Wire Products, Mar., 10¢
- 10- M: Gypsum Products, Apr., 10¢
- 11- M: Products Made from Canadian Clays, Feb., 10¢
- 12- M: Mineral Wool, April, 10¢
- 13- M: Condition of Fruit Crops, May, 10¢
- 14- M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products in 9 Cities, Advance Statement, June 1, 10¢
- 15- M: Grain Milling Statistics, Apr., 10¢
- 16- M: Grain Statistics, Weekly, 25¢
- 17- Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces, 10¢
- 18- Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, Apr., 25¢
- 19- Quarterly Report on Processed Foods, Mar., 25¢
- 20- Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, Feb., 10¢
- 21- M: Gold Production, Mar., 10¢
- 22- M: Iron Ore, Apr., 10¢
- 23- Commercial Failures Under the Provisions of the Bankruptcy & Winding Up Act,
First Quarter, 1954, 10¢
- 24- Estimates of Labour Income, Mar., 10¢
- 25- Hiring & Separation Rates in Certain Industries, Sept./1951 to Aug./1953, 25¢
- 26- M: Railway Operating Statistics, Feb., 10¢
- 27- Canal Statistics, 1953, 25¢
- 28- M: Highway Statistics, 1952, 25¢
- 29- Women's & Children's Factory Clothing Industries, 1952, 25¢
- 30- Men's Factory Clothing Industry, 1952, 25¢
- 31- Cotton & Jute Bag Industry, 1952, 25¢
- 32- General Review of All Textiles, 1951, 25¢
- Canadian Statistical Review, May, 35¢

M Memorandum

4502-501

Doctors: Since the war 1,504 physicians and surgeons have emigrated from Canada to the United States, according to a special tabulation supplied by the U. S. Immigration Service. Of this number, 528 or 35% left Canada in the last three years. At the time of the 1951 Census there were 14,325 physicians and surgeons in Canada.

Asbestos: Over 97% of Canada's output is mined in the Eastern Townships of Quebec.

Motor-boats: 784 were made in 1952, 58 more than in 1951. Average factory price jumped 47% to \$3,070 from \$2,081 in the year.

Manufacturing firms employ one out of every four working Canadians, the same proportion as in the United States. In the United Kingdom two out of five work in manufacturing, and in Australia one out of five.

Sinks: 187,672 were made last year, 78,186 or 71% more than in 1952.

New Cars: 41% of those sold last year were financed by sales finance and acceptance companies. Provincial proportions ranged from 35% in Saskatchewan to 52% in Alberta.

Fish Boxes: 1,525,959 were made in 1952, 499,887 or 49% more than in 1951.

Telephones: Canada's 3,352,366 telephones were used for 5,609,694,000 conversations during 1952, an average of 1,673 per instrument. The average number per telephone was lowest for the British Columbia Telephone Company at 1,509 and the Bell Telephone Company of Canada (Quebec & Ontario) at 1,557, and was highest for Alberta Government Telephones at 3,410, the Avalon Telephone Company Ltd. (Newfoundland) at 3,214 and the Edmonton Automatic Telephone System at 3,086.

Meat: Last year beef replaced pork as the principal meat in the Canadian diet, per capita consumption increasing by 14.4 lb. or 32% to 59.1 lb. Per capita consumption of pork decreased by 8.9 lb. or 13% to 57.0 lb. Per capita consumption of veal rose in 1953 by 2.4 lb. or 36% to 9.1 lb., and of mutton and lamb by 21% to 2.3 lb. from 1.9 lb. in 1952. Per capita consumption of offal fell 5% to 5.2 from 5.5 lb., and of canned meats by 10% to 7.4 from 8.2 lb.

Canoes: About 3,000 a year are made in Canada. Average factory price is \$97.

Tractors: Canadian farms had one for every 242 acres of improved agricultural land at the time of the last census.

Water-Power: Quebec ranks highest in available water-power resources, having over 40% of the total recorded for all Canada. Present power installation represents more than half of the national total.

Medicines: Canadians use over \$100,000,000 worth of medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations each year.

Broom & Mop Handles: 12,210,379 were made in 1952, 870,383 more than in 1951.

Bismuth is too brittle to be used alone, but its alloys have many uses, such as in the manufacture of sprinkler plugs and other fire-protection devices, electrical fuses, low-melting solders, dental amalgams and tempering baths for small tools. Like antimony, bismuth expands on solidification and is used in type metal. Bismuth-lead-tin-cadmium alloys are used by the airplane and automotive industries to prepare spotting fixtures, to make moulds for electroforming, to fill thin-walled tubing during bending, and to spray-coat wooden patterns and core boxes in foundries. Canadian production of bismuth is confined to British Columbia and Quebec and over the 1943-52 decade averaged over 217,000 pounds a year. Average price is about \$2.25 per pound.

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