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# HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

THE E-PLOYMENT SITUATION improved during June with the usual pick-up in construction and other outdoor activities. Compared with last year, however, slightly fewer had jobs and over twice as many were unemployed. (Page 11)

NEW HOUSING ready for use continued above 1953's record levels with completions up 4% in May, 8% in the first five months. However, starts were down 1.5% in the latest month, 5% in January-May, and for the first time this year the number of unital under construction at month's end showed a slight drop. (Page 10)

PRODUCTION: The slump in pig iron continued into May and output in the first five months was more than one-fifth less than in 1953. January-May production of steel ingots and castings was down by commarter... More Portland cement was made in April and the first four months this year, but shipments to customers were down... Crude oil output this April fell below the year-earlier level for the first time in 69 months, but four-month production was well above last year... May output of most finished leathers was lower this year. Less leather footwear was made in April and the first four months... Factory sales of TV sets were up 32% in April, 42% in the list four months, but sales of radios were off 34.5% in the month, 25% in January-May output under last year. (Pages 4, 6, 7 & 12)

MANUFACTURERS' INVENTORIES were worth \$3,503,200,000 at the end of May, \$1,800,000 more than at the end of April but \$4,100,000 less than a year earlier. Only increase over last year was in construction goods. (Page 5)

FCOD STOCKS: Mine-city holdings of cross y butter were 5% above last year's level at mid-July... 84% more vegetables but 4.5% less fruit and 23% less fish were in cold storage at the start of July this year... The number of hogs on farms was up 16% at June 1 this year and the fall pig crop is expected to be 27% greater than last year. (Pages 9 & 10)

RETAIL SALES were down 3.2% in May. 1.7% in the first five months. Only increase so far this year was a slight gain of 0.4% in March. Grocery and combination food store sales have been consistently higher this year, sales of motor vehicle dealers consistently lower... WHOLESALE SALES also continued below last year's love! in May with a 1. drop. May-and inventories were up 1.8%. (Page 8)

8% FEWER FOREIGN VEHICLES entered Canada on traveller's vehicle permits this June and half-year of trans were down 2% from last year. (Page 8)

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#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Canada Had \$439 Million Deficit Canada's international transactions on current account In 1953 International Transactions resulted in a deficit of \$439,000,000 last year, according to the Bureau's annual report on the Canadian

balance of international payments. The 1953 deficit is in sharp contrast to the current surplus of \$164,000,000 in 1952. The latter, however, followed current deficits of \$517.-000,000 in 1951 and of \$334,000,000 in 1950.

The re-appearance of a current account deficit was accompanied, of course, by net capital imports, being more than balanced by heavy flows of long-term capital into Canada for direct and portfolio investment, which have been a feature of Canada's balance of payments in recent years. In 1952 the current account surplus and long-term inflows were balanced by large outward movements of short-term capital; but in 1953 short-term movements. while still outwards, were sharply lower. These changes took place without any great change in the external value of the Canadian dollar.

Commodity transactions were mainly responsible for the abrupt swing from surplus to deficit in 1953. For 1953 as a whole, the trade balance shown in the balance of payments deteriorated by \$546,000,000 from a 1952 surplus of \$489,000,000 to a 1953 deficit of \$57,-000,000. The major factor in this change was the continued sharp rise in import volume. which increased by 9% and was about 50% over the levels of 1948 and 1949. A slight decrease in exports volume and some deterioration in the terms of trade also contributed to the change to a trade deficit.

Non-merchandise transactions also had a part in the change to a current account deficit. the usual large deficit on these items increasing to \$382,000,000 from \$325,000,000 in 1952. Among these items, the deficit on travel account was slightly lower at \$63,000,000 against \$66,000,000 and on interest and dividends decreased to \$246,000,000 from \$268,000,000, while gold production available for export declined moderately to \$144,000,000 from \$150,000,000. freight account yielded a deficit of \$45,000,000 against a surplus of \$8,000,000, and the deficit on all other current transactions increased to \$173,000,000 from \$140,000,000. The full extent of the increase in the last-named item occurred in government transactions, payments abroad by the Government of Canada rising sharply and more than offsetting increased spending in Canada by foreign governments.

Substantial changes occurred last year in the bilateral distribution of Canada's current transactions. Both receipts and payments rose in transactions with the United States, but the rise in the latter exceeded the former to raise the deficit with the United States to \$924,000,000 from \$849,000,000. On the other hand, there were larger payments and lower receipts in transactions with overseas countries generally, the surplus with all overseas countries declining to \$485,000,000 from \$1,013,000,000 in 1952. In the case of the United Kingdom, the surplus fell to \$142,000,000 from \$388,000,000, and with other sterling countries to \$87,000,000 from \$114,000,000. (1)

United States investments in Canada rose by more than \$600,-U.S. And Other Non-Resident Investment In Canada In 1953 000,000 in 1953, raising the total United States capital investments in this country from \$7,976,000,000 at the end of 1952 to \$8,600,000,000 at the close of last year, according to the Bureau's annual report on the Canadian balance of international payments.

The 1953 total is the largest ever recorded and compares with just under \$5,000,000,000 at the end of 1945, making an increase of 72% for the post-war period. Some three-quarters of this increase was in direct investments in concerns controlled in the United States, which amounted to approximately \$5,000,000,000 in 1953 against \$2,304,000,000 in 1945. Investments in government and municipal bonds at \$1,855,000,000 and portfolio investments in corporation stocks and bonds at \$1,500,000,000 at the end of 1953 were also higher than in 1945.

The increase in United States direct investments in 1953 amounted to some \$500,000,000. Inflows of capital for direct investment made up \$330,000,000 of this increase, most of the remainder being from the retention of profits in Canadian subsidiaries. Inflows of capital for direct investment in petroleum exploration, development and refining of \$155,000,000 and into mining of \$104,000,000 were the highest on record and made up about three-fourths of the net capital inflow for direct investment.

Inflows of United States capital into transportation, including pipelines, were less in 1953 than in the previous year, while inflows into other commercial and industrial establishments were about the same as in 1952 but less than in 1951.

Corresponding estimates of the value of British capital invested in Canada at the end of 1953 are not yet available, but at the end of 1952 the value of such investments amounted to \$1,886,000,000, up from \$1,775,000,000 a year earlier. The 1952 total was higher than in any earlier post-war year and compares with \$1,715,000,000 in 1949 when investments in Newfoundland were first included in the Canadian total.

British investments are chiefly portfolio investments in public issues of Canadian securities, but direct investments in Canadian business had risen to a high of \$542,000,000 at the end of 1952. A further substantial increase appears to have occurred in 1953 as inflows of capital for direct investment amounted to \$42,000,000.

Important British investment in 1953 took place in Canadian companies engaged in the manufacture of aircraft, electrical cables, chemicals and other products, and in petroleum and financial enterprises. There was also an increase in British holdings of outstanding Canadian securities indicated by the net sales to the United Kingdom amounting to \$27,000, 000; and probably also a further increase in the value of British investments through the retention of earnings in Canada.

Long-term investments owned by residents of all other countries amounted to some \$490,000,000 at the end of 1952. These have shown an increase also in recent years, the 1952
total comparing with \$340,000,000 in 1949.

Although there has been a substantial increase in the amount of non-resident capital invested in Canada, much the largest part of the heavy investment in all forms of capital expenditure in Canada in recent years has been financed from Canadian savings. While employment of non-resident capital has been heavy in some fields like petroleum and mineral development, there are other areas of investment of which farm property and residential real estate are examples, in which most of the capital is of Canadian origin. Consequently the proportion of total Canadian investments which is owned by non-residents is less than before the war.

In 1953 only 15% of the funded debt of Canadian governments and corporations, estimated at \$24,500,000,000, was owned abroad as compared with over one-third of the amount outstanding in 1939. Likewise the percentage of the broad field of Canadian industry owned by non-residents is less than before the war, being about 32% in 1951 compared with 38% in 1939.

As might be expected from the growth in the value of non-resident investments, there has been a rise in the balance of Canada's indebtedness to other countries. This has risen to \$5,700,000,000 in 1953 from \$3,700,000,000 in 1949, and compares with \$5,500,000,000 in 1939. Gross liabilities to other countries aggregated some \$12,300,000,000, while the gross external assets of Canadians totalled \$6,600,000,000 in 1953. Included in the latter are holdings abroad owned by the Canadian public in direct and portfolio investments of \$2,200,000,000. Most of the remainder is made up of Canadian Government loans to other countries and government holdings of gold and foreign exchange.

In the light of the great development in Canada's productive capacity in recent years and of increases which have occurred in price levels, the burden of this liability to other countries must be regarded as relatively much lighter than in the pre-war period. (1)

# MANUFACTURING

Steel Output Still Below Only 178,742 tons of pig iron were produced in May as compared Last Year's Level In May with 271,461 a year earlier. May output of steel ingots was sharply lower this year at 252,988 tons versus 358,896 and production of steel castings was reduced to 7,363 tons from 10,071. January-May output of pig iron was down to 970,861 tons from 1,221,404 last year, steel ingots to 1,290,627 tons from 1,723,649, and steel castings to 40,621 tons from 47,294.

April production of iron castings and cast iron pipe and fittings was reduced to 65,300 tons this year from 74,100 last year, and factory shipments were off to 40,800 tons from 51,300. In the first four months production was down to 265,000 tons from 290,700, and shipments to 167,400 tons from 181,600. (2 & 3)

Production Of Most Finished
Leathers Decreased This May
while May-end stocks of most raw hides and skins were higher
than a year earlier. Month-end stocks of cattle hides were
up to 531,677 from 401,472, calf and kip skins to 471,759 from 329,003, sheep and lamb
skins to 37,584 dozen from 26,126 dozen and horse hides to 13,483 from 10,532, but goat
and kid skins were down to 10,298 from 35,709.

Among cattle leathers, output of sole leather dropped to 1,107,974 pounds this May from 1,353,949 last year, upper leather to 4,201,399 square feet from 4,529,847 square feet, bag, case and strap leather to 8,104 sides from 8,466, harness leather to 2,046 from 2,316 sides and belting leather to 715 butt bends from 2,594, but production of glove and garment leather increased to 452,549 square feet from 445,610.

Output of calf and kip skin uppers rose to 777,297 square feet from 684,408, but production of goat and kid leather fell to 2,140 skins from 6,289, sheep and lamb glove and garment leather to 3,664 dozen skins from 4,261 dozen, sheep and lamb shoe leather to 2,194 dozen skins from 2,679 dozen, and horse leather to 97,707 square feet from 150,795. (4)

More TV Sets. Fewer Radios

Sold In April. Four Months

April and the first four months this year. TV sales were up

32% in the month and 42% in January-April, while radio sales

were down 34.5% in April and 25% in the four months.

Television sets sold in April numbered 26,349, some 6,410 more than in the same month last year. In the first four months of this year 136,723 TV sets were sold, 40,705 more than a year earlier. Radios sold in April numbered 39,282, some 20,727 fewer than in April last year. January-April sales of radios totalled 152,703, a decrease of 50,550.

April sales of home radio sets were off to 23,677 from 24,921 last year, portable and auto radios to 12,254 from 30,200 and radio-phonograph combinations to 3,351 from 4,978. In the four months, sales of home sets were down to 90,646 from 98,230, portable and auto radios to 44,349 from 87,127, and combinations to 17,708 from 17,996.

Sales of table-model TV sets were up to 14,429 this April from 9,623 last year, consoles to 10,704 from 9,240 and three-way combinations to 1,216 from 1,076. Four-month sales of table models were up to 76,805 from 53,049, consoles to 54,162 from 39,052, and three-way combinations to 5,756 from 3,917.

Over 59% of the table models sold this year had picture tubes of 17" and under, and the balance had 18" to 22" tubes. About 81% of the consoles were in the 18" to 22" size, 17% had tubes of 17" or smaller, and 2% were in the over 22" size. Four-fifths of the three-way combination sets had picture tubes of 18" and over, while 20% were in the 17" and under size. (5)

Practically Same In May As For April

Manufacturers' Inventory Investment Total value of inventory investment in manufacturing industries at the end of May was \$3,503,200,000, almost unchanged from the April level, according to

advance figures. The index, based on December 1952, was 100.5 for both months, as compared with 100.7 in May 1953.

Inventory held but not owned rose very slightly during May, and at the end of the month was \$473,400,000 as compared with \$466,400,000 at the end of April and \$423,200,000 a year ago. The index of total shipments value during May was 102.4% of the December 1952 level, as compared with 102.1 in April and 108.8 in May 1953. Cumulative shipments for the first 5 months of the year were 4% lower than in 1953.

The index value of unfilled orders at the end of the month for 900 reporting plants was 83.9 of the December 1952 level, 4% below April values and also 4% below May 1953.

		Total Inventory Investment	Progress Payments Inventory	Total Inventory Held	Raw Materials	Goods in Process	Finished Products
				(Millions of	dollars)		
ALL IND	MARKET CARLES						
May	1953		423.2	3,930.5	1,698.8	1,008.9	1,222.8
April	1954		466.4	3,967.8	1,599.0	1,059.6	1,309.2
May	1954	3,503.2	473.4	3,976.6		(Not Availab	le)
Consumers' Goods							
May	1953		61.2	2,094.1	921.2	421.3	751.6
April			70.0	2,082.6	877.8	410.9	793.9
May	1954	2,002.1	65.9	2,088.0		(Not Availab	le)
Capital							
Мау	1953		315.5	793.2	237.8	396.9	158.5
April			362.0	846.8	200.7	469.2	176.9
May	1954	471.1	367.1	838.2		(Not Availab)	Le)
	rs' Goods	140.0					
May	1953		2.1	684.2	356.1	120.5	207.6
April			2.9	680.2	327.1	122.5	230.6
May	1954	674.5	2.9	677.4		(Not Availab	le)
	tion Goods	22.4	1.4	0.50 0	200 0	20.0	204.5
May	1953		44.4	359.0	183.7	70.2	105.1
April			31.5	358.2	193.4	57.0	107.8
May	1954	335.5	37.5	373.0		(Not Availab	le)
		INDEXES OF SHIPMENTS					
	All		Consumers'	rs' Capital Produ		ducers' (	Construction
		Industries	Goods	Goods	Good		oods
34	3 6 6 7			-			THE RESERVE AND PERSONS NAMED IN
May	1953	108.8	107.4	94.6		0.0	151.3
April	1954	102.1	104.5	90.4	100		102.1
May	1954	102.4	102.0	91.1	108		133.2
	All		INDEXES OF OUTSTANDING ORDERS				
	Reporting Textile					ansportation	
	Firms	Industries	Industries	Industrie	Equipa	nent Inds. Apr	paratus Ind.
May	1953 87.0		77.0	96.2		75.1	127.7
April	1954 87.0		86.3	70.7		74.6	117.1
May	1954 83.9	55.4	80.4	64.6	7	72.1.	117.1

<sup>\*</sup> On base December 1952=100

April Coke Output

Lowest In 81 Months

275,000 tons, 18,000 less than in March, 68,000 less than in April

last year, and the lowest output of any month since July, 1947. Four-

month production was down to 1,176,000 tons from 1,381,000 in 1953, and was the lowest January-April output in at least eight years. Landed imports in April were off to 21,300 tons from 27,300, and in the four months to 92,200 tons from 115,500. Exports were down to 8,000 tons from 10,000 in April, and to 39,200 tons from 63,600 in January-April. Coke available for consumption in Canada thus totalled 288,000 tons in April as compared with 360,000 a year earlier, and in the four months aggregated 1,228,000 tons as against 1,434,000 in 1953. (6)

Less leather footwear was made in April and the first four months this year. April production amounted to 3,512,807 pairs as compared with 3,768,687 pairs in April last year. Less than 64% of the total had soles of materials other than leather as compared with over 65% a year earlier. January-April output totalled 13,295,684 pairs as compared with 14,318,376 pairs last year.

Less leather footwear was made this April for both males and females, adults or children. Output of men's footwear was off to 704,940 pairs from 819,443 last year, boys' footwear to 106,150 pairs from 130,164, youths' footwear to 27,750 pairs from 37,001, women's and growing girls' footwear to 1,825,690 pairs from 1,875,441, misses' footwear to 343,830 pairs from 348,624, children's footwear to 265,694 pairs from 279,399, and infants' footwear to 238,753 pairs from 278,615. (7)

More Rubber Used
In Manufacturing

Canadian manufacturers used 16,185,568 pounds of rubber in April, 485,692

more than in the same month last year. Consumption of natural rubber rose
by 368,529 pounds to 7,437,216, and of synthetic rubber by 146,344 pounds
to 5,941,289, but use of reclaim rubber decreased by 29,181 pounds to 2,807,063.

The increase in April consumption was solely in the production of tires, tubes and tire repair materials, which accounted for 10,571,046 pounds, 730,943 more than in April last year. Footwear manufacturers used 1,458,497 pounds, 62,073 less, and wire and cable manufacturers used 438,355 pounds, a drop of 49,301. There were 3,717,670 pounds used in the manufacture of other products, 133,877 less than last year. (8)

More Portland Cement Made, Less More Portland cement was made in Canada in April and the Shipped To Customers This April first four months of this year, but shipments to customers were below 1953 levels in both periods. Production rose to 1,974,816 barrels in April from 1,780,972 a year earlier, and in the first four months totalled 7,017,287 barrels against 6,746,099. Shipments to customers fell to 1,833,913 barrels in April from 1,971,345 last year, and in January-April amounted to 5,668,535 barrels against 5,990,204. April-3nd stocks were up to 2,276,248 barrels from 1,509,635. (9)

Concrete Building Materials More concrete bricks, concrete building blocks (except gravel) and ready-mixed concrete were shipped by Canadian manufacturers in April and the first four months, this year, but less gravel concrete building blocks, concrete chimney blocks and cement drain pipe, sewer pipe, water pipe and culvert tile.

April shipments, with 1953 figures bracketed: concrete bricks 5,196,778 (4,663,156); gravel concrete blocks, 5,368,497 (6,715,273); cinder concrete blocks, 1,320,898 (1,064,779); haydite, slag and other concrete blocks, 462,385 (424,898); concrete chimney blocks, 45,736 (84,436); cement drain pipe, sewer pipe, water pipe and culvert tile, 12,634 tons (16,260); ready-mixed concrete, 136,125 cubic yards (103,917). (9)

Manufactured Gas Sales of manufactured gas by Canadian distributing companies rose to Sales Up In April 2,349,074,000 cubic feet in April from 2,268,678,000 in the same month last year, and revenue from sales advanced to \$2,916,668 from \$2,831,915.

January-April sales totalled 9,838,082,000 cubic feet at \$12,094,617 as compared with 9,580,-031,000 at \$11,710,922 a year earlier. Customers numbered 570,733 this April as against 574,289 last year. (10)

# MINERALS

Natural Gas Output. April production of natural gas increased to 10,480,963,000 cubic feet Sales Up This April this year from 8,521,119,000 last year, bringing the total output in the first four months to 49,143,893,000 cubic feet from 39,288,545,000 a year earlier. April sales were up to 8,915,959,000 cubic feet worth \$3,712,078 from 7,022,-709,000 worth \$3,046,186. January-April sales totalled 39,636,729,000 cubic feet valued at \$16,605,215 as compared with 32,281,603,000 valued at \$13,679,828 last year. (10)

Oil Output Under Year Earlier Level

For First Time In 69 Months In April

below the year earlier level for the first time since

July, 1948. Production amounted to 5,375,127 barrels

as compared with 5,393,970 in April last year. Output in the first four months of 1954,

however, was up to 27,199,175 barrels from 20,448,830 in the first four months of 1953.

April output in Alberta, the major producing area, dropped to 4,836,941 barrels this year from 5,144,219 last year, and production in New Brunswick declined to 1,017 barrels from 1,129. Saskatchewan output jumped to 319,668 barrels from 158,642, and production in Manitoba to 132,936 barrels from 29,430. Output in the Northwest Territories advanced to 51,522 barrels from 41,562, and Ontario production to 33,043 barrels from 18,988.

January-April production was higher this year in all producing areas except New Brunswick, where the output fell to 4,570 barrels from 5,129. Alberta production rose to 25,119,-961 barrels from 19,351,298, and Saskatchewan output increased to 1,299,790 barrels from 772,660. Four-month production in Manitoba advanced 492,196 barrels from 140,260, in the Northwest Territories to 155,591 barrels from 113,344, and in Ontario to 127,067 barrels from 66,159. (10)

#### TRANSPORT

Railway Cars Loaded

Railway carloadings continued below the 1953 level in the first

During First Week Of July

week of July, with 64,964 cars loaded with revenue freight as

compared with 70,447 a year earlier. Only 7,271 cars were

filled with grain as against 9,618 in the first week of July last year, and loadings of non
metallic mine products were down to 1,294 cars from 1,880, autos, trucks and parts to 897

cars from 1,511, miscellaneous carload lots to 4,091 from 4,599 and freight in less than

carload lots to 11,776 cars from 12,892 cars. Loadings of lumber, timber and plywood

amounted to 4,378 cars this year, 542 more than in 1952.

There were reduced loadings in the first week of July this year in both eastern and western divisions. Eastern loading totalled 41,712 cars, 5,008 less than a year earlier, and western loadings amounted to 23,252 cars, a drop of 475. The all-Canada total for the first 25 periods of 1954 was 1,810,380 cars, a decrease of 10% from the 2,009,641 cars loaded in the corresponding interval of 1953. (11)

Airline Operating Loss Operating revenues of Canada's airlines were 5.7% higher this Much Heavier This March at \$7,704,460 versus \$7,289,053 last year but operating expenses were up 9% to \$7,949,214 from \$7,291,848, resulting in a much heavier loss on March operations this year of \$244,754 as against only \$2,795 a year earlier.

Increases were reported for all financial accounts except bulk transportation revenue, which was lower this year. Passengers carried numbered 169,250, an increase of 10,494 or 6.6% over March last year. Revenue goods flown in unit tell transportation totalled 3,273,071 pounds, a gain of 191,984 or 6.2%, and revenue goods ten miles rose by 177,510 or 20.2% to 1,057,036. Goods carried on charter or contract flights amounted to 5,313,179 pounds as compared with 3,873,067 a year earlier. Mail transported weighted 2,089,871 pounds as against 1,554,912, and mail ten miles increased to 681,253 from 558,583. (12)

# MERCHANDISING

Department Store Sales

Department store sales across Canada were 4.6% higher during the

Week ending July 10 than in the corresponding week last year, with

increases in all regions except Ontario and Manitoba. Sales were

up 4.5% in the Atlantic Provinces, 7.8% in Quebec, 5.2% in Saskatchewan, 2.5% in Alberta

and 17.8% in British Columbia. Decrease in Ontario was 1.2% and in Manitoba a slight 0.6%.

Hetail Store Sales 3.2% Dollar sales of Canada's retail stores totalled \$1,063,112,000

Under 1953 Level In May this May, \$34,788,000 or 3.2% less than in May last year the Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimate. This put January-May sales at \$4,637,736,000 versus \$4,717,178,000 last year, a decline of 1.7%. Only sales increase so far this year was a slight gain of 0.4% in March. The reduction in May sales was felt in all regions except the Atlantic Provinces and Ontario. Sales in the Atlantic Provinces were 1.4% higher this year at \$94,400,00, while Ontario sales, at \$410,292,000, were unchanged. Sharpest dip was 12% drop to \$68,461,000 in Saskatchewan, Alberta following with a 10.2% cut to \$77,962,000. Sales fell 6.8% to \$57,221,000 in Manitoba, 3.7% to \$251,677,000 in Quebec and 3.7% to \$103,101,000 in British Columbia.

Only five of 20 trades had higher sales this May. Grocery and combination store sales, which were above the 1953 level in each of the four previous months, showed a further increase of 2.9% to \$191,174,000 to put the five-month total at \$887,616,000, 4.8% above last year. On the other hand, sales of motor vehicle dealers, which were under the 1953 level in each of the four previous months, showed a further decrease of 7.3% to \$224,853,000 to put the five-month total at \$920,320,000, 9.2% under last year.

Other sales gains this May were made by jewellery stores (2.7% to \$8,856,00), garages and filling stations (2.3% to \$49,666,000), fuel dealers (1.4% to \$10,965,000) and drug stores (0.9% to \$22,391,000). Five-month sales were higher this year for seven trades in addition to gracery and combination stores. Gains were made by fuel dealers (10.6% to \$98,962,000), meat stores (3.3% to \$68,988,000), garages and filling stations (3.2% to \$210,139,000), department stores (1.9% to \$380,888,000), variety stores (1.4% to \$76,693,000), drug stores (0.1% to \$110,274,000) and jewellery stores (0.1% to \$37,676,-000). (13)

Wholesale Sales Lower This Wholesale sales continued below last year's level in May, the May In Five Of Nine Trades

Bureau's index for nine trade registering 369.9, a drop of 1.5% from 375.9 a year earlier. May-end inventories of wholesalers were up 1.8%. The four trades with higher May sales this year were fruits and vegetables, 4.3%; drugs, 3%; auto parts and equipment, 1.7%; and groceries, 1.4%. Sharpest May sales drop (15.1%) was reported by footwear wholesalers. Other trades with sales declines were clothing, 14.6%; dry goods, 8.3%; hardware, 8.1%; and tobacco and confectionery, 2.9%.

May-end inventories were unchanged from a year earlier in the drug trade, were up 10.7% in groceries, 10% in fruits and vegetables, 6% in auto parts and equipment, 5% in tobacco and confectionery, 4.7% in clothing and 0.6% in hardware, and were down 11.9% in dry goods and 3% in footwear. (14)

#### TRAVEL

Fewer Foreign Vehicles

Entered Canada In June

in June and the first six months this year. Entries totalled

274,154 in June, 23,462 or 8% less than in June last year, and

751,432 in the half-year, 12,859 or 2% less than in 1953. Half-year entries were higher
than in 1953 in Manitoba by 3,011 or 22% at 16,492, in Saskatchewan by 528 or 8% at 7,376,
and in the Yukon by 276 or 14% at 2,260. They were lower in Quebec by 6,068 or 5% at
119,061, in Ontario by 4,876 or 1% at 446,396, in British Columbia by 3,157 or 3% at
100,595, in New Brunswick by 2,161 or 4% at 47,392, in Alberta by 263 or 2% at 11,347, and
in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia (by ship) by 149 or 22.5% at 513. (15)

### FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Crop Conditions In The Frairie Provinces

Despite the lateness of the season, crops in most areas of the Frairie Provinces are developing rapidly. In Manitoba, however, there are substantial areas suffering from excessive moisture and flodding, while in southern Alberta, west-central and north-western Saskat-chewan crops are beginning to deteriorate due to excessive heat coupled with depletion of moisture reserves. Crops are particularly late in central and northern Alberta, excluding the Peace River Block, but are now coming along rapidly. Over much of Saskatchewan and western Manitoba crop prospects are good.

Manitoba Crops vary greatly as to stage of development and condition in Manitoba. Drier and moderately warm weather in the past ten days has favoured growth. A very large percentage of the crop, however, is alte, with many fields of flax and barley only well above ground. Stands of grain vary from quite heavy on well-drained fallow land to patchy, thin and yellow where moisture has been excessive. Much of the early-seeded wheat and an occasional field of oats and barley are headed, with an odd field of flax in the flower stage. Excessive moisture and flodding have taken a heavy toll, particularly in northern and eastern areas. Elsewhere flodding of low areas and potholes has affected a considerable acreage. Evidence of rust is widespread and it is a threat especially to the wheat crop. The more favourable weather recently, however, has held rust development in check. Hay and pasture crops are generally excellent.

Saskatchewan With few exceptions, crops in Saskatchewan are making excellent growth. Wheat averages 20 inches in height, with about 35% of the crop heade. Coarse grains are also developing well and average about 16 inches in height. Fall rye prospects are favourable, with expected yields of about 20 bushels per acre. Haying operations are in full swing, although rains have caused delays in some districts. Moisture reserves are generally adequate except in west-central and extreme northwestern areas, but recent rains there have eased the situation somewhat. Severe hail-storms at scattered points last week caused heavy local damage. Rust is prevalent over wide areas but the extent of losses will be largely dependent upon future weather conditions. In general, crop prospects throughout the province are good and, although grains are late, rapid advancement has recently been made.

Alberta Warm, dry weather is promoting rapid growth of crops in Alberta but at the same time is reducing soil moisture reserves to the point where rains are urgently needed. Deterioration has already taken place in the south. The stage of crop development varies greatly throughout the province. In the south, heading is general, varying from 25 to 90% in the various districts. A large percentage of the Peace River crop is also headed but in central and northern regions, excluding Peace River, very little has headed to date. Haying is general in most areas. Pastures are good except in the south where browning is occurring. General rains are needed throughout the provinces to prevent further deterioration in the south and to ensure proper development of late crops in all regions. (16)

More Vegetables But Less
Over 84% more vegetables but 4.5% less fruit were held in cold
Fruit In Stock At July 1
storage in Canada at July 1 than on the same date last year.
Stocks of vegetables, frozen and in brine, totalled 14,729,000
pounds are compared with 7,984,000 a year earlier, and holdings of fruit, frozen in preservatives, amounted to 18,313,000 pounds as compared with 19,183,000. (17)

Creamery Butter Stocks

In Nine Regional Cities

totalled 52,910,00 pounds, 6% higher than last year's 49,763000 pounds. Holdings by cities, with last year's figures in
brackets, were as follows in thousands: Quebec, 3,709 (3,374) pounds; Montreal, 25,624
(22,367); Toronto, 8,585 (10,830); Winnipeg, 10,569 (8,003); Regina, 887 (1,123); Saskatoon,
322 (425); Edmonton, 1,853 (1,573); Calgary, 423 (730); Vancouver, 938 (1,338).

Frozen Fish Stocks There were 39,277,000 pounds of fish in cold storage in Canada on July 1, Down 23% At July 1 11,672,000 or 23% less than on the same date last year. Holdings of fresh fish totalled 36,706,000 pounds, 11,581,000 or 24% less, and stocks of frozen smoked fish amounted to 2,571,000 pounds, 91,000 or 3% less. Stocks of cod and haddock were up, but holdings of salmon, sea herring, other sea fish, and inland fish were down. Compared with a month earlier the July 1 stocks were up 6,746,000 pounds, an increase in cod holdings outweighing decreased stocks of other varieties. (18)

Hog Population This June In contrast with the decreases recorded last December and in 16% Greater Than Last Year last year, the number of hogs on Canadian farms at June 1 this year was 16% greater than a year earlier, according to estimates based on the June live-stock survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with provincial agriculture departments. This compares with a decrease of 23% at June 1 last year from the corresponding date in 1952. Increases occurred this year in all provinces except Nova Scotia, where there was no change, the overall number being 19% higher in Western Canada and 13% in Eastern Canada.

The total number of hogs on farms this June is estimated at 5,141,000 as compared to 4,447,000 last year. The spring pig crop (December, 1953 to May, 1954) was 16% above last year's at 4,215,000, the western provinces having an increase of 20% against about 14% in the eastern. The number of sows that farrowed during the period is estimated at 577,000, which is 9% below the forecast based on the intentions reported by farmers at December 1 last year. During the June to November period this year, it is expected - on the basis of intentions reported at June 1 - that about 585,000 sows will farrow. This is 27% more than the 460,500 sows farrowed for last year's fall pig crop.

Estimated numbers of hogs by provinces at June 1 this year, with last year's June 1 figures in brackets, were: Prince Edward Island, 70,000 (57,000); Nova Scotia, 39,000 (39,000); New Brunswick, 67,000 (56,000); Quebec, 1,051,000 (867,000); Ontario, 1,560,000 (1,450,000); Manitoba, 360,000 (287,000); Saskatchewan, 539,000 (469,000); Alberta, 1,408,000 (1,180,000); British Columbia, 47,000 (42,000). Totals, Eastern Canada, 2,787,000 (2,469,000) and Western Canada, 2,354,000 (1,978,000). (19)

## HOUSING

More New Housing Units Completed. More new dwelling units were completed in May and the first Fewer Started In May And 5 Months five months this year, but fewer starts were made in both periods. January-May completions numbered 35,524 as compared with 32,816 last year, declines in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec being outweighted by increases in the other provinces. Five-month starts totalled 33,812 as against 35,438 in 1953, gains in New Brunswick and Ontario being more than offset by decreased elsewhere.

May completions numbered 8,424 as against 8,099 a year earlier, with increases to 392 from 267 in the Maritime Provinces, to 3,417 from 2,706 in Ontario, and to 719 from 669 in British Columbia, and decreases to 52 from 120 in Newfoundland, to 2,632 from 3,047 in Quebec, and to 1,212 from 1,290 in the Prairie Provinces. May starts totalled 13,398 versus 13,606 last year, decreases to 129 from 202 in Newfoundland, and to 2,176 from 3,152 in the Prairie Provinces outweighing increases to 480 from 405 in the Maritime Provinces, to 3,967 from 3,962 in Quebec, to 3,772 from 5,047 in Ontario, and to 874 from 838 in British Columbia.

The number of new housing units under construction at the end of May was 57,816, some 327 less than on the same date last year. The number under construction was up in Newfoundland to 2,714 from 2,466, in Quebec to 13,618 from 13,462, in Ontario to 23,830 from 22,063, and in British Columbia to 6,130 from 5,683, but was down in Prince Edward Island to 51 from 105, in Nova Scotia to 1,535 from 2,319, in New Brunswick to 674 from 813, in Manitoba to 2,205 from 2,403, in Saskatchewan to 2,296 from 2,576, and in Alberta to 4,763 from 6,253. (20)

Pick-Up In Outdoor activities

Brought June Unemployment Dip

vities improved the employment situation across Canada in

June, according to the monthly joint press release by the

Department of Labour and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. About 5,277,000 Canadians had

jobs at the middle of the month, some 102,00 more than at mid-May, while 185,000 or 3.4%

of the civilian labour force were unemployed and seeking work, 32,000 less than a month

earlier when 4.2% of the labour force were jobless. June brought substantial lay-offs of
short and indefinite duration in the motor vehicle and parts industries, but otherwise

manufacturing employment showed no marked change during the month.

Compared with mid-June last year over twice as many were unemployed this year and 20,000 fewer had jobs. The number without jobs and seeking work at the middle of June last year was about 90,000 or 1.7% of the civilian labour force. In June this year the labour force was estimated at 5,462,000 as against 5,387,000 a year earlier.

All labour market areas felt the effect of the seasonal increase in employment during June but the Prairie areas showed the greatest improvement, largely because of high levels of construction activity. By the end of the month labour supply and demand were in balance in 41 areas, 62 had noderate labour surpluses, five had substantial labour surpluses, and one area had a labour shortage. At the end of June last year labour supply and demand were in balance in 79 areas, 21 had moderate labour surpluses, and nine had labour shortages.

The Bureau's monthly labour force survey showed, 4,826,000 persons had worked 35 hours or more during the week ended June 19 as compared with 4,729,000 at mid-May. Persons at work less than 35 hours numbered 345,000 as against 351,000, and of these 136,000 versus 128,000 usually work 35 hours or more. Persons with jobs but not at work during the survey week numbered 106,000 in June as against 95,000 in May, and of these 103,000 versus 92,000 usually work 35 hours or more.

Another set of figures -- applications on file at offices of the National Employment Service -- also provides information on the current employment situation. These applications numbered 295,700 at June 17 some 62,300 less than at May 20 but 116,500 more than at June 18 last year. All regions contributed to the reduction from the previous month, the largest decrease of 23,100 occurring in the Quebec region where applications numbered 92,800. Applications in the Atlantic region decreased during the month by 12,100 to 35,400, in the Prairie region by 11,700 to 36,500, in the Ontario region by 9,600 to 100,700, and in the Pacific region by 5,900 to 30,400. Compared with June last year all regions showed higher totals this year, the largest increase of 52,500 occurring in Ontario. The increase in Quebec was 29,700, in the Prairie region 17,500, the Atlantic region 9,500, and the Pacific region 7,300.

Industrial Employment Industrial employment generally was slightly greater at the beginning Up Slightly At May 1. of May than at April 1, but slightly lower than at May 1 in both 1953 and 1952. The Bureau's index, on the 1949 base as 100, stood at 106.1 as compared with 105.6 a month earlier and 110.9 a year earlier, and coincided with the index for May 1, 1951.

The increase from April took place largely among men, whose numbers rose by 0.7% as against an increase of 0.1% for women. In the twelve months to May, the reported number of women workers declined by 3.3% and the number of men by 4.6%.

Accompanying the increase in the working forces was a rise of 0.7% over april 1 in the weekly wages and salaries. The payroll index was 1.0% lower than at May 1 last year, but otherwise the highest in the record for the time of year. There were widely distributed increases in pay disbursements, both industrially and geographically, an outstanding exception being logging, which showed important seasonal declines in payrolls and employees.

Employment was at a lower level than at April 1 in forestry, mining and manufacturing. The seasonal loss in the logging camps amounted to nearly 26% and mine operators released 1.6% of their staffs. In manufacturing, the falling-off was small (0.5%), the trend being slightly downward both in the durable and non-durable goods industries. Greater activity was indicated in the other main industries, but the increases, largely seasonal, were on a moderate scale for the time of year. The most marked gains were in construction, and transportation, storage and communication. Geographical overall industrial employment was higher than at the first of April in seven provinces. Figures for Ontario show no general change, while decreases were recorded for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. (21)

#### PRICES

Security Price Indexes	July 15, 1954	July 8, 1954 (1935–39=100)	June 17, 1954
Investors' Price Index	300 5	100 0	770 1
Total Common Stocks	182.5	182.8	179.4
Industrials	181.8	169.4	167.3
Utilities	171.0		211.9
Banks	216.0	220.1	211.7
Mining Stock Price Index			
Total Mining Stocks	91.3	91.2	89.9
Golds	54.3	63.5	63.7
Base Metals	153.0	154.6	150.0
Wholesale Price Indexes	June, 1953	May, 1954 (1935-39=100)	June. 1954
General Index	221.5	218.2	217.8
Vegetable Products	197.4	196.5	194.2
Animal Products	247.6	244.5	245.0
Textile Products		233.7	233.6
Wood Products		286.2	286.4
Iron Products		211.7	211.8
Non-ferrous Metals		168.0	168.3
Non-metallic Minerals		176.7	176.2
Chemical Products		175.9	176.6
Combined Index, Iron and			
Non-ferrous Metals (excluding Gold).	. 222.2	216.9	217.3

#### ELECTRIC POWER

Electric Power Output Up
In May. Down In 5 Months

to 5,928,640,000 kilowatt hours this May as compared with 5,757,213,000 last year, but the five-month output showed a slight
reduction to 28,133,279,000 kilowatt hours from 28,189,737,000. May production was higher in
all provinces, and in the five months was lower only in Quebec.

May production in thousand kilowatt hours, with 1953 figures bracketed: Newfoundland, 19,499 (17,661); Prince Edward Island, 2,561 (2,389); Nova Scotia, 89,555 (83,617); New Brunswick, 73,802 (69,827); Quebec, 3,152,314 (3,101,382); Ontario, 1,697,808 (1,655,921); Manitoba, 249,370 (229,558); Saskatchewan, 99,200 (92,914); Alberta, 114,206 (101,133); British Columbia, 430,325 (402,811).

January-May production in thousand kilowatt hours with 1953 figures bracketed: Newfoundland, 98,681 (84,384); Prince Edward Island, 13,624 (12,737); Nova Scotia, 467,412 (434,277); New Brunswick, 347,280 (331,876); Quebec, 14,266,659 (14,734,130); Ontario, 8,337,712 (8,272,592); Manitoba, 1,308,989 (1,205,090); Saskatchewan, 526,047 (487,329); Alberta, 610,129 (525,368); British Columbia, 2,156,746 (2,101,954). (22)

# ANNUAL INDUSTRY REPORTS

More Furniture
Shipped In 1952

ies in Canada in 1952, an increase of 7% over the 1951 output of \$190,907,429. The value of shipments of wooden furniture declined, but shipments of upholstered furniture, metal furniture, springs, matresses, pillows and cushions,
comforters and other products increased. (23)

1952 Output Of Gold More gold was mined in Canada in 1952 than in any other year since 1942. Output increased to 4,471,725 fine ounces from 4,392,751 in 1951, but a cut in the average price per ounce to \$34.27 from \$36.85 reduced the total value to \$153,246,016 from \$161,872,873. (24)

General Review Of The Mining Industry

The Mining Industry

duction has practically doubled each decade since the turn of the century, according to the Bureau's general review of the mining industry for 1952. From \$64,000,000 in 1900 mineral output value rose to \$107,000,000 in 1910, \$228,000,000 in 1920, \$280,000,000 in 1930, \$530,000,000 in 1940 and \$1,045,000,000 in 1950. In 1952 it was \$1,285,000,000. (25)

#### RELEASED THIS WEEK

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

- 1- The Canadian Balance of International Payments & Intermational Investment Position, 1953, 25¢
- 2- M: Production of Pig Iron & Steel, May, 10¢
- 3- M: Iron Castings & Cast Iron Pipes & Fittings, April, 10¢
- 4- M: Statistics of Hides, Skins & Leather, May, 10¢
- 5- Radio & Television Receiving Sets, April, 10¢
- 6- Coal & Coke Statistics, April, 20g
- 7- M: Production of Leather Footwear, April, 10¢
- 8- Consumption, Froduction & Inventories of Rubber, May, 20¢
- 9- M: Cement & Cement Products, April, 10g
- 10- M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, April, 15¢
- 11- M: Railway Carloadings, Week Ended July 7, 10¢
- 12- Civil Aviation, March, 15¢
- 13- Retail Trade, May, 20g
- 14- Wholesale Trade, May, 10¢
- 15- M: Highway Traffic Entering Canada On Traveller's Vehicle Permits, June, 10¢
- 16- Telegraphic Crop Report, Prairie Provinces, 10¢
- 17- M: Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, July 1, 10¢
- 18- M: Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, July 1, 20¢
- 19- M: Livestock Survey, June 1: Hogs, 10¢ 20- New Residential Construction, May, 25¢
- 21- Employment & Payrolls, May, 20g
- 22- M: Central Electric Stations, May, 10g
- 23- The Furniture Industry, 1952, 25¢
- 24- Gold Mining Tudustar, 1952, 50¢
- 25- General Review of the Mining Industry, 1952, 25¢
- --- Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings & Average Weekly Wages, May, 20¢ (Summarized in the Weekly Bulletin of July 16)
- --- Trade of Canada: Exports, Detailed, May & Five Months Ended May, 50¢ M Memorandum

Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P., Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery Ottawa, 1954 Hogs: There were an estimated 5,141,000 on farms at June 1 this year, 694,000 or 16% more than on the same date in 1953.

Electric Food Mixors: \$2,000 were made last year, 24,500 or 43% more than in 1952. Average factor price was down to \$27.86 from \$29.26.

Travel: 751,432 foreign vehicles entered Canada on traveller's vehicle permits in the first half of this year, 12,859 or 2% less than in the first six months of 1953.

Fisheries: Only 6.3% of New Brunswick's sea-fish catch was taken offshore by trawlers, vessles and boats that remained away from port two days or more in 1952 as compared with 11.5% in 1951.

Motion picture films imported last year were valued at \$3,267,000, some \$981,000 or 43% more than in 1952 and \$1,418,000 or 77% more than in 1951. Exported films were valued at \$1,749,000, down \$160,000 or 8% from 1952 and \$240,000 or 12% from 1951.

Beer: Canada imported beer from three countries in the 12 months ended March 31 last year -- 203,066 gallons from the United Kingdom, 1,734 gallons from Japan and 1,100 callons from the Netherlands.

Searchlights & Floodlights: \$807,000 worth were manufactured in 1952, some \$262,000 worth or almost 50% more than in 1951.

Cheese: Average factory price of chedder cheese rose to 29.9¢ a pound last year from 29.3¢ in 1952, while the average factory price of other cheese fell to 50.4¢ a pound from 52.1¢. Average 1953 prices of cheddar cheese ranged from 27.5¢ in Quebec to 37¢ in Saskatchewan, and of other cheese from 40¢ in Alberta to 61.9¢ in Quebec.

Hoes: 219,000 were sold by factories in 1952, 15,000 or 7% more than in 1951. Average price was up to \$1.02 from 90¢.

Foreign Trade: About 22% of the total amount spent on Canadian-produced goods and services last year was spent by other countries, and of this amount more than 75% was accounted for by commodity trade.

Films: Commercial motion picture firms produced 289 newsreel stories for theatre presentation last year, and 229 for TV. Compared with 1952, this was 218 less for theatres, 95 more for TV.

Belts: About 3,635,000 were made in 1952, some 844,000 or 30% more than in 1951. Average factory price was unchanged at \$3.81 per dozen.

Suspenders: About 2,451,000 were rade in 1952, some 79,000 or 3% less than in 1951. Average factory price was up to \$4.75 from \$4.59 per dozen.

Milk: About 60% of last year's output was used in manufacturing, and another 30% was accounted for by fluid sales. About 6% was consumed in farm homes, and the remaining 4% was fed to livestock.

Railways had 6,328 cars in passenger service at the end of 1952, of which 2,244 were baggage, postal and express cars, 2,-088 coach cars, 805 sleeping cars, 339 combination passenger cars, 302 colonist cars, 183 dining cars, 162 parlour cars, 55 motor unit passenger cars, and 150 of other types.

Refineries: Over 79% of the imported crude oil received in the first quarter this year came from Venezuela as compared with less than 65% last year. Arabia supplied 9.5% of the total in 1954 as against 11% in 1953 and the United States provided 9% as compared with 24%. About 3% of this year's first-quarter imports came from Trinidad.

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