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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

THE PEOPLE: Fewer births, marriages and deaths were registered this July. Births increased 7% in the first seven months, while marriages and deaths were off about 3% from last year. (Page 5)

EMPLOYMENT: 172,000 were without jobs and seeking work at July 24, about 13,000 fewer than a month earlier but 82,000 more than a year earlier. (Page 2)

HOUSING: A record 41,572,000 new dwelling units were completed in the first six months this year, 2,081 or 5% more than in the first half of 1953. Under construction at mid-year were 64,262 units, 1,471 or 2% more than a year earlier. (Page 4)

AGRICULTURE: The maple crop was 24% larger this year but was still 30% smaller than the bumper yield of 1952... Higher prices for livestock and potatoes overbalanced lower prices for grains, dairy products, poultry and eggs to raise the index of farm prices of agricultural products 1.5 points in June to 234.9. (Pages 6 & 13)

FOOD: Bakeries turned out less bread in the first quarter this year but price boosts raised the total value above a year earlier... Nine-city stocks of creamery butter were 5.7% above the 1953 level on August 19... Cold storage holdings of fish were down about 10% from last year at August 1... Sugar stocks were 11% lower than last year at the end of July. (Pages 6 & 7)

MERCHANDISING: Retail sales were down 1.5% from the 1953 level in the first six months... Department store sales were up 1.7% in the week of August 14. (Page 12)

MANUFACTURING: Output of phonograph records was cut 24% in the first six months this year... Pig iron production was off 23.5% in the first half, and production of steel ingots was reduced by one quarter... Less plywood and veneers but more mineral wool was produced in the first half... Output of gypsum products was up in the first seven months. (Page 10)

TRAVEL: More foreign vehicles entered Canada in July than in any other month on record. The 52,012 total was nearly 3% above the previous peak of 546,185 set in August last year. (Page 7)

FOREIGN TRADE: Canada's exports were worth over 17% less this July, while imports were down 15% in Value. The import surplus was twice as great as in July last year. (Page 2)

EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

Number Of Persons With Jobs The number of persons with jobs increased by more than 100,000
Increased 100,000 In July during the four weeks ending July 24, moderately less than
during the comparable period last year, according to the monthly
joint press release by the Department of Labour and the Bureau.

Unemployment declined more during the month than in July last year although it continued at a higher level than a year ago. More workers were affected by plant shut-downs for vacation periods this year than last; it is estimated that about 450,000 were out on vacation at the end of July this year as compared with 300,000 in 1953.

Employment in the forestry, lumbering and construction industries increased slightly more than is usual for the month; it increased less than usual in industries catering to tourists and in such outdoor activities as haying. Employment in the trade and services sectors increased as usual.

Mixed trends were evident in manufacturing employment; industries such as pulp and paper, wood products, and electrical apparatus showed increased labour requirements while transportation equipment manufacturing, especially the vehicle and vehicle supply firms, and the iron and steel industry registered declines, which in some cases were of a temporary nature.

Canada's civilian labour force at July 24, was estimated at 5,556,000 as compared with 5,462,000 a month earlier and 5,515,000 at the same time last year. Persons with jobs at July 24 this year numbered 5,384,000 as compared with 5,277,000 at mid-June and 5,425,000 a year ago.

Those at work 35 hours or more in the survey week totalled 4,584,000 as compared with 4,826,000 a month earlier and 4,807,000 last year. A total of 307,000 worked less than 35 hours in the week as compared with 345,000 at the time of the June survey and 275,000 a year ago, and the number with jobs but not at work (most of whom were on vacation) was 493,000 as compared with 106,000 in June and 343,000 a year ago.

Persons without jobs and seeking work during the July survey week totalled 172,000 as compared with 185,000 in June and 90,000 a year ago.

Applications for employment on file at offices of the National Employment Service numbered 263,500 at July 22, a decrease of 32,200 from mid-June and an increase of 97,600 over the figure for July 23, 1953. All regions shared in the reduction from the preceding month, the largest decrease occurring in the Quebec region (9,000). Decreases in the other regions were: Ontario, 7,300; Atlantic, 6,500; Prairie, 6,400; and Pacific, 3,000. As compared with a year earlier Ontario and Quebec had the largest increases (47,200 and 26,900 respectively). Smaller increases were recorded in the Prairie region (10,900); the Atlantic region, (6,600); and the Pacific region, (6,000).

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Foreign Commodity Trade Canada's foreign commodity trade was again lower in value in
Lower Again In July July than a year earlier, continuing the downtrend of earlier
months this year, according to preliminary figures. Both
exports and imports declined in value, but the drop in dollar value of exports was greater
than of imports resulting in an increased import surplus.

Total exports in July amounted to \$329,100,000, down \$69,200,000 or 14.4% from \$398,300,000 in July last year. Commodity imports had an estimated value of \$344,600,000, a drop of \$60,800,000 or 15% from \$405,400,000. The estimated import surplus for the month thus increased to \$15,500,000 as compared with \$7,200,000 a year ago.

MORE

In the seven months ending July exports had an aggregate value of \$2,204,900,000 this year, a decrease of \$213,100,000 or 8.8% from \$2,418,000,000 last year, while imports were down an estimated \$225,900,000 or 8.6% to \$2,396,100,000 from \$2,622,000,000. The cumulative import surplus was thus apparently reduced moderately to \$191,200,000 this year as compared to \$204,000,000 last year; but there was a more substantial real decline in the seven-month import balance if allowance is made for the effect of a non-recurring change in the practice of compiling imports in June.

Commodity sales to the United States declined to \$194,900,000 in July as compared to \$212,700,000 a year ago, while commodity purchases fell more sharply to an estimated \$243,600,000 against \$286,500,000, thus reducing the month's estimated import surplus to \$48,700,000 compared to \$73,900,000 last year. January-July exports aggregated \$1,339,700,000 compared to \$1,422,300,000, and estimated imports \$1,748,900,000 against \$1,958,900,000, the estimated import surplus falling to \$409,200,000 from \$536,600,000.

Exports to the United Kingdom dropped sharply in July to \$55,400,000 as compared to \$81,300,000 last year, and imports were off to \$35,700,000 from \$47,100,000, the export surplus being thus cut to \$19,700,000 from \$34,200,000. In the seven months exports were down to \$346,600,000 from \$397,100,000 and imports to \$239,500,000 from \$266,700,000, making a reduced export surplus of \$107,100,000 this year as against \$130,400,000 in the 1953 period.

July exports to other Commonwealth countries dropped to \$17,900,000 from \$23,200,000, making a seven-month total of \$111,100,000 against \$144,000,000. Estimated imports in the month were down slightly to \$16,100,000 compared to \$17,900,000, but in the seven months were up to \$96,900,000 as against \$94,400,000.

Trade with all other countries showed a similar trend, exports declining in the month to \$60,900,000 from \$81,100,000 and in the seven months to \$407,500,000 from \$454,600,000, while imports were off in the month to \$49,200,000 from \$53,900,000 but up moderately in the seven months to \$310,800,000 from \$302,000,000.

The figures for July and the January-July period are summarized in the table following. The import figures are estimates and subject to revision; final and detailed import figures will not be available for several weeks. Those for exports are based on final figures, which will be issued in detail shortly.

	July		January-July	
	1953	1954	1953	1954
(Millions of dollars)				
Exports: (Domestic & Foreign)				
United Kingdom	81.3	55.4	397.1	346.6
Other Commonwealth countries.	23.2	17.9	144.0	111.1
United States	212.7	194.9	1,422.3	1,339.7
Other foreign countries	81.1	60.9	454.6	407.5
Totals ...	<u>398.3</u>	<u>329.1</u>	<u>2,418.0</u>	<u>2,204.9</u>
Imports:				
United Kingdom	47.1	35.7	266.7	239.5
Other Commonwealth countries.	17.9	16.1	94.4	96.9
United States	286.5	243.6	1,958.9	1,748.9
Other foreign countries	53.9	49.2	302.0	310.8
Totals ...	<u>405.4</u>	<u>344.6</u>	<u>2,622.0</u>	<u>2,396.1</u>

** Estimate only. Subject to revision.

H O U S I N G

Fewer New Housing Units Started, But
Number Completed Up 5% In First Half

Starts were still lagging behind last year at the end of June but the number of new housing units completed in the first six months was 5% above 1953's record level and the number under construction at mid-year was 2% higher. Half-year starts numbered 46,398, some 348 less than in 1953, while January-June completions numbered 41,572, an increase of 2,081. Under construction at June 30 were 64,262 units, 1,471 more than a year earlier.

June starts were up by about one-third this year in the Prairie Provinces and by more than one-quarter in Ontario, and with a slight increase in Quebec these gains were strong enough to outweigh decreases in Newfoundland, the Maritime Provinces, and British Columbia and boost the total by 11% to 12,586 from 11,308 in June last year. Half-year starts, however, were higher only in Ontario at 19,224 versus 17,985 last year. January-June starts were down in Newfoundland to 367 from 707, in Prince Edward Island to 37 from 56, in Nova Scotia to 705 from 1,006, in New Brunswick to 509 from 687, in Quebec to 13,230 from 13,445, in Manitoba to 1,532 from 1,816, in Saskatchewan to 1,856 from 1,917, in Alberta to 4,794 from 4,797, and in British Columbia to 4,144 from 4,330.

The number of new housing units completed in June dropped by over 10% this year to 6,047 from 6,675 in the same month in 1953, increases in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces being overbalanced by drops in the other provinces. Six-month completions, however, were down from last year only in Newfoundland, to 396 from 626, and Quebec, to 11,076 from 12,327. January-June completions were up in Prince Edward Island to 47 from 39, in Nova Scotia to 1,008 from 933, in New Brunswick to 438 from 314, in Ontario to 17,105 from 15,192, in Manitoba to 1,853 from 1,646, in Saskatchewan to 1,571 from 1,090, in Alberta to 4,349 from 3,706, and in British Columbia to 3,729 from 3,618.

The number of units under construction at June 30 was higher than a year earlier in only four provinces, but these increases were heavy enough to outweigh the decreases elsewhere. The number in Newfoundland was up to 2,833 from 2,648, in Quebec to 15,417 from 14,568, in Ontario to 26,249 from 23,353, and in British Columbia to 6,311 from 5,944. The number under construction was down in Prince Edward Island to 67 from 142, in Nova Scotia to 1,535 from 2,549, in New Brunswick to 741 from 1,050, in Manitoba to 2,419 from 2,565, in Saskatchewan to 2,971 from 3,036, and in Alberta to 5,719 from 6,936. (1)

H Y D R O

Central Electric Station Output
Up In All Provinces In June

Power production by central electric stations increased in June to 5,674,937,000 kilowatt hours as compared to 5,264,516,000 in June last year, production being higher in all provinces. This raised the cumulative total over 1953 for the first time this year, bringing it to 33,808,216,000 as against 33,454,253,000 kilowatt hours. Half-year output was up in all provinces except Quebec.

June production in thousand kilowatt hours, with 1953 figures in brackets, was: Newfoundland, 18,762 (16,665); Prince Edward Island, 2,489 (2,310); Nova Scotia, 88,680 (81,224); New Brunswick, 75,012 (68,203); Quebec, 2,993,809 (2,783,292); Ontario, 1,643,986 (1,522,173); Manitoba, 220,479 (206,440); Saskatchewan, 99,043 (90,833); Alberta, 113,472 (99,261); British Columbia, 419,205 (394,115).

January-June production in thousand kilowatt hours, with 1953 figures in brackets: Newfoundland, 117,443 (101,049); Prince Edward Island, 16,113 (15,047); Nova Scotia, 556,092 (515,501); New Brunswick, 422,292 (400,079); Quebec, 17,260,463 (17,517,422); Ontario, 9,981,698 (9,794,765); Manitoba, 1,529,468 (1,411,530); Saskatchewan, 625,090 (578,162); Alberta, 723,601 (624,629); British Columbia, 2,575,951 (2,496,069). (2)

VITAL STATISTICS

Fewer Births, Marriages And Deaths Registered This July

Fewer births, marriages and deaths were registered in Canada this July. Births numbered 37,200, off less than 1% from the 37,462 registered in July last year, but marriages were down 13% to 15,201 from 17,602 and deaths over 8% to 9,525 from 10,319.

Gains in the earlier months of 1954, however, put the seven-month total of births 7% above last year at 249,469 versus 233,766. This was almost 10% above the 1951-53 seven-month average of 227,306. January-July marriages numbered 62,691, down about 3% from 1953's total of 64,383 and the 1951-53 average of 64,721. Deaths were off over 3% in the first seven months to 73,174 from 75,658 last year, and were about 2% under the 1951-53 average of 74,437.

There were more births this July in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Alberta, but these gains were overbalanced by decreases in the other four provinces. In the first seven months of this year births were down 7.5% in Nova Scotia, 1.5% in New Brunswick and 1.3% in British Columbia, while increases in the other provinces ranged from 5% in Ontario to 13% in Quebec.

All provinces except Newfoundland and New Brunswick had fewer marriages registered this July. In the first seven months marriage registrations were 11% above 1953 in Newfoundland, 4% higher in New Brunswick, 3% higher in Alberta and 2% higher in British Columbia. Decreases in the other provinces ranged from less than 1% in Nova Scotia to 21% in Prince Edward Island. Fewer deaths were registered in July and the first seven months this year in all provinces except Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia, where increases were recorded. Decreases in January-July deaths this year ranged from 3% in Ontario to 29.5% in Newfoundland. (3)

HEALTH & WELFARE

Public Hospital Deficit Cut By Over 35% In 1952

Canada's public hospitals took in more money than ever before in 1952 but still ended up the year in the red. However, a sharper gain in revenue than in expenditure cut the deficit by over 35% to \$4,985,000 from 1951's \$7,702,000. In no year has revenue quite caught up with expenditure.

Revenue and expenditure both approached the \$200,000,000 mark in 1952, having doubled since 1947 and tripled since 1944. Revenue rose to \$193,227,000, up \$10,017,000 over the preceding year, while expenditure amounted to \$198,212,000, an increase of \$7,300,000. Only 86% of the 1952 income was actually earned from services rendered to patients. If the year's activities had been financed from hospital earnings alone the resulting deficit would have been \$32,975,000, or over six times as high as the actual figure. The other 14% of the 1952 income came mostly from government grants, with the provinces providing 6.4% and municipal governments 2.9% of the total income. Other sources such as investment income and donations supplied the remaining 4.5%.

The average cost per patient day continued to climb in 1952, reaching an all-time peak of \$10.24 as compared with \$9.60 in 1951 and only \$4.50 in 1944. The average rose in 1952 in all provinces except Nova Scotia, where the figure declined to \$7.57 from \$8.14 in 1951. This gave Nova Scotia the lowest average in 1952. In the preceding year the average was lowest in Prince Edward Island at \$6.42, but in 1952 this figure rose to \$7.64. British Columbia continued to have the highest average cost per patient day, the 1952 figure of \$12.50 comparing with \$12.24 in 1951. In 1952 the average rose in New Brunswick to \$9.28 from \$8.44, in Quebec to \$9.02 from \$8.87, in Ontario to \$11.47 from \$10.68, in Manitoba to \$9.12 from \$8.22, in Saskatchewan to \$8.75 from \$8.01, and in Alberta to \$9.10 from \$8.84. (4)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Maple Products Crop Up 24% This Year, Worth 51% More To Farmers More favourable weather boosted Canada's maple crop 24% this year to 2,422,000 gallons from 1,948,000 in 1953, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Last year rain and frost-free nights slowed the flow of sap and the yield was the smallest since 1945. The 1954 output was still 30% smaller than the bumper crop of 3,470,000 gallons in 1952 and was 14% under the 1947-51 average of 2,819,000 gallons.

With both syrup and sugar prices higher than in 1953, this year's production was worth \$11,038,000 to Canada's farmers, \$3,732,000 or 51% more than last year's crop. This was about 9% less than the 1952 value of \$12,175,000 but 8% more than the 1947-51 average of \$10,199,000.

The increase in the total output of maple products this year was the result of a 27% jump in maple syrup production to 2,304,000 gallons from 1,816,000 in 1953, which outweighed an 11% cut in maple sugar production on farms to 1,175,000 pounds from 1,324,000. Farm value of syrup rose to \$10,513,000 from \$6,784,000, and of sugar to \$525,000 from \$522,000. Syrup output was 11% under the 1947-51 average of 2,598,000 gallons, while sugar production was down 47% from the 5-year average of 2,209,000 pounds.

Maple syrup production was up in all producing areas this year, but less sugar was made on farms in Quebec and New Brunswick. Quebec farmers produced 88% of the syrup and 93% of the sugar this year as compared with 94% of the syrup and 96% of the sugar in 1953. The remainder was produced in Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The average farm price for maple syrup climbed to \$4.58 per gallon from \$3.74 last year, and for maple sugar to 45¢ per pound from 39¢. (5)

Canadians Are Consuming Less Bread But Paying More For It Canadians are eating less bread but are paying more for it. According to a special compilation by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, bakeries across Canada produced 352,000,000 pounds of bread in the first quarter this year, 1,171,000 less than in the first three months of 1953 and 4,410,000 less than in January-March, 1952. Factory value, however, was \$41,677,000, up from \$38,774,000 last year and \$37,740,000 in 1952. Average bakery price per pound was about 12¢ in the first quarter this year as compared with about 11¢ a year earlier and 10 1/2¢ in 1952. In 1946 the average was less than 6¢ per pound.

Bakeries in the Atlantic Provinces and Ontario produced more bread in the first quarter this year, but output was less than in January-March last year in other parts of the country. Factory value increased in all regions. In the Atlantic Provinces, 26,047,000 pounds of bread were baked and netted bakeries \$3,121,000 as compared with \$2,922,000 realized from 25,566,000 pounds baked in the first three months last year. Ontario production advanced to 146,857,000 pounds from 144,039,000, and the value increased to \$16,855,000 from \$15,372,000. Output in Quebec fell to 100,687,000 pounds from 101,481,000, but the value increased to \$11,756,000 from \$11,079,000. In the Prairie Provinces production dropped to 50,512,000 pounds from 53,972,000, while the value rose to \$6,444,000 from \$6,134,000. British Columbia bakeries baked 27,896,000 pounds worth \$3,501,000 as compared with 28,112,000 pounds worth \$3,266,000.

The value of cakes, pies, doughnuts and other bakery products also increased, amounting to \$24,366,000 in the first-quarter this year as compared with \$23,216,000 a year earlier and \$20,692,000 in the first three months of 1952. First-quarter value was higher this year in all parts of Canada. In the Atlantic Provinces other bakery products were valued at \$948,000 this year as against \$928,000 in 1953, in Quebec at \$6,570,000 versus \$6,339,000, in Ontario at \$11,198,000 versus \$10,572,000, in the Prairie Provinces at \$2,987,000 versus \$2,945,000, and in British Columbia at \$2,664,000 versus \$2,431,000.

Creamery Butter Stocks Creamery butter stocks in nine cities on August 19 totalled 63,042,000 pounds, up 5.7% from the preceding year's 59,665,000 pounds. Holdings were as follows by cities with last year's figures in brackets (in thousands): Quebec, 3,865 (3,178); Montreal, 29,556 (27,030); Toronto, 10,322 (12,052); Winnipeg, 12,834 (9,610); Regina, 1,315 (1,199); Saskatoon, 333 (437); Edmonton, 2,763 (2,571); Calgary, 713 (922); and Vancouver, 1,141 (1,666).

August 1 Fish Stocks Above A Month Earlier But Smaller Than Last Year There were 48,736,000 pounds of fish in cold storage in Canada at the start of August, 8,907,000 or 22% more than a month earlier but 1,432,000 or 10% less than at August 1 last year. Holdings of frozen fresh fish totalled 46,325,000 pounds, 9,083,000 or 24% more than at July 1 and 5,330,000 or 10% less than a year earlier, while holdings of frozen smoked fish amounted to 2,411,000 pounds, 176,000 or 7% less than a month before and 102,000 or 4% less than in 1953.

During the month stocks of cod increased by 30% to 9,706,000 pounds and holdings of salmon by 127% to 4,535,000 pounds. Stocks of haddock decreased by 4% to 4,348,000 pounds and sea herring by 8% to 4,025,000 pounds, but holdings of other sea fish rose by 16% to 22,737,000 pounds. Stocks of inland fish jumped 80% to 3,385,000 pounds in the month. Compared with August 1 last year, stocks of cod were up 28%, haddock 31.5% and salmon practically the same, while holdings of sea herring were off 46%, other sea fish 13.5%, and inland fish 32%. (6)

Catch Of Fish In Newfoundland Fishermen of Newfoundland landed 199,876,696 pounds of fish worth \$5,128,753 in July as compared with a catch of 190,013,596 pounds valued at \$4,837,828 in July last year.

Sugar Stocks Reduced 11% At Close Of July Canadian manufacturers had 123,956,000 pounds of sugar in stock at the end of July, 15,427,000 or 11% less than on the same date last year. July production of refined beet and cane sugar was lower this year at 83,188,000 pounds versus 91,181,000 last year, while July sales were slightly reduced to 150,313,000 pounds from 150,476,000. At the start of the month stocks had totalled 191,136,000 pounds versus 199,081,000. Total July supply was 274,324,000 pounds as compared with 290,262,000 a year earlier.

Manufacturers started the month with 67,924,000 pounds of raw cane sugar in stock as compared with 79,775,000 at July 1 last year, and July receipts aggregated 125,806,000 pounds versus 124,122,000 to put total supply at 193,731,000 pounds as against 203,897,000 last year. July meltings and sales took 88,776,000 pounds versus 97,769,000, leaving stocks of 104,955,000 pounds at the end of the month as compared with 106,127,000 on the same date in 1953. (7)

TRAVEL

Vehicle Entries Reached All-Time Peak This July More foreign vehicles entered Canada in July than in any other month on record. Entries on traveller's vehicle permits totalled 562,012, nearly 3% above the previous record of 546,185 in August last year and a gain of 17,592 over July, 1953. In the first seven months entries aggregated 1,313,444, up less than 1% from 1,308,711.

July entries were higher than in all provinces. Entries in Ontario increased to 358,671 from 351,330, in Quebec to 87,934 from 85,542, in British Columbia to 51,327 from 48,503, in New Brunswick to 34,434 from 32,522, in Alberta to 14,233 from 12,046, in Manitoba to 8,960 from 8,140, in Saskatchewan to 4,481 from 4,217, and in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia (by ship) to 784 from 747. Entries in the Yukon declined to 1,178 from 1,362. Seven-month entries were up in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Yukon, decreases elsewhere ranging from 0.2% to 8%. (8)

T R A N S P O R T

Railway Carloadings Still
Down In First August Week

Railway carloadings continued below the 1953 level in the first week of August when 67,304 cars of revenue freight were loaded as compared with 73,815 a year earlier. This brought the cumulative total for the first 29 periods of 1954 to 2,143,722 cars, a drop of 10% from the 2,376,014 cars loaded in the corresponding period last year.

Grain loadings were off sharply again in the first week of August, totalling 6,686 cars as against 8,996 last year. Also moving in smaller quantities were coal, building sand, gravel and crushed stone, other mine products, automobiles, trucks and parts, miscellaneous commodities, and freight shipped in less than carload lots. The only groups showing appreciable gains were grain products, non-ferrous ores and concentrates and lumber, timber and plywoods.

There were fewer cars loaded in both the eastern and western divisions in the first week of August this year. In the east, loadings were down 5,722 cars to 42,084, and in the west by 789 to 25,220. Grain and L.C.L. shipments were down in both regions, while the increase in lumber, timber and plywood was confined to the west. (9)

375 Persons Killed In
Railway Accidents In 1952

1952 was the worst accident year for Canada's steam railways in five years. Fatalities from train accidents increased to 375 from 362 in 1951, 299 in 1950, 302 in 1949, and 352 in 1948. The number injured was 3,156, up from 3,127 in 1951 and 3,098 in 1950, but down from 3,325 in 1949 and 3,841 in 1948.

Killed in train accidents in 1952 were 61 railway employees (of whom 35 were trainmen and 18 trackmen), two passengers, 100 trespassers and 208 other persons (mainly motorists). Among the injured were 2,430 were railway employees (including 1,963 trainmen, 125 passengers, 82 trespassers and 481 other persons (mainly motorists).

Non-train accidents took 18 lives, down from 28 in 1951, the same as in 1950, and off from 27 in 1949 and 33 in 1948. The number of persons injured in non-train accidents was cut to 4,753 from 5,468 in 1951, 6,051 in 1950, 6,609 in 1949, and 7,315 in 1948.

During the year 467 persons were injured in rail-highway crossing accidents, down from 522 in 1951, 478 in 1950, 490 in 1949 and 501 in 1948. Highway crossing accidents resulted in 185 fatalities, down from 201 in the preceding year but up from 1950's total of 141, 1949's 140, and 1948's 141.

Largest number of accidents and fatalities occurred at unprotected crossings. Injured at unprotected crossings in 1952 were 369 persons as compared with 434 in 1951, 376 in 1950, 399 in 1949, and 444 in 1948. Fatalities at unprotected crossings were down to 133 from 162 the year before but up from 111 in 1950, 115 in 1949 and 111 in 1948.

Of the 375 victims in highway crossing accidents 1 was a railway employee, 12 were pedestrians, 169 were motorists and 3 were riding in other than motor vehicles. Injured in highway crossing accidents were 33 employess and passengers, eight pedestrians, 418 motorists and eight persons in other than motor vehicles for a total of 467 such injuries. These figures indicate that approximately 50% of fatalities and 15% of the persons injured in train accidents during 1952 were the victims of highway crossing accidents.

At the end of 1952 there were 5,606 urban and 27,165 rural highway crossings on railways in Canada. Of the urban crossings 1,620 had some form of protection and of the rural points 1,758 were protected crossings. Thus 71.1% of urban and 93.5% of rural crossings were unprotected and at such crossings 133 persons lost their lives and 369 were injured during 1952. (10)

Rail Revenues, Expenses
Set New Records In 1952

Earnings of railways in Canada topped all previous records in 1952 when they grossed \$1,172,159,000. This was 7.6% above the previous peak of \$1,088,583,000 in 1951, and steeply above 1948's \$875,833,000. Operating expenses also climbed to a new high of \$1,057,186,000 from \$977,577,000 in 1951 and \$808,126,000 in 1948.

The year's net operating revenues climbed to \$114,972,000 from \$111,007,000 the year before and \$67,704,000 in 1948. Tax accruals advanced to \$40,263,000 from \$36,385,000 in 1951 and \$19,696,000 in 1948, and railway operating income stood at \$74,709,000, slightly above 1951's \$74,622,000 and substantially above 1948's \$48,010,000.

Revenues from the movement of freight advanced to \$941,948,000 from \$875,962,000 in 1951, and passenger revenues rose to \$90,713,000 from \$89,006,000. Express revenues increased to \$49,658,000 from \$42,037,000, mail revenues to \$13,446,000 from \$12,473,000, and sleeping-car revenues to \$10,829,000 from \$9,321,000.

Among the larger expenditure items were \$501,873,000 for rail line transportation, up from \$466,677,000; maintenance of equipment, \$243,342,000, up from \$224,185,000; and maintenance of way and structures, \$215,411,000, up from \$202,491,000.

Average mileage of single track operated in 1952 was 42,980 miles, up from 42,945 the year before. The number of locomotives in service at the end of the year increased to 4,810 from 4,715. Coal-burning steam locomotives were cut to 3,423 from 3,553, but oil-burning steam engines increased to 591 from 555. Diesels increased to 763 from 574. Freight cars in service at the year-end rose to 186,557 from 180,725, and passenger cars increased to 18,170 from 17,643. (10)

Motor Vehicle Registrations
Rose To New Crest Last Year

The number of motor vehicles registered in Canada last year increased by 273,882 or 8.7% to a new record of 3,429,706. This was one for every 4.3 persons in Canada as against one for every 4.6 in 1952 and one for every 4.9 in 1951.

Passenger car registrations last totalled 2,513,754, an increase of 217,319 over 1952. This was the second-largest increase since the war, being topped only by the record jump of 234,817 in 1949. Last year's increase brought the number of passenger cars in relation to population to one for every 5.9 persons from one for every 6.3 in 1952 and one for every 6.7 in 1951.

Commercial vehicle registrations in 1953 totalled 875,775, an increase of 58,471 over the preceding year. This was the second smallest post-war increase. Largest increase since the war occurred in 1952 (85,667) and 1951 (81,965).

Total motor vehicle registrations increased at a faster rate than population in all provinces, the average population per motor vehicle in Alberta declining to 3.1 from 3.3; in Saskatchewan to 3.3 from 3.6; in Ontario and British Columbia to 3.5 from 3.7; in Manitoba to 4.0 from 4.2; in Nova Scotia to 5.1 from 5.7; in Prince Edward Island to 5.2 from 5.5; in New Brunswick to 5.7 from 5.9; in Quebec to 6.9 from 7.3; and in Newfoundland to 12.9 from 15.8. In the Yukon and Northwest Territories, on the other hand, the average population per motor vehicle rose to 7.0 from 6.1.

Last year the average population per passenger car in Ontario was 4.4 as compared with (4.7 in 1952); Alberta and British Columbia, 4.8 (5.1); Saskatchewan, 5.5 (5.7); Manitoba 5.6 (6.0); Nova Scotia, 7.5 (8.7); New Brunswick, 8.5 (8.9); Prince Edward Island, 8.7 (8.8); Quebec, 9.7 (10.4); Yukon and Northwest Territories, 14.1 (16.5); and Newfoundland, 18.7 (23.5). (11)

MANUFACTURING

Fewer Phonograph Records Sold
In First Six Months This Year

Canada's seven record companies cut production 24% in the first six months this year, turning out only 4,360,000 phonograph records, more than 1,364,000 less than in the first half of 1953. Half-year sales totalled 3,958,000 some 825,000 or 17% less than last year, and the selling value at list prices was \$4,782,000, a drop of \$512,000 or about 10%.

The smaller reduction in the sales value was mainly due to an increased proportion of long-playing records. Standard 10" size 78 rpm records comprised 77% of the half-year sales this as compared with 81% of the total last year, the number sold decreasing by more than one-fifth to 3,054,000 from 3,878,000. On the other hand, there were 267,000 of the 10" size 33 1/3 rpm records sold in the first six months of 1954, over 79,000 or 42% more than in the first half of 1953.

Sales of all other sizes were lower in the first six months this year. There were 479,000 of the 7" size 78 and 45 rpm records sold as compared with 505,000 in the first half of 1953; 22,000 of the 12" size 78 rpm records as compared with 46,000; 120,000 of the 12" size 33 1/3 rpm records as compared with 147,000; and 16,000 of the 16" size 33 1/3 rpm records as compared with 23,000. The average list-price value of phonograph records sold in the first half of 1954 was \$1.21 as compared with \$1.11 for records sold in January-June last year.

Iron And Steel Production
Off Sharply In First Half

Canadian production of pig iron in the first half of 1954 amounted to 1,138,072 tons, down 23.5% from 1,487,584 last year. June output dropped about 37%. Production of steel ingots, was down 25% in the half-year to 1,550,184 tons from 2,066,278, with June output at 259,557 as against 342,629 tons. Output of steel castings declined in the half-year to 48,144 tons from 57,128, and in June to 7,523 from 9,834 tons. (12)

Wire & Nails

Shipments of steel wire by Canadian producers in the first half this year aggregated 56,850 tons as compared with 61,401 last year. Larger tonnages of galvanized and barbed wire were shipped and smaller of plain, other coated, and cold rolled flat wire. Shipments of wire fencing were slightly lower at 11,981 against 12,140 tons, with decreases in all main types. Wire rope shipments, advanced to 13,205 from 12,000 tons. Shipments of wire nails rose to 36,867 from 34,038 tons and of steel wire staples to 1,662 from 1,011 tons. Movement of cut nails, aluminum nails and tacks was reduced. (13)

Gypsum Products

Manufacturers of gypsum products shipped 59,962,181 square feet of wallboard, lath, sheathing, blocks and tile in July, 27.4% above last year's 47,045,766 square feet. January-July shipments were boosted to 321,915,068 square feet from 291,763,558. Shipments of gypsum plasters in July rose to 25,768 tons from 22,601, and seven-month shipments increased to 140,324 tons from 130,996. (14)

Mineral Wool

This year's half-year shipments of mineral wool comprised 95,167,186 square feet of batts (71,928,061 a year earlier), and 3,885,504 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool (4,215,970). June's shipments were 16,690,125 square feet of batts (14,153,716), and 747,446 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool (841,145). (15)

Veneers & Plywoods

Production of plywood in the first six months this year totalled 425,733,000 square feet, slightly under last year's 433,634,000. Producers shipped 434,476,000 square feet as against 428,771,000. End-of-June stocks rose to 38,860,000 square feet from 25,901,000. First-half output of veneers dropped 17% to 399,740,000 square feet from 481,345,000 and shipments were cut almost 20% to 387,952,000 square feet from 481,595,000. June-end stocks of veneers climbed to 55,288,000 square feet from 40,108,000. (16)

Output Of Refined Petroleum
Products Advanced Last Year

Output of refined petroleum products amounted to 146,037,096 barrels last year, an increase from 130,437,763 in 1952. Refineries received 150,751,697 barrels of crude oil during 1953

as compared with 141,361,953 in 1952.

Output of refined petroleum in the Maritimes and Quebec rose to 59,876,283 barrels from 55,858,542, in Ontario to 35,881,940 from 30,183,895, in Manitoba to 5,719,817 from 5,639,371, in Saskatchewan to 14,472,540 from 11,258,165, in Alberta and the Northwest Territories to 21,221,825 from 19,377,371, and in British Columbia to 8,864,691 from 8,120,419. (17)

More Manufactured
Gas Sold This May

Fewer customers bought manufactured gas for domestic, house heating and commercial purposes this May but more for industrial and other purposes, and total sales increased to 2,408,385 M cubic feet from 2,362,014 M

last year.

Five-month sales were up to 12,246,467 M cubic feet from 11,942,045 M. Revenue from sales rose to \$2,799,823 in May from \$2,751,863 a year earlier, and in the first five months to \$14,894,440 from \$14,462,785. (18)

M I N E R A L S

Natural Gas Output.
Sales Higher In May

More natural gas was produced and sold in Canada in May than in the same month last year. May production increased to 8,458,327 M cubic feet from 7,068,043 M, bringing the five-month output to 57,602,220

M cubic feet from 46,356,588 M.

With increases in domestic and commercial users overbalancing decreases in industrial and miscellaneous users sales of natural gas advanced to 6,966,985 M cubic feet this May from 5,211,506 M cubic feet last year, bringing the five-month total to 46,603,714 M cubic feet from 37,493,109 M. Revenue from sales increased in May to \$2,829,102 from \$2,314,262, and in the five months to \$19,434,317 from \$15,994,090. (18)

Crude Oil Output
Increased In May

After falling slightly below the 1953 level in April, Canadian production of crude petroleum increased to 7,161,045 barrels in May from 6,133,562 in the same month last year. This put January-May output at 34,362,355

barrels as against 26,582,392 in 1953.

May production was higher this year in all producing areas except New Brunswick, where output fell to 905 barrels from 1,234. In Alberta, May output rose to 6,621,439 barrels from 5,870,881. Saskatchewan production rose to 348,306 barrels from 195,109, output in Manitoba to 126,808 barrels from 28,630, in Ontario to 34,824 from 19,461, and in the Northwest Territories to 28,763 barrels from 18,247. (18)

Output Of 8 Of 16 Leading
Minerals Higher This Year

Production of eight of Canada's sixteen leading minerals rose in the first five months this year. Petroleum advanced to 34,362,355 barrels from 26,582,392 in January-May last year, natural gas

to 57,602,220 M cubic feet from 46,356,588, clay products to \$10,463,021 from \$10,189,760, copper to 118,638 tons from 113,258, gypsum to 1,143,646 tons from 1,093,238, lead to 91,088 tons from 85,333, lime to 497,890 tons from 495,342, and nickel to 64,262 tons from 58,647.

Output of asbestos declined in the first five months this year to 355,863 tons from 375,672 last year, cement to 7,975,959 barrels from 8,244,974, coal to 6,357,283 tons from 6,608,343, gold to 1,713,739 fine ounces from 1,841,716, iron ore to 1,101,873 tons from 1,690,073, salt to 377,097 tons from 380,523, silver to 12,126,142 fine ounces from 12,769,698, and zinc to 142,442 tons from 169,036. (19)

MERCHANDISING & SERVICES

Sales Of Department Stores Up 1.7% In Second Week Of August Canadian department stores increased their dollar sales by 1.7% in the week ending August 14. Sales were 7% above the 1953 level in Quebec, 6.4% above in British Columbia and 1.4% higher in Ontario. Turnover in the Atlantic Provinces was 8.5% less, and there were declines of 2.3% in Alberta, 2.1% in Saskatchewan and 0.3% in Manitoba.

Preliminary estimates for the month of July show sales at 1.9% above the volume of the same month last year. British Columbia department stores increased their July business by 19.5% this year, while sales were up 3.9% in Saskatchewan, 2.8% in Alberta and 0.8% in the Atlantic Provinces. July sales were down 4.5% this year in Ontario, 3.1% in Manitoba, and 2% in Quebec.

Retail Sales Dipped 1.5% In First Half Retail trade was again slightly under last year's level in June and the half-year sales total of \$5,690,158,000 was 1.5% less than 1953's \$5,775,608,000. June sales aggregated \$1,052,422,000 versus \$1,058,430,000 last year. Except for a slight increase in March retail trade has been lower in every month this year, the May decline of 3.2% being the sharpest.

Sales of retailers east of Manitoba were higher this June, but these gains were over-balanced by lower volume west of Ontario. In the first six months, sales in the Atlantic Provinces were up a slight 0.2% to \$482,607,000, but were down 0.3% in Quebec to \$1,333,023,000, 0.2% in Ontario to \$2,210,137,000, 2.9% in Manitoba to \$310,248,000, 9.4% in Saskatchewan to \$339,235,000, 6.2% in Alberta to \$432,331,000 and 1% in British Columbia to \$582,603,000.

Sales of grocery and combination food stores continued above last year's turnover in June and half-year sales were up 5% at \$1,078,227,000. In contrast, sales of motor vehicle dealers continued below 1953's record turnover and in the first six months were down 8.7% at \$1,134,558,000.

Meat, department and variety stores, garages and filling stations, and fuel dealers also increased their volume of business in the first half of 1954, the latter showing the sharpest gain over the preceding year with a rise of 8.4% to \$110,836,000. Sales of other retailers were lower this year, the sharpest decrease after motor vehicle dealers being in the lumber and building material trade, where turnover was down 7.1% to \$164,995,000.(20)

P R I C E S

Security Price Indexes

	<u>August 19, 1954</u>	<u>August 12, 1954</u> (1935-39=100)	<u>July 22, 1954</u>
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
Total Common Stocks	187.8	186.6	181.8
Industrials	188.6	187.1	181.3
Utilities	171.8	170.2	169.3
Banks	216.6	219.2	215.7
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total Mining Stocks	96.1	96.4	92.5
Gold	67.4	68.5	65.4
Base Metals	161.9	160.2	154.5

Farm Prices Index With higher prices for live stock and potatoes more than offsetting
Again Rose In June lower prices for grains, dairy products, and poultry and eggs, the
 Bureau's index of farm prices of agricultural products for all Can-
 ada (Newfoundland excluded) rose 1.5 points in June to an estimated 234.9 from the revised
 figure of 233.4 for May. It was the second successive monthly advance in the index following
 declines in March and April and brought it to the highest level since October last year when
 it stood at 236.0.

All of the nine provincial indexes rose in June from May. June figures, with those for
 May in brackets, were: Prince Edward Island 184.1 (180.1); Nova Scotia, 242.1 (236.9); New
 Brunswick, 206.7 (206.3); Quebec, 268.8 (266.6); Ontario, 256.2 (255.1); Manitoba, 221.1
 (218.6); Saskatchewan, 198.9 (197.0); Alberta, 227.3 (227.1); and British Columbia, 253.9
 (252.2). (21)

Wholesale Price Indexes
 (1935-39=100)

	July, 1953	June, 1954	July, 1954
General Index	221.0	217.8	217.4
Vegetable Products	198.8	194.2	196.6
Animal Products	243.5	245.0	239.9
Textile Products	239.1	233.6	231.2
Wood Products	289.7	286.4	287.4
Iron Products	220.6	211.8	211.8
Non-ferrous Metals	168.3	168.3	167.8
Non-metallic Minerals	177.0	176.2	176.4
Chemical Products	176.1	176.6	176.7
Combined Index, Iron and Non-ferrous Metals (excluding gold)	222.1	217.3	217.1

ANNUAL INDUSTRY REPORTS

Producers' Shipments Of Portland Cement Reached New High In 1953 Shipments of Portland cement by Canadian producers in
 1953 amounted to 22,238,335 barrels valued at \$58,842,-
 022, both new high records. In 1952 shipments were 18,-
 520,538 barrels valued at \$48,059,479. Gross value of products, including containers, rose
 to \$62,227,924 from \$51,029,930.

Shipments were up in all producing provinces. Quebec's total -- highest of the seven --
 rose to 7,400,912 barrels from 7,272,241 in 1952, followed closely by Ontario's 7,078,181
 barrels, up from 5,577,025. Alberta was next with 3,098,664 barrels, up steeply from 1,886,-
 544, followed by British Columbia with 1,826,543 barrels, up from 1,441,710. Manitoba's
 shipments totalled 1,614,301 barrels versus 1,612,795; New Brunswick's, 823,900 versus 604,-
 123; and Newfoundland's, 395,834 barrels versus 126,100. (22)

Output Of Cotton And Wool Textiles Declined In 1952 The gross value of the production of Canada's cotton textile
 industries fell 17% in 1952 to \$246,397,909 from \$297,285,085
 in 1951, while the output value of the wool textile industries
 slumped 21% to \$150,935,470 from \$192,217,597. Both totals were also below those for 1950,
 but were higher than all previous years.

Cotton mills opened only 338,493 bales during the year, 23% less than the 442,770
 opened in 1951 and the smallest number since 1938. Output of cotton yarn and cloth firms
 fell to \$226,492,425 from \$273,651,120, cotton thread concerns to \$9,415,986 from \$11,171,-
 408, and miscellaneous cotton goods firms to \$10,488,679 from \$12,462,557. Production of
 wool cloth factories dropped to \$73,136,637 from \$91,365,498, wool yarn plants to \$34,765,-
 701 from \$44,718,027, carpet, mat and rug firms to \$13,427,279 from \$16,313,738, and other
 wool goods concerns to \$29,605,853 from \$39,820,334. (23 & 24)

13th Record-Breaking Year For
Food & Beverage Firms In 1952

Canada's food and beverage industries chalked up their 13th record-breaking year in a row in 1952. Gross production value increased to an all-time peak of \$3,472,517,000 from \$3,450,031,000 in 1951, employees to 175,552 from 172,493, and the payroll to \$429,650,000 from \$392,859,000. Material costs, on the other hand, were reduced to \$2,333,089,000 from the 1951 high of \$2,419,207,000.

The food and beverage group included nearly 22% of the 37,929 manufacturing concerns in Canada in 1952, and had close to 14% of the 1,288,382 employees. They paid almost 12% of the \$3,627,620,160 manufacturing wage bill and over a quarter of the raw material costs of \$9,146,172,494, and turned out over one-fifth of the \$16,982,687,035 manufacturing output. Since 1925 efficiency and output have increased greatly. The 1952 production value was more than four times the 1925 total of \$829,312,000, but the number of employees represented an increase of only 93% from 90,956. Salaries and wages, however, were more than five times the 1925 total of \$83,259,000, employee earnings averaging \$2,447 in 1952 as against only \$915 in 1925. (25)

RELEASED THIS WEEK

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

- 1- New Residential Construction, June, 25¢
- 2- M: Central Electric Stations, June, 10¢
- 3- Vital Statistics, July, 10¢
- 4- Annual Report of Hospitals, 1952, Vol. II: Finances, 50¢
- 5- M: Production & Value of Maple Products, 1954, 10¢
- 6- M: Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, August 1, 20¢
- 7- M: The Sugar Situation, July, 10¢
- 8- M: Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Traveller's Vehicle Permits, July, 10¢
- 9- M: Railway Carloadings, First Week of August, 10¢
- 10- Railway Transport, 1952, Part I: Comparative Summary Statistics 1948 to 1952, 25¢
- 11- Preliminary Report of Registrations of Motor Vehicles, 1953, 10¢
- 12- M: Production of Pig Iron & Steel, June, 10¢
- 13- M: Steel Wire & Specified Wire Products, June, 10¢
- 14- M: Gypsum Products, July, 10¢; June, 10¢
- 15- M: Mineral Wool, June, 10¢
- 16- M: Peeler Logs, Veneers & Plywoods, June, 20¢
- 17- Refined Petroleum Products, 1952, 50¢
- 18- M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, May, 15¢
- 19- Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, May, 10¢
- 20- Retail Trade, June, 20¢
- 21- M: Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, June, 10¢
- 22- Cement Manufacturing Industry, 1952, 25¢
- 23- The Cotton Textile Industries, 1952, 25¢
- 24- The Wool Textile Industries, 1952, 25¢
- 25- Foods & Beverages, General Review, 1952, 25¢
- Trade of Canada: Imports, May & 5 Months, Detailed, 50¢
- M - Memorandum

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

D.B.S. NEWS NOTES

Maple sugar cost an average of 45¢ a pound on farms this year, 6¢ more than in 1953.

Motor Vehicles: There were 10 for every 43 persons in Canada last year as compared with 10 for every 46 in 1952 and 10 for every 49 in 1951.

Bakeries produced 352,000,000 pounds of bread in the first quarter this year, 1,171,000 less than a year earlier, 4,410,000 less than in 1952.

Carpet, mat and rug firms shipped \$13,427,000 worth of products in 1952, an 18% reduction from the \$16,314,000 worth turned out in the preceding year.

Portland cement consumption in Canada last year reached an all-time high of 24,706,000 barrels, up 15% from 21,430,000 barrels in 1952.

Travel: More foreign vehicles entered Canada this July than in any other month on record. The 162,012 total was 3% above the previous peak of 546,185 in August last year.

Phonograph Records: 4,360,000 were made by seven Canadian companies in the first six months this year, 1,364,000 or 24% less than in the first half of 1953.

Steam railways operated 42,953 miles of single main track in Canada at the end of 1952, 10,720 miles of yard track and sidings, 2,488 miles of second track and 1,130 miles of industrial track -- a total of 58,291 miles.

Food and beverage producers form an important part of Canada's manufacturing industry. They include 22% of the firms and 14% of the employees, pay 12% of the payroll and over a quarter of the raw material costs, and turn out more than a fifth of the total output.

Phonograph Records: 3,958,000 were sold in Canada in the first six months this year, 825,000 or 17% less than in the first half of 1953. A larger proportion of long-playing records raised the average list-price value to \$1.21 from \$1.11, and the total sale value of \$4,782,000 was \$512,000 or 10% less than a year earlier.

Cotton mills opened only 338,500 bales in 1952, some 104,300 or 23% less than in the preceding year and the smallest number since 1938.

Kilns: Canada's 11 cement plants had 27 last year with a total capacity of 63,825 barrels per day.

Freight cars in service on Canada's steam railways at the end of 1952 numbered 186,557. Average capacity per car was 22 tons.

Housing: A record 41,572 dwelling units were completed in Canada in the first six months this year, 2,081 or 5% more than in the first half of 1953. Still under construction at mid-year were 64,262 units, 1,471 or 2% more than a year earlier.

Bread: Average bakery price per pound was about 12¢ in the first quarter this year as compared with 11¢ last year, 10¢ in 1952, less than 6¢ in 1946.

Hardware: \$38,406,000 worth was sold by factories in 1952, \$3,054,000 worth or 7% less than in 1951.

Maple Products: Quebec farmers produced 88% of Canada's maple syrup and 93% of the maple sugar this year. In 1953 about 94% of the syrup and 96% of the sugar came from Quebec.

Public Hospitals: Average cost per patient day climbed to an all-time high of \$10.24 in 1952, \$9.60 in 1951 and only \$4.50 in 1944. The average was lowest in 1952 in Nova Scotia at \$7.57 and highest in British Columbia at \$12.50.



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