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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

THE PEOPLE: Post-war upward in population growth continues, with the annual June 1 estimate showing 15,195,000 Canadians this year, 2.8% more than at the start of June last year, 8.5% more than at the time of the 1951 Census, 25.9% more than at the start of June, 1945. Prince Edward Island's population dropped slightly in the latest year, but gains in the other provinces ranged from 1.5% in Nova Scotia to 4% in Newfoundland. (Page 11)

FOREIGN TRADE: Canada sold 5.4% less to other countries in the first half of this year than in the first six months of 1953, and a 2.5% cut in prices reduced the total value of domestic exports by 7.5%. Less was sold to the U.S., U.K., other commonwealth countries, Latin America, Europe, more to other foreign countries. Main drops were in agricultural and vegetable products (principally wheat), iron and products, non-ferrous metals and products. (Page 7)

PRICES: The cost of living was up at the start of July, the consumer price index advancing one-tenth of a point from a month earlier. Clothing prices declined, but the cost of food, shelter household operation, and other commodities and services rose.. Wholesale prices fell 0.2% in June, mainly due to recessions in vegetable products.. Prices of farm products showed no change... Prices of residential building materials advanced 0.5%, non-residential construction materials 0.1%. (Pages 9 & 10)

PRODUCTION: With dealer sales running well behind last year's record turnover, motor vehicle manufacturers slashed factory shipments by more than one-quarter this May. However, five-month shipments were off only 9% in contrast to a 17% slump in dealer sales... Output of refrigerators and home and farm freezers was substantially lower in the first five months... More insulating board, less hard board and asphalt floor tiles were made in the first six months... Five-month output of veneers and plywoods was down... More building brick and structural tile, less drain tile and sewer pipe were made in the first four months... More nickel and primary copper, less refined copper was produced in January-May. (Pages 4, 5 & 6)

AGRICULTURE: Growers are expected to harvest 4% more apples, 6% more raspberries, 9% more grapes and 2% more plums and prunes this year, but 30% less apricots, 20% less pears and cherries, 14% less peaches and 5% less strawberries than in 1953... Hens laid over 16% more eggs in the first six months this year... Sales of fluid milk and cream were up 3% in the first five months... Visible supplies of Canadian wheat continued to increase in the second week of July and by July 14 were more than 51% above the holdings of a year earlier... Canned meat stocks at the end of June were less than one-fifth the holdings of a year earlier, mainly as a result of a sharp reduction in supplies of spiced pork and ham. (Pages 3 & 4)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Crop Conditions Across Canada Recent wet weather throughout the Maritime Provinces has hampered haying operations and some losses are reported from Prince Edward Island. Grain crops are ripening in that province and harvesting has commenced in Nova Scotia. Although lodging is reported in grain fields in all provinces, the general outlook for these crops is good. Potatoes are showing good growth although late blight is reported from Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Pastures in Nova Scotia suffered from dry weather in early July but have now improved due to recent rains. Elsewhere, pastures are generally still good. Outbreaks of army worms are reported in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In the Annapolis Valley fruit crops are developing satisfactorily although heavy rains are causing some scab development. Fair weather is needed for these crops.

Frequent rains in most regions of Quebec have prevented farmers from completing haying. The hay crop is large but adverse weather has caused deterioration in quality. Early-sown grains are beginning to head. Good yields are anticipated on well-drained soils while average yields are expected in areas where moisture has been excessive. Damage from rust and aphids is reported in a number of localities. Pastures in general are excellent and the milk flow is still above the normal level in the Montreal region and neighbouring districts. Early potatoes are being dug. Green peas and beans are moving to the canning factories but yields are a little below last year's. Tomatoes and green corn are coming on the market. Tobacco crop prospects are good and orchards are fairly promising. Picking of a good raspberry crop is being completed in the district around Montreal but in other regions the season is just beginning. The outlook for blueberries is good.

Harvesting of early oats has commenced throughout western and central Ontario and harvesting of fall wheat is almost completed. Yields of fall wheat are about average but the yield of spring grains for the province as a whole has been adversely affected by exceptionally dry weather during July in southern counties of southwestern Ontario and recent outbreaks of army worms which have now extended throughout most of the province. Late crops such as corn, dry beans and soybeans developed slowly during July as a result of very dry weather in areas where heavy production of these crops is concentrated. Pastures dried up during July throughout much of the central and western part of the province due to the lack of rainfall, and a great many dairy farmers were forced to undertake supplementary feeding of grass silage, hay and grains. Rains have been fairly general throughout the province since July 28 and will greatly benefit late spring grains, other late crops and pastures. In central and southwestern parts of the province, however, additional rainfall is still needed.

Drier weather over the past two weeks has brought crops along rapidly in most parts of the Prairie Provinces although some deterioration due to lack of moisture has occurred, particularly in southern Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan. Rain will also be needed in some other regions to bring large areas of late-seeded crops to maturity. Hay and pastures have been generally good throughout the Prairies. Swathing of fall rye is getting under way in southern districts. Rust constitutes a serious threat particularly west of the Red River Valley in Manitoba, and in southeastern, central and northwestern Saskatchewan. Potential threat of rust damage also exists in other regions of the Prairies. Hail damage has been light in Manitoba, light to medium in Saskatchewan, but quite heavy in Alberta. Due to late seeding in many areas early frosts could cause damage to a large proportion of the crop.

In British Columbia weather conditions have been variable during the past two weeks. In the Lower Fraser Valley and on Vancouver Island, although there have been a few days of bright sunshine, temperatures have remained comparatively cool. Production of grass silage and hay has been good and cutting of an average crop of fall wheat has commenced. In the northern Okanagan the weather has been considerably warmer. Second-cut alfalfa is being harvested and cutting of fall wheat is general. In central interior sections cereal crops are disappointing due to backward weather. In the Peace River area there has been very little hot weather to date and although growth has been good, grain crops are still late and uneven in many areas. Clear, warm weather which prevailed in the Creston area the past two weeks has hastened maturity of cereal grains. (1)

Larger Crops This Year of Apples, Plums, Raspberries & Grapes, But Others Smaller

Canada's apple crop is expected to be about 4% larger this year than in 1953. Estimates also indicate increases of 6% in the production of raspberries, 9% in grapes and 2% in plums and prunes. Production of other major commercial fruit crops are expected to be smaller, with an indicated decline of 30% in apricots, 20% in both pears and cherries, 14% in peaches, and 5% in strawberries.

Estimates of this year's major commercial fruit crops, with 1953 figures in brackets follows: apples, 12,178,000 (11,731,000) bushels; pears, 1,174,000 (1,435,000) bushels; plums and prunes, 793,000 (775,000) bushels; peaches, 2,504,000 (2,893,000) bushels; apricots, 117,000 (165,000) bushels; cherries, 357,000 (449,000) bushels; strawberries, 28,688,000 (30,075,000) quarts; raspberries, 16,009,000 (15,113,000) quarts; loganberries, 1,518,000 (1,687,000) pounds; and grapes, 87,897,000 (80,533,000) pounds. (2)

Supplies Of Wheat Higher at July 14

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on July 14 totalled 359,761,000 bushels, moderately above a week earlier stocks of 352,864,000 bushels, but sharply above last year's 237,813,000 bushels. Prairie farmers reduced their wheat deliveries during the week ending July 14 to 10,952,000 bushels from 12,871,000 a year ago, and cumulative deliveries for the crop year to date were down to 355,974,000 bushels from 465,573,000.

Except for a small increase in deliveries of rye to 391,000 bushels from 389,000 a year earlier, deliveries of coarse grains were lower in the week. Oats declined to 1,626,000 bushels from 2,619,000, barley to 2,805,000 bushels from 4,454,000, and flaxseed to 51,000 bushels from 75,000.

Overseas export clearances of wheat during the week were steeply lower at 2,238,000 bushels as compared with 11,427,000 a year ago, and cumulative clearances were off to 188,965,000 bushels from 288,796,000. (3)

Over 16% More Eggs Laid In First Six Months This Year

Canadian hens laid an estimated 217,384,000 dozen eggs in the first half of this year, 30,718,000 dozen or over 16% more than in the first six months of 1953. About 79% as compared with 80% last year were sold for market.

Output in June was 31,800,000 dozen, down from 36,200,000 dozen in May but up almost one-fifth from the 26,600,000 dozen produced in June last year. Average output per layer was 15.2 eggs as against 16.8 eggs in the preceding month and compared with an average of 15.6 eggs per hen over six months old in June last year, when the average number of layers on farms was more than one-fifth less.

More eggs were laid in June and the first six months this year in all provinces except Saskatchewan, where production was under the 1953 level. Farm hens continued to supply over 97% of the national output this year, laying 30,906,000 dozen in June and 211,363,000 dozen in the half-year as compared with 25,850,000 dozen in June and 181,541,000 dozen in the first six months last year. The number of eggs sold for market increased to 26,100,000 dozen in June from 21,000,000 dozen a year earlier, and to 173,241,000 dozen from 149,610,000 dozen in the half-year. (4)

Sales of Fluid Milk & Cream Up 3% in May & Five Months

Combined sales of fluid milk and cream increased 3% in May and the first five months of this year as compared with a year earlier. The month's sales amounted to 424,753,000 pounds, bringing the January-May total to 2,120,584,000 pounds.

Sales were higher in the January-May period in all provinces except Prince Edward Island where there was a 3% decrease to 11,254,000 pounds. Sales in Nova Scotia were up 3% to 70,108,000 pounds, New Brunswick 4% to 61,202,000, Quebec 1% to 804,060,000, Ontario 4% to 719,805,000, Manitoba 3% to 20,445,000, Saskatchewan 7% to 101,626,000, Alberta 5% to 110,586,000, and British Columbia 3% to 151,498,000. (5)

Canned Meat Stocks Lower At End Of June Mainly as a result of a sharp reduction in the stocks of spiced pork and ham, overall stocks of canned meats held by manufacturers and wholesalers at the end of June dropped to 15,178,688 pounds from 80,747,436 a year ago. Holdings by kinds, with a year earlier totals in brackets, were as follows: beef stews and boiled dinners, 2,855,423 (4,416,134) pounds; roast beef, 113,971 (79,560); corned beef, 792,630 (786,203); other beef products, 1,715,001 (1,257,026); spiced pork and ham, 4,553,233 (68,219,267); roast pork and ham, 1,721,614 (1,906,886); other pork products, 1,402,637 (2,102,592); canned fowl, 714,029 (487,272); meat paste, 971,261 (1,065,580); and other kinds, 338,887 (426,918).

ELECTRIC POWER

Cost 4% More To Light Homes Last Year But Canadian Power Rates Among World's Lowest

It cost Canadians about 4% more to light their homes in 1953 than in the preceding year, but Canada's overall power rates were still among the lowest in the world. Despite last year's increase, the sixth in a row, residential electricity continued to cost consumers less than in 1935-39, but further rate boosts seem inevitable. Hydro company operating and transmission costs are still climbing. Distribution costs continue to be inflated by increases in wages, materials and taxes, and the steadily rising demand for electric power is forcing the addition of new capacity at a record rate. Since 1935-39 the price of adding a horse-power of new capacity has more than doubled. Another factor contributing to higher rates is the cost of frequency conversion in Ontario, which has already exceeded the original estimate by a considerable margin although the project is not expected to be completed for another seven years.

Last year the Bureau's nine-province (Newfoundland excluded) index of the cost of electricity for domestic service, which is based on the average 1935-39 rate equalling 100, advanced to 99.01 from 95.08 in 1952. The post-war low was in 1947, when residential electricity cost only 84.78% of what it did in 1935-39. The 1953 increase in the national index was the result of rate boosts in 25 Ontario municipalities, which raised the provincial index more than 10% to 100.84 from 91.54 in 1952. This gave Ontario an index number second only to British Columbia's. In 1952 Ontario's index ranked fifth.

The cost of residential electricity was reduced last year only in Manitoba, the provincial index declining to 97.28 from 97.40. The slight drop was the result of a rate cut in the Pas. Although rates were also lowered last year in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, and Edmonton, Alberta, the decreases were not great enough to alter the provincial indexes. Indexes reflecting no change in the cost of domestic electric service last year were Prince Edward Island's 91.82, Nova Scotia's 91.01, New Brunswick's 88.73, Quebec's 84.67, Saskatchewan's 98.15, Alberta's 71.11 and British Columbia's 145.02. Alberta has had the lowest index and British Columbia the highest in each of the last eight years. In 1945 the index was lowest in Prince Edward Island and highest in Saskatchewan. (6)

MINERALS

Production of Nickel, Copper Upped This May

More nickel and primary and refined copper were produced in May than in the same month last year. Output in the first five months of this year was higher than in 1953 for nickel and primary copper, but lower for refined copper.

Nickel output rose to 13,364 tons from 11,560 in May and to 64,252 from 58,647 tons in January-May, and production of primary copper to 28,278 tons from 28,278 tons 22,300 in the month and to 119,832 tons from 113,358 in the five months. The May increase in refined copper output to 23,012 tons from 20,179 was the first this year, January-May production totalling 93,454 tons as against 107,264 last year. Consumption of refined copper increased to 9,944 tons from 8,356 in May, but in the first five months was reduced to 40,035 tons from 49,020. (7)

MANUFACTURING

Sales Slump Reflected In Drop Of Over 26% In
Factory Shipments of Motor Vehicles This May

than one-quarter this May. The Bureau reports the industry shipped only 37,284 vehicles to dealers, 13,306 or over 26% less than in May last year.

With dealer sales running well behind last year's record turnover, motor vehicle manufacturers slashed factory shipments by more

The May cut, sharpest to date in 1954, followed on the heels of a 13% slice in April and a 12% drop in March. Increases in January and February, however, held the five-month loss to 9%, the total of 213,118 shipments comparing with 233,798 last year. Dealer sales, which have been on the downgrade since the start of the year, averaged 17% below the 1953 level in the first five months.

The 1954 slump continued to be more pronounced in commercial vehicles with only 7,149 shipped this May, less than half the 14,569 moved a year earlier. Five-month shipments were off to 42,513 from 64,570. Passenger cars shipped this May numbered 30,135, down 5,886 or over 16%, but January-May shipments were up slightly to 170,605 from 169,228. Dealer sales of new cars were down 13% in the five months.

In contrast to the slight overall increase in passenger car shipments, the number of convertibles shipped to dealers was more than eight times as great in the first five months of 1954 as in January-May last year at 10,207 versus 1,273. Shipments of station-wagons and of chassis sold without bodies were up more moderately, but less than one-third as many coupes were moved. Shipments of 2-door and 4-door sedans were moderately lower. All sizes of trucks were shipped in smaller quantities in the first five months this year, but nearly twice as many buses were moved.

The downturn in shipments was not confined to Canadian-made motor vehicles, both U.S. and European makes moving in reduced volume in both May and the first five months this year. Shipments of imported U.S. passenger cars were off to 2,723 from 3,316 in the latest month and to 10,724 from 13,274 in January-May, while shipments of U.S. commercial vehicles were down to 395 from 412 in May but were up to 1,818 from 1,722 in the five months. Shipments of European-made passenger cars numbered 2,338 in May and 8,993 in the first five months this year, and deliveries of European commercial vehicles totalled 179 in the month and 701 in January-May. Last year 2,338 British-made passenger cars were shipped in May and 12,337 in the first five months, while deliveries of British Commercial vehicles totalled 101 in the month and 496 in January-May. (8)

Fewer Refrigerators, Home Freezers
Produced in May And First 5 Months

than in the like periods last year. Factories had more refrigerators but fewer freezers in stock at the end of May this year.

Fewer domestic-type electric refrigerators and electric home and farm freezers were manufactured and shipped in May and the first five months this year

Output of refrigerators was reduced to 25,945 this May from 29,739 last year, and January-May production was 115,666 versus 121,788. Domestic shipments were off to 29,123 from 33,640 in the latest month, and to 119,740 from 131,819 in the five months, increases in Manitoba and Alberta being outweighed by decreases in the other provinces in both periods. Export shipments were cut to six from 183 in May and to 185 from 1,376 in January-May. May-end stocks were up to 36,845 from 24,589 a year earlier.

Production of freezers was more than halved this May to 563 from 1,242 last year, and five-month output was down to 2,814 from 3,811. Domestic shipments were reduced to 754 from 1,134 in the month and to 2,999 from 3,371 in January-May, while none were exported in May and only one as against four in the five months. May shipments were higher this year in Quebec and Ontario, and January-May shipments in Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. May-end stocks were lower at 699 versus 896. (9)

Production Of Veneers
And Plywoods In May

Production of veneers was sharply lower in May than a year earlier, but the month's output of plywood showed a small increase. Month-end stocks of both veneers and plywoods were up substantially from last year's output of veneers totalled 61,702,000 square feet as compared with 83,232,000 a year ago, bringing the January-May aggregate to 344,185,000 square feet as compared with 405,267,000. Month-end stocks were 52,487,000 square feet compared with 35,752,000. Plywood production in May amounted to 73,138,000 square feet as compared with 72,789,000, and in the five months aggregated 342,401,000 square feet as compared with 361,152,000. End-of-May stocks were 42,515,000 square feet as compared with 24,919,000. (10)

Building Products

More insulating board but less hard board was made in June and the first six months this year, while output of asphalt floor tiles was above the 1953 level in June but lower in the half-year. Producers' sales of clay products were down in April but up in the first four months, with more building brick and structural tile but less drain tile, sewer pipe, fireclay blocks and shapes and other clay products made in both periods this year.

Production of rigid insulating board increased to 27,328,905 square feet in June from 22,202,967 a year earlier, and in the first half-year rose to 145,023,103 square feet from 130,074,132. Domestic shipments were up to 27,133,532 square feet from 23,174,338 in June, and to 127,611,022 square feet from 121,638,504 in the six months.

Output of hard board was reduced to 12,900,236 square feet in June from 13,615,501 last year, and in the half-year fell to 73,586,793 square feet from 87,703,381. Domestic shipments were higher this June at 9,203,479 square feet as against 9,000,750, but in the six months were off to 56,408,152 square feet from 63,907,644. Export shipments were more than halved in June to 2,572,766 square feet from 5,337,812 a year earlier, and in the half-year were down to 16,210,194 square feet from 23,667,121.

Production of asphalt floor tiles was slightly higher in June at 1,288,140 square feet against 1,234,045 a year earlier, but in the first six months dropped to 8,362,280 square feet from 9,468,279. Domestic shipments were off to 1,115,057 square feet from 1,152,806 in June, and to 7,365,771 square feet from 8,521,805 in January-June. Output of vinyl-asbestos floor tiles amounted to 706,725 square feet in June and 2,959,935 square feet in the first half of 1954, while domestic shipments totalled 602,818 square feet in the month and 2,405,952 square feet in the six months. Figures on the production of vinyl-asbestos floor tiles are not available for last year.

Producers' sales of domestic clay products were valued at \$2,083,045 in April as compared with \$2,141,939 in the same month last year, and in January-April totalled \$7,828,472 versus \$7,636,489. Building brick increased to \$1,346,250 from \$1,302,811 in April and to \$5,034,561 from \$4,678,832 in the four months, and structural tile to \$249,090 from \$225,521 in the month and to \$1,120,960 from \$1,045,174 in January-April. Drain tile decreased to \$126,243 from \$142,340 in April and to \$331,494 from \$362,330 in the four months, sewer pipe to \$233,807 from \$315,248 in the month and to \$832,370 from \$967,306 in the cumulative period, fireclay blocks and shapes to \$19,446 from \$40,142 in April and to \$98,912 from \$151,570 in January-April, pottery to \$44,091 from \$44,143 in the month and to \$158,138 from \$162,329 in the four months, and other clay products to \$64,118 from \$71,734 in April and to \$252,037 from \$268,948 in January-April. (11, 12, 13 & 14)

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

Department Store Sales
Increased 7.7% In Week

Department store sales rose 7.7% in the week ending July 24 as compared with a year earlier. All provinces shared in the rise, British Columbia leading with an increase of 22.2%. The Atlantic provinces followed with a gain of 6.1%, Ontario 5.9%, Quebec 5.6%, Saskatchewan 3.9%, Manitoba 3.2%, and Alberta 2%.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

• Domestic Exports Declined 16.8% In June And 7.5% In Half-Year

Canada's domestic exports declined 16.8% in June from last year's June value which was an all-time monthly peak, This was mainly due to reduced shipments of grains since

exports of all other commodities were only slightly lower in value than last year. Except for a small increase in March there were declines from 1953 levels in all earlier months of the year and the cumulative value for the first half of 1954 fell 7.5%. There was a decrease of 15.1% in volume of exports in June and a decline of 5.4% in the half-year period. Prices were down 1.9% in June, and 2.5% in the January-June period.

Exports were lower in value than a year ago both in June and the January-June period to the United States, the United Kingdom, other Commonwealth countries as a group, Latin American countries, and Europe. Half-year exports to all other foreign countries were higher, but June values were lower. Domestic exports to all countries in June were valued at \$342,600,000 as compared with \$358,300,000 in May and \$411,700,000 in June last year. The January-June value was \$1,844,400,000 as compared with \$1,993,600,000.

Exports to the United States in June were valued at \$208,432,000, slightly below last year's \$214,588,000, and the January-June total declined to \$1,120,539,000 from \$1,188,-420,000. In June there were moderate declines in all main commodity groups except agriculture and vegetable products which moved higher. The animals and animal products group was the exception to the general decline in the half-year period. Largest decreases in the six months were in wood and paper products, iron and products, and non-ferrous metals and products.

Shipments to the United Kingdom in June dropped to \$52,537,000 from \$77,026,000 a year ago, and the half-year value fell to \$288,219,000 from \$314,234,000. Largest decline among the main commodity groups occurred in agricultural and vegetable products. Apart from the drop in agricultural and vegetable products there were smaller decreases in the half-year period in the animals and animal products section and in iron and products, but increases in the other groups.

Domestic exports to the rest of the Commonwealth in June dropped to \$17,222,000 from \$26,521,000 a year ago, and in the half-year period declined to \$92,919,000 from \$119,-695,000. Export values were lower both in June and the six months to the Union of South Africa and India, but higher for New Zealand. Exports to Pakistan in June were larger than last year but were off sharply in the half-year period, and to Australia were down in June but up in the six months.

The month's exports to Latin American countries as a group fell to \$16,773,000 from \$20,817,000 a year ago, and the half-year value declined to \$94,358,000 from \$99,528,000. Shipments were lower both in June and the six months to Argentina, Cuba, Mexico and Venezuela, but higher to Brazil and Columbia. Reduced shipments in both periods to Belgium and Luxembourg, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Switzerland more than counterbalanced increases for France and Norway, and total exports to European countries fell in June to \$33,283,000 from \$52,559,000, and in the six months to \$145,-075,000 from \$174,887,000. Mainly as a result of decreased exports to Japan, Korea and the Philippines, shipments to the remaining group of foreign countries fell in June to \$13,-496,000 from \$18,993,000 a year ago. Half-year exports to Japan and the Philippines were higher than in 1953 and cumulative exports rose to \$97,185,000 from \$88,815,000.

Main Commodity Groups: Main commodity group values for June with last year's figures in brackets were as follows, in millions: agricultural and vegetable products, \$69.3 (\$135.1); animals and animal products, \$23.8 (\$22.6); fibres, textiles and products, \$1.9 (\$2.8); wood, wood products and paper, \$117.4 (\$111.3); iron and products, \$28.8 (\$36.2); non-ferrous metals and products, \$67.3 (\$65.1); non-metallic minerals and products, \$13.0

(\$13.0); chemicals and allied products, \$12.7, (\$12.2); and miscellaneous commodities, \$8.4 (\$13.4). Half-year totals were: agricultural and vegetable products, \$365.8 (\$488.9); animal and animal products, \$134.4 (\$122.9); fibres, textiles and products, \$9.1 (\$11.3); wood, wood products and paper, \$631.6 (\$618.0); iron and products, \$159.5 (\$192.9); non-ferrous metals and products, \$344.5 (\$365.6); non-metallic minerals and products, \$67.8 (\$70.6); chemicals and allied products, \$78.4 (\$69.3); and miscellaneous commodities, \$53.3 (\$54.2). (15)

The following table shows the value of Canada's 16 leading commodity exports in June and the January-June period, together with corresponding 1953 totals. These are listed in order of size in this year's January-June period:

	June 1953	June 1954	January - June 1953	January - June 1954
			(in thousands)	
Newsprint paper	\$50,300	\$55,279	\$295,901	\$305,430
Wheat	88,912	33,948	271,529	166,483
Wood pulp	22,150	25,031	119,165	133,037
Planks & boards	27,260	25,117	139,580	132,736
Aluminum & products	17,733	16,201	87,210	93,742
Nickel	13,948	17,601	81,641	91,243
Copper & products	12,137	13,670	69,927	63,477
Fish & fishery products	10,488	10,779	54,837	59,876
Grains, other	22,198	13,679	76,007	55,968
Farm machinery & implements	7,730	7,492	54,052	53,763
Flour of wheat	11,820	7,818	52,236	47,475
Asbestos & products	7,923	7,565	41,927	37,986
Fertilizers	4,081	3,191	23,497	26,449
Alcoholic beverages	4,947	4,566	27,681	25,406
Zinc & products	5,108	5,167	35,641	24,975
Precious metals, except gold	3,007	3,919	22,722	24,003

Trade In Outstanding Securities Led to
Net Capital Inflow of \$2,800,000 In May

Security transactions between Canada and other countries in May led to a net capital inflow of \$2,800,000, down somewhat from the preceding

month when a sales balance of \$7,500,000 was recorded. Trading with residents of the United Kingdom resulted in a small purchase balance for the first time since January, 1953 and was the principal factor accounting for the decreased sales balance with all countries. While the net movements were not large, the volume of trading continued to be high and for the third consecutive month exceeded \$100,000,000.

In the January-May period trade with all countries produced a sales balance of \$30,-600,000 in contrast to a small purchase balance of \$800,000 in the same 1953 period.

Transactions with the United States in May led to a sales balance of \$2,000,000 reflecting mainly net sales of Canadian stocks amounting to \$3,100,000. During the first five months of 1954 a sales balance of \$13,000,000 was recorded as compared to a purchase balance of \$18,700,000 in the same period of 1953. Contributing to this capital inflow was a decrease of over \$17,000,000 in net repatriation of Government of Canada direct and guaranteed issues.

Trade with the United Kingdom in May led to a purchase balance of \$200,000 compared with a sales balance of \$1,200,000 a year earlier, and in the five-month period there was a sales balance of \$11,800,000 as compared with \$9,400,000 last year.

With all other countries the May sales balance amounted to \$1,000,000 against \$5,-100,000 a year ago, bringing the five-month total to \$5,900,000 as compared with \$10,-600,000. (16)

T R A N S P O R T

Railway Carloadings Down In Week

Railway car loadings of revenue freight in the third week of July declined 6.6% from a year earlier and receipts from connections fell 15.7%. Loadings in Canada in the week totalled 73,188 cars as compared with 83,693, and receipts from connections were 25,831 cars as compared with 30,638. Since the beginning of the year there were 1,966,694 cars loaded in Canada as compared with 2,175,668 a year ago, and 806,796 cars were received from connections as compared with 917,765.

In the third July week loadings of grain, autos and parts, and less than carload shipments were well below those for the same week of 1953. Coal, non-ferrous ores and concentrates, and lumber, timber and plywood were shipped in greater quantities. (17)

P R I C E S

Consumer Price Index
Up Slightly On July 2

The consumer price index moved from 116.1 to 116.2 between June 1 and July 2 as four of the five main groups registered small increases. The change in the food index from 112.0 to 112.1, was the result of mixed price movements as increases were reported for eggs, beef, lamb, fresh and canned fruits, and potatoes, while decreases occurred for pork, lard, sugar and some fresh vegetables.

Advances in both rents and home-ownership were reflected in the change in the shelter index from 126.4 to 126.6. Household operation moved from 117.1 to 117.2 as slight advances in coal, cleaning supplies, paid household help and a number of hardware items outweighed decreases for a few furniture items and appliances.

Among the other commodities and services, increases in drug prices, newspaper rates, and local transportation fares, overbalanced decreases for gasoline and photographic films, and the index for this group moved up from 117.5 to 117.6. Further decreases in nylon hosiery prices were mainly responsible for the decline in the clothing series from 109.7 to 109.6. (18)

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities & Services
July 2, 1954	116.2	112.1	126.6	109.6	117.2	117.6
June 1, 1954	116.1	112.0	126.4	109.7	117.1	117.5
July 2, 1953	115.4	112.7	123.9	110.3	117.0	115.2

Common Stock Prices
Up Slightly In July

Common stock prices on Canadian exchanges moved within relatively narrow limits during the first four weeks of July although the tendency was to slightly higher levels. Between the weeks of June 24 and July 22 the composite index for 99 issues changed from 179.9 to 181.8 while the group index for 79 industries moved up from 179.6 to 181.3, 12 utilities from 167.0 to 169.3, and 8 banks from 212.7 to 215.7.

Sub-group index increases were registered, among others, for machinery and equipment, pulp and paper, milling, beverages, building materials and power and traction stocks. Declines occurred for oils, industrial mines and transportation issues.

Reflecting moderate strength for both golds and base metals, mining stocks were firmer as the composite index advanced from 90.0 to 92.5 between the weeks of June 24 and July 22. The golds series moved from 63.9 to 65.4 in the same interval while the base metals index shifted from 149.7 to 154.5. (18)

Wholesale Price Index Steady In July Industrial material prices at wholesale recorded almost no change in July as the index for 30 commodities moved from 223.6 for the week of June 25 to 223.7 for the week of July 23. Increases in prices for steers, fir timber, raw rubber, tin and raw cotton slightly outweighed declines in hogs, cotton-seed oil, domestic raw wool, African sisal, beef hides, western wheat, iron ore, bleached sulphite pulp and domestic copper.

Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets moved 5% higher during July as the index advanced from 205.5 for the week of June 25 to 215.8 for the week of July 23. Principal strength was shown in the field products sub-group index which increased from 152.1 to 169.9, due mainly to a sharp seasonal rise in potatoes as the new crop reached the market. Increases were also noted for eastern barley, corn and rye and western flax and rye. Eastern wheat and western hay were lower. The animal products price index advanced from 259.0 to 261.8 as higher prices for steers, calves, eggs, cheese milk and western butterfat overbalanced declines for hogs, eastern lambs and poultry. (18)

Wholesale Prices Slightly Lower In June Wholesale prices were slightly lower in June and the Bureau's general index fell 0.2% to 217.8 from 218.2 in May. Recessions in vegetable products were mainly responsible for the decline, although non-metallic minerals and textile products also moved lower.

A decline of 1.2% in vegetable products to 194.2 from 196.5 was in large measure a reflection of the reduction in western wheat prices announced early in June. This decrease, which outweighed advances in western barley, oats and rye in the sub-group, was accompanied by lower prices for bran, shorts and flour. Linseed oil and raw sugar also contributed to the decline. Sub-group gains were registered for tea, coffee and cocoa, potatoes, fresh fruits, raw rubber, onions, and canned vegetables. In response to a general lowering of gasoline prices and a fractional percentage decline in sulphur resulting from slightly lower rates for the United States dollar in Canadian funds the non-metallic minerals group declined 0.3% to 176.2 from 176.7. Non-ferrous metal products advanced 0.2% to 168.3 from 168.0, increases in zinc, lead, tin ingots and antimony outweighing decreases in copper, silver and gold.

The textile products index moved to 233.6 from 233.7 for a small net loss as declines in raw cotton and cotton fabrics barely overbalanced advances in imported raw wool, worsted yarns and woollen cloth. An increase of 0.4% in chemical products to 176.6 from 175.9 was mainly due to higher prices for paint materials. Animal products moved up 0.2% to 245.0 from 244.5 when increases in fresh meats and eggs proved of more importance than general decreases in cured meats, fishery products, livestock, milk and its products, lard and tallow, hides and leather footwear. Increases in western fir and cedar lumber and cedar shingles raised the wood and paper products index 0.1% to 286.4 from 286.2; small declines were registered for newsprint and woodpulp due to lower rates for the United States dollar. A small increase in iron products to 211.7 from 211.8 was due to an increase in galvanized steel sheets.

Farm Product Prices The index of Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets was unchanged in June from the May level of 209.6. Field products rose 0.5% to 151.9 from 151.2 as advances in potatoes and western hay proved stronger than declines in flax, eastern grains and eastern hay. In the animal products group lower prices for livestock, chiefly eastern steers, calves and hogs, were mainly responsible for the decline of 0.3% to 267.3 from 268.0.

Building Material Prices Residential building material prices climbed 0.5% to 277.4 from 275.9 between May and June. Of greatest importance was the increase in fir lumber which outweighed decreases in millwork. Cedar shingles, shellac, copper wire and galvanized steel sheets also moved higher. Plumbing and heating declined, due to lower prices for lead pipe and bathroom fixtures. Prices of non-residential construction materials rose 0.1% to 121.2 from 121.1. (19)

POPULATION

Rapid Post-War Growth of Population Continues
Canada Well Started On 16th Million By June 1

by the beginning of June. The Bureau estimated the June 1 population at 15,195,000, a gain of 414,000 or 2.8% since the start of June last year, 1,186,000 or 8.5% since the 1951 Census, and 3,123,000 or 25.9% since the beginning of June, 1945.

The Bureau's population estimates are obtained by adding births and immigrants to the census total and deducting deaths and an estimate of emigration. In the post-war era the birth rate has been rising and the death rate falling, while the step-up in immigration has outweighed an increase in emigration. The rapid growth of Canada's population since the war is graphically illustrated by the Bureau's figures. It took eight years (from 1929 to 1937) for the population to climb from 10 to 11 million, and another eight years (from 1937 to 1945) for it to go from 11 to 12 million. However, it took only the first four post-war years (from 1945 to 1949) for the population to jump from 12 to 13 million, only two years (from 1949 to 1951) for it to go from 13 to 14 million, and only three years (from 1951 to 1954) for it to rise from 14 to 15 million.

In the latest year the population increased in all parts of Canada except Prince Edward Island, where there was a decline of just under 1% to 105,000 from last year's peak of 106,000. The largest gain was 149,000 in Ontario, where the population passed the 5 million mark to register 5,046,000 at June 1. Quebec followed with an increase of 119,000 to 4,388,000, Alberta with 37,000 to 1,039,000, British Columbia with 36,000 to 1,266,000, Manitoba with 19,000 to 828,000, Saskatchewan with 17,000 to 878,000, Newfoundland with 15,000 to 398,000 and Nova Scotia with 10,000 to 673,000. The population in the Yukon rose by 1,000 or 11% to 10,000, and in the Northwest Territories by 1,000 or 6.2% to 17,000. Among the provinces, the rate of increase over last year's June 1 population was greatest in Newfoundland at 4%. In Alberta the gain amounted to 3.7% in Ontario to 3% and in British Columbia to 2.9%, while in Quebec the percentage increase was the same as the national average at 2.8%. The rate of population growth was less than the national average in Manitoba at 2.3%, in Saskatchewan and New Brunswick at 2%, and in Nova Scotia at 1.5%. (20)

EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

Federal Departmental Branches & Services
Employed Over 3% More In April This Year

There were 171,794 employed in Federal Government departmental branches and services in April, 5,774 or over 3% more than in April last year.

Their earnings were up to \$42,512,918 from \$4,655,131. Classified civil servants numbered 138,061 as against 130,999, earned \$35,367,522 versus \$30,909,319. Prevailing rate employees decreased to 20,385 from 22,154, their earnings to \$4,504,367 from \$4,520,126. Casual employees numbered 11,430 as against 10,912, \$2,183,725 versus \$1,933,437. Ships' crews totalled 1,918 as against 1,955, earned \$457,304 versus \$494,905. (21)

Over 4% Fewer Employed By Federal
Government Enterprises This April

The 22 Crown companies and other enterprises controlled by the Federal Government employed 139,528 in April, 5,876 or over 4% less than in April last year. Salaries

and wages were down to \$38,881,847 from \$39,009,033. The government enterprises are Atomic Energy of Canada, Ltd., the Bank of Canada, Canadian Arsenals, Ltd., the C.B.C., Canadian Commercial Corporation, the C.N.R., the Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships Ltd., Canadian Overseas Telecommunication, the Canadian Wheat Board, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Crown Assets Disposal Corporation, Defence Construction, Ltd., Eldorado Mining and Refining Ltd., Export Credits Insurance Corporation, the Hudson Bay Railway, the Industrial Development Bank, the National Harbours Board, Northern Transportation Co., Ltd., the Northwest Territories Power Commission, Polymer Corporation, Ltd., the Prince Edward Island Car Ferry, and T.C.A. (21)

Higher Earnings & Shorter Hours
In Canadian Factories Last Year

Weekly earnings of wage-earners employed in Canadian manufacturing establishments during the week ending October 31, 1953 averaged 2.9% higher than in the corresponding week of 1952, and the average for salaried employees rose 4.4%. At the same time the hours of work of wage-earners declined 2.1% and for salaried employees the decrease was 0.8%.

Average earnings of wage-earners during the survey week rose \$1.58 to \$56.75, and the average for salaried employees advanced \$3.12 to \$73.87. Earnings of male wage-earners rose \$1.86 to \$62.71, and that for women increased 90¢ to \$35.07. Male salaried employees earned an average \$86.43, up \$3.83, while the average for women rose \$1.87 to \$43.13.

Wage-earners worked an average 41.7 hours in the week, 0.9 less than a year earlier, the average for men dropping 0.8 hours to 42.6, and that for women 1.1 hours to 38.5. Hours of salaried employees averaged 39.1 in the week, 0.3 less than in October, 1952, the average for men standing at 39.5 hours, 0.4 less, and for women at 37.9 hours, 0.1 less. (22)

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

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

- 1- Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada, 10¢
 - 2- M: First Forecast of Production of all Fruits, 1954, with Report on Conditions of Fruit Crops, July, 10¢
 - 3- M: Grain Statistics, Weekly, 10¢
 - 4- M: Production of Eggs, June, 10¢
 - 5- M: Fluid Milk Sales, May, 10¢
 - 6- Cost of Electricity for Domestic Service & Monthly Bills for Domestic Service, Commercial Light & Small Power, 1953, 25¢
 - 7- M: Copper & Nickel Production, May, 10¢
 - 8- Motor Vehicle Shipments, May, 10¢
 - 9- M: Domestic Electric Refrigerators, May, 10¢
 - 10- M: Peeler Logs, Veneers & Plywoods, May, 10¢
 - 11- M: Rigid Insulating Board Industry, June, 10¢
 - 12- M: Asphalt & Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tiles, June, 10¢
 - 13- M: Hard Board, June, 10¢
 - 14- M: Products Made From Canadian Clays, April, 10¢
 - 15- Domestic Exports, Summary Bulletin, June, 20¢
 - 16- Sales & Purchases of Securities Between Canada & Other Countries, May, 10¢
 - 17- M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, Weekly, 10¢
 - 18- Price Movements, July, 10¢
 - 19- Prices & Price Indexes, June, 25¢
 - 20- M: Estimated Population of Canada by Provinces, June 1, 1954, 10¢
 - 21- M: Federal Government Employment, April, 10¢
 - 22- Earnings & Hours in Manufacturing, 1953, Preliminary, 25¢
 - Miscellaneous Products of Petroleum & Coal Industry, 1952, 25¢
 - The Labour Force, June, 25¢ -- Summarized in Bulletin of July 23
- M - Memorandum

Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P., Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery
Ottawa, 1954

D.B.S. NEWS NOTES

Population had reached 15,195,000 by the start of June this year, a gain of 414,000 or 2.8% since June 1 last year, 1,186,000 or 8.5% since the 1951 Census, and 3,123,000 or 25.9% since 1945.

Garden Forks: Factories sold 376,000 in 1952, 68,000 or 22% more than in 1951. Average price was up to \$1.44 from \$1.30.

Mental hospital books listed one out of every 225 Canadians as a patient at the end of last year as compared with one out of every 231 at the close of 1945, only one out of every 297 at the end of 1932.

Mental hospitals were operating at 18% over rated capacity by the end of last year as compared with over-capacity loads of only 6% at the close of 1945, 1% at the end of 1932. During the 21-year period the rated bed capacity of hospitals was increased by 56%, but admissions soared by more than 144% and the year-end total of patients in hospital jumped by 82%.

Mental Hospitals: Of every 100 admitted last year 31 were former patients being re-admitted. This compares with only 23 per 100 in 1945 and 19 per 100 in 1932. Readmissions jumped 22% in 1953 and were nearly four times as numerous as in 1932, while first admissions rose 6% last year and were slightly more than double the 1932 figure.

Mental Hospitals: About 6% of the patients discharged last year left hospital against medical advice, provincial proportions ranging from 1.4% in New Brunswick to 11% in British Columbia.

Mental Hospitals: Almost one-sixth of the patients who died last year had been in hospital for less than one month, provincial proportions ranging from 8% in Manitoba to 58% in Nova Scotia. About three-fifths of the total had been in for a year or more, two-fifths for three years or longer, one-third for five years or more, and less than one-fifth for over a decade.

Fruit Crops: Growers are expected to harvest 4% more apples, 6% more raspberries, 9% more grapes and 2% more plums and prunes this year, but 30% less apricots, 20% less pears and cherries, 14% less peaches and 5% less strawberries than in 1953.

Advertising matter imported last year was valued at \$6,507,000, some \$1,464,000 or 28% more than in 1952 and \$1,844,000 or 40% more than in 1951.

Safety Clothing: \$381,157 worth was produced in 1952, some \$46,527 worth or 11% less than in 1951.

Whey Butter: Average factory price was 52¢ a pound last year as against 52.5¢ in 1952 and 56.7¢ in 1951. Average 1953 prices ranged from 51¢ in Quebec to 56.5¢ in British Columbia.

Films: 309 of the theatrical and non-theatrical shorts of five minutes or longer produced last year were made in black and white, while 227 were in colour.

Fisheries: Investment in capital equipment in primary fishing operations in New Brunswick increased by \$753,400 or 10% to \$8,559,700 in 1952.

Electric Power: It cost Canadians about 4% more to light their homes last year than in 1952, but this was still about 1% less than in 1935-39.

Exports: Canada sold 5.4% less to other countries in the first six months this year than in the first half of last year, and a 2.5% cut in prices reduced the total value of domestic exports by 7.5%.

Eggs: Canadian hens laid 217,384,000 dozen in the first half of this year, 30,718,000 dozen or over 16% more than in the first six months of 1953. About 79% as compared with 80% last year were sold for market. A decrease in production in Saskatchewan was more than offset by increases in the other provinces.



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