



D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA

Vol. 22 -- No. 3

Friday, January 22, 1954

\$2.00 a year

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

EMPLOYMENT showed a greater than seasonal decline in the final months last year to about the same level as a year earlier. With a larger labour force, more were out of work. (Page 3)

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LABOUR INCOME was 9.3% above the 1952 level in the first 10 months last year, totalled \$9,669,000,000... In manufacturing, weekly wages averaged 3% higher at November 1, with average hourly earnings up 5% and the average work week 2% shorter. (Page 2)

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NEW HOUSING construction continued above the preceding year's level in November, and in the first 11 months of 1953 24% more dwelling units were started and 29% more completed. (Page 3)

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1953 PRODUCTION figures show gains of 8% for creamery butter, less than 1% for margarine, 9% for process cheese, 5% for cheddar cheese, 6% for ice cream, but a 7% drop for concentrated milk products... The pack of fruit cocktail and fruit for salads was 83% larger, and 77% more pears were canned. (Pages 6 & 7)

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RETAIL SALES fell slightly below the level of a year earlier for the first time since World War II in November, but 11 month sales were up 4.8% over 1952... WHOLESALE SALES were also slightly lower in November with declines in soft foods and fruit and vegetables outweighing gains in other trades. (Page 4)

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FARM PRICES of agricultural products were down 3% in November from the October level, substantial cuts for live stock and eggs more than offsetting higher prices for dairy products. (Page 8)

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HOGS ON FARMS were estimated at 4,721,000 at December 1, a 10% drop from 1952. Indications are that the spring crop will raise this number 36%. (Page 8)

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RAILWAY CAR LOADINGS, which declined 4% during 1953, showed an 8.5% drop in the first week of this year. (Page 11)

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T.B. DEATH RATE made the sharpest drop on record in 1952, plunging 30% from 23.2 in 1951 to 16.2. In 1946 the rate was nearly three times as high at 47.2, in 1932 over four times greater at 68.2, and in 1926 more than five times as steep at 85.4. (Page 9)

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EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

Average Earnings In Manufacturing
Showed Slight Rise At November 1

of November to \$56.88 from \$56.69 a month earlier, according to advance figures. The average work week was insignificantly lower at 41.4 hours as compared with 41.5, and average hourly earnings rose to 137.4 cents from 136.6 cents.

Wage increases in some industries and seasonal changes in industrial distribution resulted in a small rise in average weekly wages in manufacturing at the beginning

Employment in metal mining continued to be adversely affected by industrial disputes in Quebec and Ontario, but seasonally increased activity was reported in coal mining, mainly in Alberta, and average weekly wages rose slightly to \$66.99 from \$66.87 at October 1. Seasonal curtailment in all branches of the construction group resulted in generally lower aggregate and average hours worked, resulting in a decline in average weekly wages to \$62.05 from \$63.62. Employment in the service group continued to fall with the release of seasonal workers in summer hotels. With no change in the length of the average working week and an increase in average hourly earnings, weekly wages rose to an average of \$33.49 from \$33.08 at the beginning of October.

Average Hours & Earnings Of Hourly-Rated Wage-Earners In Specified Industries

	Weekly Hours			Hourly Earnings			Weekly Wages		
	Nov. 1 1952	Oct. 1 1953	Nov. 1 1953	Nov. 1 1952	Oct. 1 1953	Nov. 1 1953	Nov. 1 1952	Oct. 1 1953	Nov. 1 1953
	no.	no.	no.	¢	¢	¢	\$	\$	\$
Manufacturing	42.1	41.5	41.4	131.0	136.6	137.4	55.15	56.69	56.88
Durable Goods ...	42.1	41.9	41.8	142.6	148.5	148.7	60.03	62.22	62.16
Non-Durable Goods	42.1	41.1	41.0	118.4	123.7	124.8	49.85	50.84	51.17
Mining	43.5	43.2	43.0	150.4	154.8	155.8	65.42	66.87	66.99
Transportation ...	45.5	45.5	45.3	131.7	137.3	136.3	59.92	62.47	61.74
Construction	42.9	43.4	42.3	136.3	146.6	146.7	58.47	63.62	62.05
Service	42.4	41.5	41.5	75.8	79.7	80.7	32.14	33.08	33.49

Labour Income Rose 9.3
Per Cent In Ten Months

Canadian labour income was estimated at \$1,009,000,000 in October, a small decline from September's \$1,012,000,000 but up 6.7 per cent from \$946,000,000 in 1952. This brought the January-October total to \$9,669,000,000, a gain of 9.3 per cent from \$8,849,000,000.

A drop of \$5,000,000 in the manufacturing total was the most important contributory factor to the down-turn from September. The loss was distributed among such component groups as food and beverages, textile products and clothing, saw and planing mills and motor vehicles. There was also a \$3,000,000 reduction in the primary industry group total with agriculture and fishing seasonally lower, and the seasonal increase for logging less than in 1952.

During October labour income increased by \$1,000,000 for construction and for the distributive industries, and by \$3,000,000 for the finance and services group. The continuing high level of activity in residential building more than counterbalanced the diminution in non-residential construction. The seasonal advance registered in trade was larger than the decline in transportation, storage and communication. The increase in the finance and services group occurred largely in the private service sector.

Ten-month totals, in millions (1952 figures bracketed) were: agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping, mining, \$722 (\$747); manufacturing, \$3,260 (\$2,952); construction, \$700 (\$614); utilities, transportation, communication, storage, trade, \$2,501 (\$2,272); finance, services, \$2,158 (\$1,962); supplementary labour income, \$328 (\$302). (1)

(concluded on page 3)

Employment Situation At Mid-December The expansionary trend in output and employment in the Canadian economy has lost some of its momentum during the last few months, according to the monthly joint statement on the employment situation by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Labour. In contrast to the autumn of 1952 when there was a contra-seasonal expansion, total employment declined somewhat more than seasonally, although it remained approximately at year earlier levels. Due to the continued growth of the labour force, the result was a level of unemployment considerably higher than the relatively low level of 1952.

In addition to the usual seasonal declines in many industries, substantial inventories and increased import competition resulted in lower levels of output and employment in a number of others. Manufacturing employment, which last August was about four per cent above 1952 levels, declined so that by November it approximated the 1952 level.

While employment in many industries such as construction, transportation equipment, transportation, food and beverages, electrical apparatus, service and others is still well above 1952 levels, employment stabilized or declined in producer goods, some consumer goods industries and in lumber, textiles, clothing and mining industries.

Workers fully employed at mid-December declined in number to 4,550,000 from 4,714,000 a month earlier. At the same time the number at work part time rose to 422,000 from 322,000. In total, the number who worked full or part time declined to 4,972,000 from 5,036,000. Persons with jobs but not at work declined to 113,000 from 129,000, and persons without jobs and seeking work rose to 190,000 from 151,000.

Applications for employment on file at National Employment Service offices at December 10 numbered 338,100, an increase of 72,000 over the total for November 19, and of 100,900 over the December 11, 1952 total. There were increased applications on file in all regions as compared with November, with the Quebec region up 28,000 to 107,300, Ontario region up 10,600 to 94,600, Pacific region up 10,700 to 46,800, the Atlantic region up 10,200 to 44,900, and the Prairie region up 12,500 to 44,500. (2)

HOUSING

Starts And Completions Of New Residential Units Increased In November And 11 Months The upward trend in the construction of new dwelling units was continued in November when 8,339 were started as compared with 7,664 in the corresponding month of 1952, and 10,608 were completed as compared with 9,716. In the first 11 months of 1953, starts increased to 98,317 from 79,514 in the like 1952 period, and completions rose to 85,124 from 66,011.

Ontario accounted for a large share of the increase in the national total of starts in November with a rise to 3,861 from 2,550. Quebec's total was off slightly to 2,045 from 2,055, and British Columbia's to 538 from 590. The combined total for the Prairie Provinces was up to 1,375 from 1,339, the Maritimes to 385 from 237, and Newfoundland to 135 from 93.

In the 11-month period, the starts in Ontario rose to 37,496 from 28,487; Quebec to 28,827 from 25,199; Prairie Provinces to 18,219 from 14,533; British Columbia to 8,054 from 6,705; the Maritimes to 3,993 from 3,065; and Newfoundland to 1,728 from 1,505.

Completions in Ontario in November were up to 4,017 from 3,405 in November, 1952, the Prairie Provinces to 2,584 from 1,483, and the Maritimes to 308 from 278. There was a drop in Quebec to 2,998 from 3,512, and in British Columbia to 668 from 951.

In the January-November period, the completions in Ontario increased to 31,457 from 25,290, Quebec to 26,093 from 19,781, Prairie Provinces to 15,805 from 10,681, British Columbia to 7,318 from 6,482, the Maritimes to 3,118 from 2,808, and Newfoundland to 1,333 from 969. (3)

MERCHANDISING & SERVICES

Department Store Sales
Up 8.9 Per Cent In Week

Canadian department stores increased their dollar sales by 8.9 per cent during the week ending January 9 as compared with the same week last year. There were sales gains in all provinces except Alberta where the decline was 3.8 per cent. The advance in the Maritimes was 11.5 per cent, Quebec 9.3, Ontario 10.2, Manitoba 14.4, Saskatchewan 9.0, and British Columbia, 9.0.

Sales rose 1.9 per cent in December as compared with a year earlier. Sales were up 5.0 per cent in Quebec, 1.9 in British Columbia, 1.8 in Ontario, 0.8 in the Maritimes and 0.8 in Manitoba. There was a decline of 0.7 per cent in Alberta and 0.1 per cent in Saskatchewan.

November Retail Sales Down
Slightly From Year Earlier

Canadian retailers had estimated sales in November valued at \$1,001,648,000, down eight per cent from October's \$1,088,379,000 and 0.5 per cent from 1952's \$1,006,888,000. This was the first month since the end of World War II that retail sales declined from the same month of the preceding year. Cumulative sales for the first 11 months aggregated \$10,921,986,000, a rise of 4.8 per cent over 1952's \$10,418,936,000.

There were declines in November in the Atlantic Provinces, Alberta and British Columbia, and small increases in the rest of Canada. In the 11 months there were gains in all regions. In November the drop in the Atlantic Provinces was 4.6 per cent, Alberta 6.1, and British Columbia 2.9; the rise in Quebec was 0.3 per cent, Ontario 1.3, Manitoba 0.6, and Saskatchewan 1.1. January-November increases were: Atlantic Provinces, 2.8 per cent; Quebec, 4.7; Ontario, 5.5; Manitoba, 5.2; Saskatchewan 8.1; Alberta, 3.7; and British Columbia, 2.9.

The most significant percentage decreases in sales in November were reported by men's clothing stores (8.1), motor vehicle dealers (6.5), and family clothing stores (6.0), while among the trades with increases, the most notable were in lumber and building material dealers (11.0), and garages and filling stations (8.8). (4)

Percentage Changes in Selected Retail Trades
January-November, 1953 compared with January-November, 1952

	<u>All Stores</u>	<u>Chains</u>	<u>Independents</u>
Grocery & Combination	+ 3.9	+ 9.1	+ 1.2
Family Clothing	+ 0.1	- 1.9	+ 0.5
Women's Clothing	+ 3.1	+ 4.7	+ 2.6
Shoe	+ 2.4	+ 4.4	+ 1.4
Lumber & Building Material	+ 11.5	+ 9.9	+ 12.0
Furniture	+ 4.0	+ 3.4	+ 4.2
Appliance & Radio	+ 11.4	+ 2.6	+ 13.7
Restaurant	- 2.1	- 1.5	- 2.1
Drug	+ 3.1	+ 3.9	+ 3.0
Jewellery	+ 5.3	+ 6.1	+ 5.0

Wholesalers' Sales Off
Slightly Last November

Wholesale sales in November were slightly lower than in the same month of 1952 and showed a considerable seasonal decrease from October. Dollar value of stocks at the end of November was up 0.7 per cent. The unadjusted index of sales for the nine trades surveyed was 361.0 compared with 398.9 for October and 362.3 for November 1952.

Declines in the soft goods trades and in fruit and vegetables more than offset increased sales in the other trades. Wholesalers of dry goods and clothing had declines of 15 and 13 per cent respectively, while fruit and vegetable wholesalers reported sales down 10 per cent. Wholesalers of auto parts and equipment showed a gain of 10 per cent, drugs six, and groceries and hardware each two per cent. (5)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Supplies Of Wheat For
Export & Carryover Up

Supplies of wheat remaining on or about December 1 in the four major exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 1,759,500,000 bushels, some 28 per cent greater than the 1,373,100,000 bushels available a year ago.

Supplies at December 1, 1953 were held as follows, with the preceding year's corresponding totals in brackets: United States, 937,400,000 (743,300,000) bushels; Canada, 713,900,000 (610,000,000); Argentina, 72,700,000 (1,800,000); and Australia, 35,500,000 (18,000,000). Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial positions.

December 1 supplies in the two Southern Hemisphere countries consisted only of the carryover at the end of their crop years. Preliminary estimates of these new crops indicate that their combined total may amount to some 394,000,000 bushels as against 473,100,000 for the previous crops. (6)

November Exports Of Wheat And
Flour Total 24.4 Million Bushels

Total exports of Canadian wheat flour in terms of wheat during November, 1953 amounted to 24,400,000 bushels and, although considerably below the high November 1952 exports of 43,700,000 bushels, were relatively unchanged from those of October, and compare favourably with the 1943-44 — 1952-53 November average of 28,300,000.

Exports of wheat as grain in November totalled 20,400,000 bushels, a decrease of nine per cent from those of the previous month. Total exports of wheat as grain during the August-November period of the present crop year amounted to 88,300,000 bushels as against 118,200,000 for the same period of 1952-53.

The United Kingdom received some 29,300,000 bushels, or about one-third of this year's exports during the four months ending November. Other major markets for Canadian wheat during the period were as follows: Japan, 15,900,000 bushels; the Federal Republic of Germany, 8,200,000; Belgium, 5,800,000; India, 4,300,000; Switzerland, 4,00,000; Spain, 3,400,000; United States, 2,600,000 (of which 1,200,000 bushels were for milling in bond); the Netherlands, 2,400,000; Union of South Africa, 2,200,000; Ireland, 1,600,000; Israel, 1,500,000; and Peru, 1,100,000.

Preliminary customs returns indicate that 4,100,000 bushels of wheat flour in terms of wheat were exported in November, an increase of 20 per cent over October. The adjusted November, 1952 total stands at 5,600,000 bushels. Total exports of wheat flour for the August-November period amounted to 14,500,000 bushels as compared with 20,000,000 a year earlier. (6)

Cold Storage Holdings Of
Fish Lower On January 1

Cold storage holdings of fish were lower on January 1 this year, amounting to 15,336,000 pounds against 57,384,000 a month earlier and 54,781,000 last year. Stocks of cod were 4,565,000 pounds (9,098,000 in 1953); haddock, 2,243,000 (2,394,000); salmon, 11,694,000 (10,488,000); sea herring, 7,762,000 (8,940,000); other sea fish, 19,293,000 (17,431,000); and inland fish, 4,679,000 (6,430,000). (7)

Creamery Butter Holdings
Of Nine Cities Increased

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities on January 14 this year amounted to 47,823,000 pounds against 33,696,000 last year. Holdings were as follows by cities with last year's figures in brackets (in thousands): Quebec, 3,537 (2,417) pounds; Montreal, 23,424 (15,443); Toronto, 9,397 (6,545); Winnipeg, 7,522 (4,992); Regina, 626 (775); Saskatoon, 146 (172); Edmonton, 1,221 (1,241); Calgary, 400 (324); and Vancouver, 1,550 (1,787).

(continued on page 6)

More Creamery Butter, Cheddar Cheese,
Less Concentrated Milk Made Last Year

Production of creamery butter in December showed a small gain of one per cent over the same month of 1952, and domestic disappearance was practically

unchanged. Preliminary totals for the full year 1953 indicate a rise of eight per cent in production and an advance of four per cent in domestic disappearance.

Creamery butter production in December amounted to 13,342,000 pounds as compared with 13,252,000 a year earlier, and in the full year aggregated 301,916,000 against 280,747,000. Estimated domestic disappearance in the month was 24,879,000 pounds against 24,896,000, and in the year totalled 285,328,000 against 274,717,000. Output of cheddar cheese increased 21 per cent to 2,365,000 pounds from 1,949,000 in December 1952, bringing the year's aggregate to 70,050,000 pounds, five per cent above 1952's output of 66,574,000. Production of ice cream increased to 1,532,000 gallons from 1,460,000, and the year's total advanced to 28,772,000 from 27,238,000.

December's output of concentrated milk products showed an increase of 15 per cent to 22,752,000 pounds from 19,749,000 a year earlier, but the year's output was down seven per cent to 438,917,000 pounds from 471,475,000 in 1952. The rise in the month was due to a sharp gain of 38 per cent in whole milk products to 16,285,000 pounds from 11,782,000. The year's total, however, was down to 322,946,000 pounds from 350,208,000. December's output of milk by-products declined to 6,467,000 pounds from 7,967,000, and the year's production dropped to 115,971,000 pounds from 121,267,000. (8)

Stocks Of Butter, Poultry Meat Up,
Cheese, Eggs Down At Start Of 1954

Stocks of creamery butter on January 1 amounted to 70,-960,000 pounds, down from December 1 holdings of 82,-497,000 pounds, but up from last year's corresponding

total of 54,353,000 pounds. Cheddar cheese stocks declined to 33,034,000 pounds from 36,-054,000 a month earlier and 40,629,000 a year ago.

Holdings of evaporated whole milk dropped to 41,018,000 pounds from 50,559,000 on December 1 and 55,531,000 at the start of 1952, and stocks of skim milk powder to 11,124,000 pounds from 11,478,000 a month earlier and 16,645,000 a year before. Eggs in storage amounted to 173,000 cases, above December 1 stocks of 166,000 cases, but below 1952's 189,-000 cases. Poultry meat stocks increased to 30,732,000 pounds from 28,694,000 on December 1 and 22,744,000 a year earlier. (9)

Process Cheese Output Higher
In 1953; Year-End Stocks Up

Production of process cheese in December declined to 3,329,-000 pounds from the preceding month's 4,346,000 pounds and the 1952 December output of 3,393,000 pounds, but the year's

output climbed to 44,785,000 pounds from 41,141,000 in 1952. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of the year totalled 1,099,000 pounds against 1,828,000 at the end of November and 986,000 at December 31, 1952.

More Margarine
Made Last Year

Production of margarine was slightly higher in the full year 1953, amounting to 106,083,000 pounds as compared with 105,591,000 in the preceding year. December's output totalled 10,221,000 pounds, moderately below

November's 10,399,000 pounds, but up from the December 1952 output of 8,925,000 pounds. Stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and other warehouses on January 1 this year totalled 2,984,000 pounds as compared with 3,000,000 a month earlier and 2,896,000 on January 1, 1953. (10)

Meat Stocks Down
At Start Of 1954

Stocks of meat held by packers, abattoirs and cold storage warehouses on January 1 totalled 75,173,000 pounds, down from December 1 holdings of 77,357,000 and last year's January 1 stocks of 110,147,000. Holdings

of frozen meat were 49,465,000 pounds, sharply below last year's 81,668,000. Fresh meat stocks were moderately lower at 14,673,000 pounds against 16,540,000, as were holdings of cured meat at 11,035,000 pounds against 11,939,000. (11)

Stocks Of Fruit & Vegetables Larger At Start Of This Year

Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives on January 1 this year amounted to 29,834,000 pounds, down from December 1 holdings of 32,353,000 pounds, but up from last year's January 1 stocks of 28,776,000 pounds. At the same time, holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine totalled 22,003,000 pounds, slightly under the December 1 total of 22,043,000 pounds, but substantially above January 1, 1953 holdings of 15,926,000 pounds.

January 1 stocks of apples in cold and common storage declined to 3,656,000 bushels from last year's 3,769,000, but the holdings of pears increased to 74,000 bushels from 33,000. Stocks of potatoes increased to 19,936,000 bushels from 17,561,000, onions to 847,000 bushels from 565,000, carrots to 618,000 bushels from 595,000, and celery to 52,000 crates from 35,000. Holdings of cabbage declined to 185,000 bushels from 200,000. (12)

More Pears Canned In Canada In 1953

Commercial canners packed larger quantities of pears in 1953 than in the preceding year. The year's pack amounted to 1,512,190 dozen containers with a net weight of contents of 24,414,977 pounds as compared with 843,921 dozen containing 13,782,077 pounds in 1952.

The largest increase in the year's pack was in Bartlett pears which rose to 644,767 dozen from 247,741, and the weight of contents to 9,777,283 pounds from 3,742,781. The pack of Keiffer pears rose to 867,423 dozen containers from 596,180, and the net weight of contents to 14,637,694 pounds from 10,039,296.

More Fruit Cocktail, Fruits For Salads Packed Last Year

Canada's commercial pack of fruit cocktail and fruits for salads increased to 443,387 dozen cans in 1953 from 290,083 in 1952. Net weight of contents was up to 6,260,006 from 3,414,978 pounds. Last year's pack comprised 71,688 28-ounce containers (against nine in 1952), 72,730 (22,828) of the 20-ounce size, 217,877 (225,036) 15-ounce cans, 76,346 (35,329) 10-ounce cans, and 4,746 (6,890) of other sizes.

Nurseries Sold More Ornamental But Less Fruit Stock In 1951-52 Season

Canadian nurseries sold more ornamental trees, shrubs and plants in the 12 months ending June, 1952 than in 1950-51, but fewer fruit trees, bushes and plants, according to data received by the Bureau from 180 nurseries. Sales by kinds are summarized in the following table.

	1950-51		1951-52	
	Number Sold No.	Wholesale Value \$	Number Sold No.	Wholesale Value \$
<u>Ornamentals, trees, shrubs, plants</u>				
Rose bushes	397,541	175,465	502,492	217,118
Other ornamental shrubs	1,766,151	350,540	3,286,736	649,099
Ornamental trees:				
Deciduous.....	334,461	132,070	388,911	189,454
Evergreens.....	210,196	386,939	543,827	510,657
Ornamental climbers.....	26,074	14,054	37,291	16,796
Bulbs-tubers.....	n.a.	n.a.	630,649	48,161
Herbaceous perennials.....	610,581	84,674	653,466	98,223
<u>Fruit trees, bushes, plants</u>				
Apple species	276,626	151,384	201,692	123,706
Other tree fruits	417,181	211,826	396,887	213,596
Small fruit species	5,505,659	133,820	3,333,686	109,575
<u>Others (asparagus, rhubarb, horse radish roots)</u>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	41,589

(concluded on page 8)

Production Of Carbonated Beverages Higher In 1953

Production of carbonated beverages in 1953 is estimated at 103,234,658 gallons, slightly above the 1952 output of 101,395,491 gallons, according to a special statement. Monthly production totals (1952's in brackets): January, 6,758,093 (6,972,888) gallons; February, 5,689,583 (5,967,907); March, 6,840,284 (6,307,061); April, 7,504,544 (7,362,384); May, 9,356,465 (8,952,881); June, 10,407,480 (9,916,843); July, 12,931,159 (13,980,270); August, 10,438,799 (10,661,663); September, 10,041,580 (9,074,620); October, 7,488,904 (7,140,347); November, 7,254,990 (6,632,923); December, 8,522,777 (8,425,704).

Hog Population Down 10 Per Cent At First Of December

There was a decrease of 10 per cent in the estimated number of hogs on Canadian farms at December 1, 1953 as compared with a year earlier, according to the December 1 survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau Of Statistics in co-operation with the provincial departments of agriculture. All provinces shared in the decrease, the overall drop amounting to 10.5 per cent in eastern Canada and nine per cent in western Canada.

Hogs on farms at December 1, 1953 numbered 4,721,000 as compared with 5,237,000 a year earlier. The fall pig crop (pigs saved in the June to November period) was about 5.5 per cent lower in 1953 than in 1952, with sows that farrowed about nine per cent lower. According to intentions reported by farmers at December 1, it is estimated that 632,500 sows will farrow during the six-month period ending May 31, 1954, an increase of 36 per cent. The forecast indicates increases of 37 per cent in the East and 34 per cent in the West.

Estimated number of hogs by provinces, with December 1, 1952 estimates in brackets: Prince Edward Island, 69,000 (72,000); Nova Scotia, 42,000 (53,000); New Brunswick, 65,000 (71,000); Quebec, 949,000 (1,040,000); Ontario, 1,595,000 (1,800,000); Manitoba, 295,000 (327,000); Saskatchewan, 433,000 (560,000); Alberta, 1,229,000 (1,260,000); and British Columbia, 44,000 (54,000). (13)

P R I C E S

Index Of Farm Prices Declined In November

The Bureau's index of farm prices of agricultural products for all Canada (Newfoundland excluded) moved downward in November, according to the preliminary estimate, to 228.9 from the revised figure of 235.8 for October. From September to October the index, which is based on 1935-39 equals 100, was unchanged. The decline in November was largely a result of substantially lower prices for live stock and eggs. Prices of dairy products rose, while almost no change was recorded for grains and potatoes.

Indexes for the nine provinces were also all down in the month from October. These were as follows (October figures in brackets): Prince Edward Island, 166.2 (172.6); Nova Scotia, 222.4 (224.1); New Brunswick, 197.6 (200.6); Quebec, 264.3 (270.5); Ontario, 253.0 (265.3); Manitoba, 211.8 (217.1); Saskatchewan, 193.5 (196.9); Alberta, 215.3 (220.2); and British Columbia, 265.8 (270.0). (14)

Security Price Indexes (1935-39=100)Investors' Price Index

	January 14, 1954	January 7, 1954	December 17, 1953
Total Common Stocks	155.5	155.7	154.2
Industrials	154.7	154.8	153.3
Utilities	147.5	147.4	147.7
Banks	182.8	184.1	179.1

Mining Stocks Price Index

Total Mining Stocks	82.3	81.7	79.5
Golds	60.0	60.0*	57.1
Base Metals	133.2	131.5	130.7

*Revised according to annual revision

HEALTH & WELFARE

Fewest Deaths, Lowest Death Rate, Widest Use Of
New Drugs Highlighted 1952 Strides Against T.B.

against a disease that has killed 164,777 Canadians since 1925, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in its latest issue of Tuberculosis Institutions.

The fewest deaths, the lowest death rate and the widest use of new drug treatments in any year highlighted record 1952 strides

Institutional and non-institutional deaths from all forms of tuberculosis tumbled 25 per cent from 3,417 in 1951 to 2,457 in 1952, the sharpest drop ever recorded. The new low represented a decline of 56 per cent from the 5,811 deaths of 1946, 66 per cent from the 7,164 of 1932 and 70 per cent from the 8,116 of 1926.

The T.B. death rate per hundred thousand Canadians also made the sharpest drop in its history in 1952, plunging 30 per cent to register below 20 for the first time. The 10-province rate fell from 24.4 in 1951 to 17.1. Excluding Newfoundland, the drop was from 23.2 to 16.2. In 1946 the death rate was nearly three times as high (47.2), in 1932 over four times (68.2), in 1926 more than five times (85.4). T.B. death rates fell in 1952 in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, where a rise to 23.3 from 17.2 occurred. The largest drop (to 46.8 from 70.8) was in Newfoundland, which continued to have the highest figure. The rate remained lowest in Ontario at 8.3. Saskatchewan had the second lowest rate (12.4) and Quebec the second highest (26.5).

By far the greatest progress has been made since the last war. From 1926 to 1946 the T.B. death rate fell by 38.2 deaths per 100,000 population, an average decline of less than two per year. From 1946 to 1952 the rate was lowered by 31 deaths per 100,000 Canadians, an average drop of more than five per year. One factor in this faster post-war decline has been the discovery of numerous new drugs which have been put to ever-increasing use in the treatment of tuberculosis.

By 1952 no less than 69 per cent of all the tuberculous patients separated (live discharges and transfers plus deaths) from T.B. institutions had records of streptomycin treatments during their latest hospital stay. In 1951 the same applied to only 44 per cent of the total, in 1950 to 35 per cent, in 1949 to 22 per cent, in 1948 to seven per cent, and in 1947, the year it was first used, to 0.01 per cent. In 1952, 61 per cent of the tuberculous separations had been treated with PAS as compared with 36 per cent in 1951, 16 per cent in 1950 and 0.1 per cent in 1949, its first year. The proportion treated with TB1 rose to 1.3 per cent in 1952 from 0.6 per cent in 1951, when it was first administered.

Counting patients who had treatments in previous hospital stays, 73 per cent of the 1952 tuberculous separations had been treated with one or more of these three drugs, the percentage being above 60 in every part of the country except the Northwest Territories, where 31 per cent were treated with one or more. The provincial percentages were: Newfoundland, 90; Prince Edward Island, 89; British Columbia, 81; Quebec, 75; Saskatchewan, 74; Ontario, 73; Nova Scotia, 69; Manitoba, 64; Alberta, 63; and New Brunswick, 61.

In 1952 a new drug, isoniazid, was used for the first time in September, and by year's end had been administered to 4.4 per cent of the 1952 total of tuberculous separations, a higher proportion than for any other new treatment in an initial calendar year. Among other new drugs appearing on the treatment records of tuberculous separations in 1952 were continazin, estopen, tortimycin and vicmycin, each of which, however, had been used in only a few cases by the year's end.

Only a little more than one-fifth of the 1952 tuberculous separations had had only routine treatment (mainly bed rest and a balanced diet) as compared with over one-third in 1951. Special treatments, collapse treatments, or both, were administered to nearly 74 per cent as compared with less than 60 per cent in the preceding year.

(continued on page 10)

The average length of the last hospital stay of tuberculous separations in 1952 was 342.1 days, 2.1 days more than in 1951. Excluding transfers and untreated cases, 78.3 per cent of the total were non-bacillary on separation in 1952, an improvement from 74.4 per cent in 1951 and 72.7 in 1950. About 55 per cent of the total discharges and deaths as against 49 per cent in 1951 had been bacillary on admission, and of these 62 versus 57 per cent were alive and non-bacillary on separation, 13 versus 18 per cent were dead, and the remaining 25 per cent in both years were alive and bacillary. The proportion of deaths among all tuberculous separations fell at a sharply accelerated rate in 1952, dropping almost one-third to 8.3 per cent from 12.3 in 1951 (the 1951 drop was less than five per cent from 12.9 in 1950). In 1944 the proportion was more than two and a half times higher at 21.4 per cent. Of the live discharges in 1952, the disease was inactive in 25 per cent and arrested in 37 per cent, while 29 per cent were classed as "active improved" and nine per cent as "active unimproved".

Departures of patients from hospital against the advice of the attending physician continued to present a problem of some consequence in 1952, with 22 per cent of the tuberculous separations as against 20 per cent in 1951 leaving against medical advice. In this category were nearly 65 per cent of those classed as active unimproved in 1952, 43 per cent of those classed as active improved, 6.4 per cent of those classed as inactive or arrested, and over 64 per cent of those who were not treated. Provincially, from seven per cent of the tuberculous separations in Prince Edward Island to almost 30 per cent in Quebec left against medical advice (only in the Northwest Territories did 100 per cent leave on advice).

During 1952 admissions to tuberculosis institutions numbered 20,181, a decline from 20,791 in 1951. There was a slight drop in the number of beds available to 18,376 from 18,407, the first reversal of the upward trend since 1941, and the ratio of beds per 10,000 population slipped to 12.3 from 12.7 in 1951, but was well above the 1941 ratio of 9.5. On the other hand, the average number of patients per day increased to 16,790 from 16,404 in 1951, the apparent percentage occupancy of beds moving to 91.4 from 89.1 per cent. Total separations declined to 19,950 from 20,313 in 1951, while deaths in institutions dropped to 1,141 from 1,527. (15)

Hospital Admissions Soared 74 Per Cent In Nine Years

In less than a decade the number of patients admitted to public hospitals in Canada jumped 74 per cent from 1,008,822 in 1943 to 1,760,052 in 1952, while the bed capacity of hospitals increased about 26 per cent, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reveals in Volume I of its latest issue of the Annual Report Of Hospitals.

The 777 hospitals reporting to the Bureau for 1952 had a rated capacity of 68,033 beds as against 53,938 reported by 613 hospitals in 1943. However, the average number of beds per hospital actually declined during the nine years to 87.6 from 88, and the ratio of public hospital beds per thousand Canadians rose only slightly to 4.72 from 4.57. On the other hand, the average number of admissions per hospital climbed to 2,265 from 1,646, admissions per bed increasing 38 per cent to 25.9 from 18.7. The daily average number of patients rose 47 per cent to 55,154 from 38,055, and percentage bed occupancy advanced to 81.1 from 70.6 per cent.

The nine years also saw a 76.5 per cent jump in the number of public hospital discharges from 971,260 to 1,714,304, the average number per hospital increasing 39 per cent from 1,584 to 2,206. Although with more hospitals reporting the number of deaths rose from 36,333 to 44,674, the ratio of deaths per thousand patients under care fell from 34.9 in 1943 to 24.7 in 1952. At the same time births in public hospitals increased 88 per cent from 158,133 to 294,975. In 1943 only 56 out of every 100 babies born in Canada were born in public hospitals; in 1952 it was 76 out of every 100 (another five were born in other hospitals in the latter year). The nine-year increase in the number of stillbirths was only 31 per cent from 4,149 to 5,466, the ratio per thousand live births dropping 35 per cent from 29 to 19.

(concluded on page 11)

Other highlights from the Bureau's 1952 hospital report:

• The ratio of beds set up per 100 capacity ranged from 96 in general hospitals to 110 in orthopaedic hospitals in 1952. Also operating above capacity were maternity hospitals (104), communicable disease hospitals (103) and convalescent hospitals (102).

• Average stay of separations in 1952 ranged from 8.9 days in maternity hospitals to 311.5 days in chronic disease hospitals. General hospitals with 97 per cent of all public hospital admissions had an average stay of 10 days for adults and children, 7.1 days for newborn.

• More public hospitals were owned by lay corporations in 1952 than by either religious orders, municipalities or provinces. However, these predominated only in the 1-9, 25-49 and 50-99 bed capacity groups, municipal ownership leading among hospitals of 10-24 beds and religious orders owning the most in all size groups from 100 beds up. The 250 hospitals under religious orders averaged 135 beds as against an average of just over 100 beds for the 277 lay hospitals.

• Over 88 per cent of the 777 public hospitals had radiography facilities in 1952, 82 per cent had fluoroscopic facilities, and 47 per cent reported that they took routine chest X-rays of all patients admitted.

• During 1952 public hospitals performed 13,218 autopsies, about 26 in every 100 deaths.

• Public hospitals reporting an approved school of nursing decreased to 153 in 1952 from 159 in 1950, continuing the trend evident since 1934. Nevertheless, the number of students graduated increased nine per cent to 4,569 in 1952. Despite the increase, however, facilities were available for an even larger number of students, the potential graduation total exceeding the actual number graduated by 1,150.

• Average hours worked per patient per day by paid personnel in 620 of the reporting hospitals was 8.8 hours in 1952, ranging from 4.2 hours in chronic disease hospitals to 10.6 in communicable disease hospitals. In general hospitals it was 9.4 hours. A breakdown of the total hours (169,004,255) shows that 21.2 per cent were worked by graduate nurses, 14.7 by student nurses, 5.2 by graduate nursing assistants, 3.0 by orderlies, 2.0 by interns, 1.6 by laboratory technicians, 1.4 by trainee nursing assistants, 1.1 by radiology personnel, 0.7 by dietitians, 0.6 by salaried doctors, and the balance by other personnel. A similar breakdown by hospital departments shows that 41.1 per cent of the hours were spent in direct nursing care, 12.2 in the dietary department, 10.6 in housekeeping, 7.0 in general administration, 4.3 in the laundry, 4.2 in the physical plant department, 4.1 in the operating room, 2.6 in the laboratory, 2.5 in medical and surgical service, and the rest in other departments. Average hours worked per patient per day was highest for graduate nurses at 1.9 hours, with 70 per cent of this time spent in direct nursing care, 9.5 in the operating room, 4.8 in the delivery room, 3.8 in the school of nursing, 3.2 in medical and surgical service, and the remainder in other duties. (16)

TRANSPORT

Railway Carloadings Down In First Week This Year

Carloadings on Canadian railways in the first week of 1954 totalled 51,104 cars, down 4,761 or 8.5 per cent from last year's corresponding movement. Receipts from connections were down 2,469 cars to 21,819. Eastern division loadings fell 879 cars to 32,931, with non-ferrous ores, lumber and L.C.L. shipments lower and larger loadings of coal, gasoline and automobiles and parts. Western region loadings declined 3,882 cars to 18,173, with reduced shipments of grain, crude petroleum, logs and L.C.L. and heavier loadings of livestock and coal.

Loadings in the full year 1953 totalled 3,992,416, a decrease of four per cent from the 1952 total of 4,160,225 cars, and 4.6 per cent under the 1951 total of 4,183,662 cars. Most of the decline was in the eastern division. (17)

M I N E R A L S

More Nickel, Less Copper Produced
In November & 11 Months Last Year

More nickel but less primary copper was produced in Canada in November and the first 11 months last year than in the like periods of 1952, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in its monthly release. Output of refined copper was higher in both periods but consumption was lower in the 11 months despite an increase in November.

Production of primary copper fell to 17,262 tons in November from the revised October total of 19,229 and the 1952 November output of 21,340, and was off to 235,696 from 235,720 tons in the 11 months. Refined copper production surged to 17,101 from 11,282 tons in the month and to 217,082 from 178,888 in January-November. Consumption of refined copper measured 11,222 against 10,116 tons in November, but lowered to 101,361 from 121,178 in the 11 months. Nickel production advanced to 12,714 from 11,381 tons in the month, and to 131,022 from 128,744 in January-November. (18)

Less Salt Shipped In

Canadian producers shipped 43,844 tons of dry common salt last November, 1,570 less than in the same month in 1952. January-November shipments were 31,419 lower at 451,541. November production was better at 46,683 against 45,671, but 11-month output was down to 460,290 from 480,123. November-end stocks were more than twice as large at 23,539 against 11,554 tons. (19)

M A N U F A C T U R I N G

Steel Ingot Output Up

Canadian production of steel ingots continued to rise in November, the month's output increasing to 324,497 tons from the preceding year's corresponding total of 297,874 tons. This brought the cumulative total for the first 11 months of 1953 to 3,713,468 tons, an increase of about 14 per cent over 1952's January-November output of 3,266,188 tons. On a daily basis, November's output averaged 10,817 tons as compared with 9,929 a year earlier, while the 11-month daily average worked out at 11,118 as compared with 9,750. (20)

Shipments Of Primary
Steel Shapes Higher

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, totalled 291,387 net tons in October as compared with 285,471 in 1952. Producers interchanged 117,978 tons as compared with 131,551. October's shipments included 4,478 tons of semi-finished shapes, 22,059 of structurals, 20,116 of plates, 32,657 of rails, 8,759 of tie plates and track material, 42,248 of hot rolled bars, 20,015 of pipes and tubes, 30,654 of wire rods, 46,936 of black sheets, 9,246 of galvanized sheets, 7,479 of castings, and 46,740 of other rolled products. (21)

A N N U A L I N D U S T R Y R E P O R T S

Output Value Of Artificial Abrasives
Industry Declined 18 Per Cent In 1952

Factory selling value of products made in Canada's artificial abrasives industry dropped over 18 per cent in 1952 to \$36,717,228 from \$44,920,949 in 1951. Despite the addition of a new plant in Ontario, which brought the industry total to 20, employment was off 13 per cent to 2,607 from 2,989, while total salaries and wages were more than four per cent lower at \$9,248,935 against \$9,675,282. Material costs were reduced 21 per cent to \$13,967,649 from \$17,668,167, and fuel and electricity cost 13 per cent less at \$3,313,052 against \$3,819,109.

Eight plants (four in Ontario, four in Ontario, four in Quebec) made artificial abrasives such as crude fused alumina and crude silicon carbide as their main products in 1952, and the value of their output was \$28,472,555. The other 12 (11 in Ontario, one in Quebec) were occupied chiefly in making abrasive products such as wheels, paper, pulpstones and sharpening stones, and their production was valued at \$8,244,673. Output value was lower in 1952 for all principal products except silicon carbide firesand and sharpening stones and files, which increased. (22)

(concluded on page 13)

Distilling Industry In 1952 Value of production of Canada's distilling industry in 1952 was \$115,985,000, moderately above the preceding year's total \$113,696,000. Whiskies and other potable spirits produced during the year and placed in bond for maturing totalled 16,694,807 proof gallons with an inventory value of \$15,067,762 as compared with 17,613,470 valued at \$15,518,419. Production of industrial alcohol amounted to 6,508,672 proof gallons valued at \$2,630,717 against 7,252,410 worth \$2,853,435.

Net sales of potable spirits -- sales outside the industry to Liquor Boards, export sales, etc. -- amounted to 11,171,830 proof gallons valued at \$86,141,890 as compared with 10,801,225 proof gallons valued at \$84,453,985. Sales of industrial alcohol amounted to 7,893,129 proof gallons, of which 3,289,691 proof gallons were sold "not denatured", and 4,603,438 sold "denatured".

In 1952 there were 21 establishments engaged in the production of distilled liquor, one more than in 1951, of which nine were in Ontario and eight in Quebec. These establishments reported a payroll of 4,784 persons who received \$14,129,557 in salaries and wages as compared with 4,643 persons and salary and wage payments of \$12,938,163 in 1951. (23)

RELEASED THIS WEEK

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

- 1- Estimates of Labour Income, Oct., 10¢
- 2- The Labour Force, Monthly Survey, Week Ended Dec. 12, 20¢
- 3- New Residential Construction, Jan.-Nov., 25¢
- 4- Retail Trade, Nov., 20¢
- 5- Wholesale Trade, Nov., 10¢
- 6- The Wheat Review, Dec., 25¢
- 7- M: Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, Jan. 1, 10¢
- 8- Dairy Factory Production, Dec., 10¢
- 9- M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, Jan. 1, 10¢
- 10- M: Margarine Statistics, Dec., 10¢
- 11- M: Stocks of Meat & Lard, Jan. 1, 10¢
- 12- M: Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, Jan. 1, 10¢
- 13- M: Report on Live Stock Survey of Dec. 1: Hogs, 10¢
- Quarterly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, July-Sept., 25¢
- 14- M: Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, Nov., 10¢
- 15- Tuberculosis Institutions, 1952, 75¢
- 16- Annual Report of Hospitals, 1952, Volume 1, 50¢
- 17- M: Railway Carloadings, Weekly, 10¢
- 18- M: Copper & Nickel Production, Nov., 10¢
- 19- M: Salt, Nov., 10¢
- 20- Steel Ingots, Nov., 10¢
- 21- Primary Iron & Steel, Oct., 20¢
- 22- Artificial Abrasives Industry, 1952, 25¢
- 23- Distilling Industry, 1952, 25¢

M = Memorandum

D. B. S. NEWS NOTES

Police Stations in urban centres of 4,000 population and over numbered 326 in 1952, 140 less than in 1951.

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Car Loadings on railways totalled 3,992,416 in 1953, 4% less than in 1952.

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Marriage rate fell to 8.9 per thousand Canadians in 1952 from 9.2 in 1951. The rate was highest in 1946 at 10.9.

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Draught beer accounted for only 24.7% of all the beer, ale, stout and porter sold by brewers in 1952, a drop from 27.8% in 1951, 32.3% in 1945 and 45.3% in 1953.

. . .

Autopsies in public hospitals numbered 13,-218 in 1952, about 26 in every 100 deaths.

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Artificial abrasives industry included 20 plants in 1952, one more than in 1951, but employed 13% fewer (2,607), produced 18% less (\$36,717,228).

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Nurseries sold 502,492 rose bushes and 3,-286,376 other ornamental shrubs in the 12 months ending June 1952. This was over one-fourth more rose bushes, 86% more other shrubs than were sold in 1950-51.

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T.B. Patients: For every 1,000 females there were 1,191 males in 1952 as compared with 1,134 in 1951.

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Birth rate was 27.9 per thousand Canadians in 1952, second only to the record 28.8 rate of 1947.

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Pears: 24,414,977 pounds were canned in 1953, 77% more than in 1952.

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Stillbirths per thousand live births in public hospitals dropped to 19 in 1952 from 29 in 1943.

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Hogs on farms numbered 4,721,000 at the start of December last year, 10% less than in 1952, but the 1954 spring crop is expected to raise the total 36%.

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T.B. Institutions: 22% of the tuberculosis separations in 1952 left hospital against medical advice, an increase from 20% of the total in 1951.

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Carbonated Beverages: Output rose to 103,-200,000 gallons in 1953 from 101,400,000 in the preceding year.

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Public Hospitals: By 1952, 82% had fluoroscopic facilities, 88% had radiography facilities, and 47% took routine chest x-rays of all patients admitted.

. . .

Sugar refineries spent \$93,303,708 on materials in 1952. About 93% went for raw cane and sugar beets, 5% for boxes and bags, and the balance for other materials ranging from boneblack and infusorial earth to sulphuric acid and soda ash.

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