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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

RETAIL PRICES as measured by the consumer price index averaged 0.9% lower last year than in 1952, the first decline in the yearly average since before the war. Prices were notably stable during 1953, the consumer price index never varying more than 1% from the annual average of 115.5. (Page 8)

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CREAMERY BUTTER STOCKS in nine regional cities totalled 44,545,000 pounds on February 1, down from 50,596,000 a month earlier but well above the 1953 holdings of 29,789,000. (Page 4)

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CANNED MEAT STOCKS held by manufacturers and wholesalers totalled 36,101,188 pounds at the close of 1953, less than half the holdings of a year earlier. (Page 5)

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RAILWAY CARLOADINGS continued lower in the third week this year, the 64,484 cars loaded in the week ended January 21 being 12.3% fewer than in 1953. (Page 7)

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CANAL TRAFFIC set new modern records during the 1953 season for volume of freight, number of vessels and registered net tonnage, number of vessel passengers, and number of pleasure craft. (Page 7)

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STEEL INGOT OUTPUT climbed 12% in 1953 to reach the sixth new all-time high in as many years. (Page 2)

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COAL PRODUCTION fell 10% last year, while landed imports were 8% lower than in 1952. (Page 6)

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SEA FISH CATCH was 3.6% larger and 0.5% more valuable last year, Pacific coast gains more than outweighing lower Atlantic coast landings. (Page 5)

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FERTILIZER SALES for domestic consumption increased 7% in the 12 months ending June 30 last year, were 42% greater than in 1945, over two and a half times greater than in pre-war 1938. (Page 3)

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LIVESTOCK SURVEY showed 5% more cattle, 5% more sheep and lambs, but 7% fewer horses on farms at December 1 than a year earlier. (Page 4)

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MANUFACTURING

Record Production Of
Steel Ingots In 1953

Canadian production of steel ingots reached an all-time high annual total of 4,010,000 tons in 1953, up 12% from the previous peak of 3,578,000 tons in 1952. The daily average for the year worked out at 10,986 tons as compared with 9,777 tons in 1952.

The 1953 gain continued a series of annual increases dating from 1946 when the output amounted to 2,252,000 tons. Production for intervening years was: 1947, 2,855,000 tons; 1948, 3,087,000; 1949, 3,096,000; 1950, 3,298,000; and 1951, 3,446,000.

December's output of steel ingots amounted to 296,300 tons compared with 324,500 in November and 311,900 a year earlier. The daily average for the month was 9,560 tons compared with November's 10,817 and 1952's December figure of 10,062 tons. (1)

Lumber Output Lower In November
But Higher In 11-Month Period

Canadian production of sawn lumber was lower in November than in the corresponding month of 1952, but cumulative output for the January-November period was still well above the 1952 level.

November's production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia dropped to 266,-235,000 feet board measure from 309,226,000, but 11-month output climbed to 3,535,401,000 feet board measure from 3,408,497,000. East of the Rockies, November's production fell 12% to 96,346,000 board feet from 109,941,000, but the cumulative output rose 5.5% to 3,153,-536,000 feet from 2,988,100,000.

Eleven-month production totals for the provinces East of the Rockies follow, those for the same 1952 period being in brackets (in thousands): Prince Edward Island, 9,930 (10,-145); Nova Scotia, 229,639 (236,303); New Brunswick, 348,589 (251,131); Quebec, 1,239,318 (1,159,000); Ontario, 805,505 (819,568); Manitoba, 59,894 (54,141); Saskatchewan, 69,481 (74,156); Alberta, 391,180 (383,656). (2 & 3)

TV Sales Up Sharply In October
But Radio Sales Off 11 Per Cent

Producers' sales of television receivers climbed steeply again in October, and exceeded the sales of radio receivers which declined from a year earlier. In the January-October period, TV sales more than tripled, while radio sales advanced 15%.

TV sales in October rose to 59,277 units from 23,020, and the value advanced to \$23,-318,865 from \$9,798,156. In the ten-month period the sales were up to 259,721 units valued at \$105,112,199 as compared with 85,704 units valued at \$38,761,092.

October's sales of radio receiving sets dropped to 56,036 sets valued at \$4,488,273 as compared with 62,807 valued at \$5,510,231. In the January-October period the sales were up to 480,618 from 418,312, and the value to \$41,096,335 from \$38,023,369. (4)

Producers' Sales Of Stoves
And Furnaces In October

Producers' sales of stoves and furnaces declined 9% in value in October as compared with a year earlier, but January-October sales climbed slightly more than 15%. The month's sales totalled \$7,228,000 against \$7,987,000, bringing the 10-month aggregate to \$53,253,000 as compared with \$46,260,000.

October's sales of electric ranges totalled 14,625 units valued at \$2,556,000 compared with 17,649 worth \$2,726,000 a year earlier, and 10-month sales aggregated 138,767 units valued at \$24,602,000 compared with 116,014 units valued at \$19,048,000. Sales of warm air furnaces amounted to 13,317 units valued at \$2,680,000 compared with 14,138 valued at \$2,300,000, and 10-month sales aggregated 69,391 units valued at \$13,205,000 as compared with 63,978 units valued at \$10,783,000 a year earlier. (5)

Production Of Asphalt Roofing Materials Increased Last Year

Canadian production of asphalt roofing materials was higher in 1953 than in the preceding year. The year's output of asphalt shingles rose to 2,578,322 squares from 2,113,319, smooth surfaced roofing to 1,070,415 squares from 1,016,315, and mineral surfaced roofing to 860,767 squares from 803,267. Production of roll type sidings declined to 304,480 squares from 311,744, tar and asphalt felts to 46,254 tons from 46,573, but tar and asphalt sheathings rose to 17,268 tons from 13,763. (6)

Output Of Asphalt Floor Tiles Lowered Last Year

Production of asphalt floor tiles in 1953 declined to 15,699,147 square feet from the preceding year's 16,217,259, and domestic shipments fell to 15,684,887 square feet from 16,875,787. In December, 1,292,957 square feet were produced against 1,621,560, and domestic shipments totalled 1,373,061 square feet against 1,932,956. (7)

Production & Shipments Of Hard Board Higher In 1953

Production, domestic shipments, and export shipments of hard board were higher in 1953 than in 1952. Production totalled 157,402,480 square feet (149,454,656 in 1952); domestic shipments, 117,084,748 square feet (100,238,839); and export shipments, 38,512,080 square feet (37,998,272). December totals: production 11,741,876 square feet (12,790,776); domestic shipments, 9,367,375 square feet (7,667,898); and export shipments, 2,061,439 square feet (4,029,696). (8)

Clay Product Sales Higher In October

Sales of clay products made from domestic clays in October were valued at \$2,961,000, up from September's \$2,836,000, and the preceding year's October total of \$2,507,000. In the January-October period the sales aggregated \$23,899,000, up from \$19,509,000 a year earlier. (9)

More Fertilizer Sales Last Year

Sales of fertilizers for consumption in Canada totalled 819,803 tons in the 12 months ending June 30, 1953, a 7% increase over the 768,545 tons sold in the preceding year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in its latest edition of The Fertilizer Trade. Sales of mixed fertilizers were up 4.5% to 640,203 from 612,496 tons, while fertilizer materials for direct application to the soil showed a 15% improvement to 179,600 from 156,049 tons.

Except for slight declines in 1941 and 1952, sales have increased every year since 1934. The 1953 total was 42% greater than that of 1945, over two and a half times that of pre-war 1938, and nearly five times that of 1927. The 25-year comparison shows a much greater gain for mixed fertilizers than for fertilizer materials, sales of the former increasing tenfold as against a 71% rise for the latter. Mixed fertilizers accounted for over 78% of the total sales in 1953 as compared with 1927 when fertilizer materials made up more than 62% of the total. Since 1946, however, the proportion of the sales accounted for by fertilizer materials has steadily increased from 14.3% to 21.9% in the latest year.

The largest proportional increase in total sales in 1953 was in Saskatchewan, where 21% more fertilizer was sold. Manitoba followed with an 18% improvement over the preceding year, then Prince Edward Island with 17%, Alberta with 14%, New Brunswick with 11%, British Columbia with 9.5%, Ontario with 5%, Nova Scotia with 4% and Newfoundland with 1%. Sales declined 1% in Quebec.

Fertilizer exports rose 14% in the latest year to 750,884 tons, more than one quarter above the 1950 movement. At 697,288 tons, exports of fertilizer materials were 13% higher than in 1952, 20% above three years earlier. Exports of mixed fertilizers jumped 27% to 53,596 tons in 1953 and were over two and a half times as great as in 1950.

Production of lime in Canada for agricultural purposes was 13,587 tons in the calendar year 1952, down from 14,709 in 1951 and the smallest output since 1947. Production of limestone for agricultural purposes was down to 461,930 from 567,300 tons and was the lowest output since 1945. (10)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Milk Output Up 5% In December The increase in milk production in Canada appears to be continuing, according to the December issue of the Dairy Review. Sample indications for the month point to an increase of slightly more than 5% in total milk production as compared with December, 1952. Production in November amounted to 1,144,834,000 pounds, an increase of 4.7% over November, 1952, bringing the January-November output to 16,305,000,000 pounds, 4% above 1952's 15,664,000,000 pounds.

In November, milk used in factory products rose to 490,328,000 pounds from 460,016,000 a year earlier. The amount used in the manufacture of creamery butter was 376,403,000 pounds (361,336,000 a year earlier); cheddar cheese, 39,825,000 pounds (38,154,000); concentrated milk, 46,380,000 pounds (36,586,000); and ice cream, 27,720,000 (23,940,000).

Fluid sales of milk in November rose to 374,262,000 pounds from 365,238,000; farm-home consumed to 130,800,000 pounds from 129,160,000; and the amount fed to live stock to 64,534,000 pounds from 53,373,000. The amount used in the production of dairy butter was down to 84,910,000 pounds from 85,475,000. (11)

Fluid Sales Of Milk & Cream Fluid sales of milk and cream, expressed in terms of milk, totalled 4,143,685,000 pounds in January-November, 5% above the 1952 level. November's sales were up 2% to 374,262,000 pounds. Except in Prince Edward Island, where sales were unchanged, all provinces had higher sales in the 11-month period.

January-November sales in Nova Scotia were 137,756,000 pounds (up 3%); New Brunswick, 79,152,000 (4%); Quebec, 1,394,857,000 (5%); Ontario, 1,513,331,000 (4%); Manitoba, 182,900,000 (3%); Saskatchewan, 184,807,000 (6%); Alberta, 325,411,000 (7%); and British Columbia, 304,377,000 (3%). Sales in Prince Edward Island amounted to 21,094,000 pounds. (12)

Stocks Of Creamery Butter And Cheese On February 1 Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on February 1 amounted to 44,545,000 pounds, down from the revised January 1 stocks of 50,596,000 pounds but up from last year's February 1 holdings of 29,789,000 pounds. Cheddar cheese stocks on February 1 declined to 14,896,000 pounds from 16,742,000 a month earlier and 15,260,000 a year ago.

Creamery butter stocks were as follows by cities, totals for a year earlier being in brackets (in thousands): Quebec, 3,303 (2,408) pounds; Montreal, 21,857 (13,146); Toronto, 8,887 (6,039); Winnipeg, 7,070 (4,328); Regina, 495 (742); Saskatoon, 139 (135); Edmonton, 818 (1,191); Calgary, 411 (273); and Vancouver, 1,565 (1,527). (13)

More Cattle & Sheep But Fewer Horses On Farms At December 1 There were more cattle, sheep and lambs, but fewer horses on Canadian farms on December 1 than on the same date in 1952, according to estimates based on farmers' replies in the annual December survey taken in co-operation with provincial government departments.

The estimated total number of cattle and calves, including milk cows, was 5% higher at 9,371,000 as compared with 8,906,300 on the same date in 1952. Eastern-Canada total rose 6% to 5,376,000 from 5,055,300, and the western total rose 4% to 3,995,000 from 3,851,000. Milk cows numbered 3,184,000, 6% above the preceding year's 3,013,000. At the same time, beef cows increased in number to 1,425,000 from 1,303,900. Yearling heifers being raised for milking purposes decreased to 861,200 from 872,700, but those being raised for beef increased to 589,100 from 550,500. Steers increased in number to 780,500 from 732,500, and calves to 2,331,000 from 2,233,300. The number of sheep and lambs was estimated at 1,161,000, 5% greater than a year earlier, while the estimated number of horses declined 7% to 1,053,700. (14)

Sharp Drop In Year-End
Stocks Of Canned Meats

Stocks of canned meats held at manufacturers' and wholesalers' levels on December 31 amounted to 36,101,188 pounds, down sharply from the 75,117,932 pounds held at the same time in 1952, according to a special statement.

Holdings were as follows by kinds, totals for December 31, 1952 being in brackets:

Beef products: beef stews and boiled dinners, 3,333,416 (2,426,529) pounds; roast beef, 155,430 (97,429); corned beef, 787,592 (1,026,300); other beef products, 1,679,126 (1,621,784).

Pork products: spiced pork and ham, 25,702,069 (65,408,141) pounds; roast pork and ham, 1,110,799 (587,830); other pork products, 1,441,425 (1,843,960). Miscellaneous: canned fowl, 592,455 (564,324) pounds; meat paste, 850,336 (672,415); other, 448,540 (869,220).

Refined Sugar Sales
Up Slightly In 1953

Refinery sales of refined beet and cane sugar totalled 1,398,870,000 pounds in 1953, up slightly from 1,377,499,000 in 1952. December sales were down narrowly to 94,994,000 from 95,648,000 pounds.

Refined sugar manufactured in the 12 months dropped to 1,351,403,000 pounds from 1,407,761,000 in 1952, while December's output fell to 101,448,000 from 127,307,000. Refinery stocks at year's end were down to 294,032,000 pounds from 342,632,000. The year's meltings and sales of raw cane sugar were off slightly to 1,135,228,000 pounds from 1,147,916,000, and December's total dropped to 71,303,000 from 77,229,000. Year-end stocks at refineries increased to 157,194,000 pounds from 152,402,000. (15)

Landings, Landed Value Of
Sea-Fish Higher Last Year

Mainly as a result of larger catches of herring and salmon on the Pacific coast, overall landings of sea-fish in Canada in 1953 climbed to 1,223,699,000 pounds from the preceding year's 1,181,523,000 pounds. The landed value was moderately higher at \$63,877,000 compared with \$63,558,000. With a particularly sharp rise in the catch of herring on the Pacific coast, December's catch of all species rose to 104,626,000 pounds from 31,474,000, and the value advanced to \$3,831,000 from \$3,461,000.

Landings of all species on the Pacific coast in the full year increased to 539,210,000 pounds from 404,550,000, and the landed value rose to \$30,489,000 from \$29,433,000. Boosted by a record autumn catch of herring, the year's take increased to 299,398,000 pounds from 189,497,000, while the salmon catch increased to 184,916,000 pounds from 146,971,000. The catch of halibut was up to 24,063,000 pounds from 23,488,000.

Total catch on the Atlantic coast in 1953 dropped to 684,489,000 pounds from 776,973,000, and the landed value sloped off to \$33,388,000 from \$34,125,000. Among the major species, the take of cod was off to 182,856,000 pounds from 232,610,000, herring to 149,961,000 from 177,267,000, lobsters to 42,005,000 pounds from 43,928,000, and sardines to 37,067,000 pounds from 54,508,000. The catch of haddock increased to 58,074,000 pounds from 54,855,000, and pollock to 29,703,000 pounds from 25,838,000. (16)

Newfoundland Catch Of Sea-Fish

The sea-fisheries of Newfoundland yielded a catch of 11,692,000 pounds of fish valued at \$233,000 in December, bringing the year's catch to an estimated 469,378,000 pounds valued at \$11,421,000, according to a special statement.

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

Department Store Sales
Off 5% In January Week

Department store sales declined 5% during the week ending January 23 as compared with the corresponding week last year. Sales remained unchanged in Quebec, but declined in all other areas. The drop in the Maritimes was 8.1%, Ontario, 4.6%, Manitoba 10.7%, Saskatchewan 16%, Alberta 3.8%, and British Columbia 3%.

M I N E R A L S

Production & Imports
Of Coal Down In 1953

Canadian production of coal dropped 10% in 1953, while landed imports declined 8%. December output was down 8%, and imports 37%. The year's domestic production amounted to 15,856,000 tons (17,579,000 in 1952), and imports totalled 22,522,000 tons (24,535,000). In December, 1,627,000 tons were produced (1,770,000) and 595,000 were imported (941,000).

The year's output was as follows by areas, 1952 totals being in brackets (in thousands): Nova Scotia, 5,772 (5,905) tons; New Brunswick, 716 (743); Saskatchewan, 2,021 (2,083); Alberta, 5,907 (7,195); and British Columbia and Yukon, 1,440 (1,653). (17)

Gold Production Off
Sharply In November

Canadian production of gold fell sharply in November, mainly as a result of labour disputes in the gold mining areas in northwestern Quebec and the Porcupine area of Ontario. The month's output amounted to 272,834 fine ounces as compared with the preceding year's corresponding total of 388,546. Output in the January-November period declined to 3,793,395 fine ounces from 4,079,946.

Production in Ontario in November declined to 138,764 fine ounces from 217,897 a year earlier, Quebec to 63,309 fine ounces from 90,830, Northwest Territories to 24,914 fine ounces from 27,269, British Columbia to 21,142 fine ounces from 23,456, and the Prairie Provinces to 18,052 fine ounces from 22,751. Yukon's output rose to 5,665 fine ounces from 5,492, and the total for Newfoundland and Nova Scotia rose to 989 fine ounces from 851.

Provincial 11-month production totals follow, those for 1952 in brackets: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, 10,577 (9,142) fine ounces; Quebec, 960,910 (1,014,525); Ontario, 2,042,807 (2,296,969); Prairie Provinces, 202,258 (215,767); British Columbia, 245,382 (248,943); Yukon, 63,664 (72,368); and Northwest Territories, 267,797 (222,232). (18)

More Silver & Lead, Less
Zinc Produced In November

Canadian production of lead and zinc was higher in November than in the corresponding month of 1952, but there was a drop in the month's output of silver. Production of all three was up substantially in the January-November period as compared with 1952.

Silver output in November amounted to 2,100,617 fine ounces (2,421,617 a year earlier); lead, 19,329 tons (12,884); and zinc, 30,629 tons (28,752). Eleven-month production totals: silver, 25,572,804 fine ounces (22,757,297); lead, 175,417 tons (150,436); and zinc, 368,571 tons (339,663). (19)

Crude Petroleum Output
Climbed 18% In October

Canadian production of crude petroleum in October jumped almost 18% to 7,236,875 barrels as compared with the corresponding month of 1952, bringing the cumulative output for the January-October period to 65,221,979 barrels, almost 31% above 1952's 49,842,448 barrels.

The month's output of natural gas increased to 8,163,008,000 cubic feet from 7,102,107,000, boosting the 10-month aggregate to 78,520,730,000 cubic feet from 69,895,320,000. October's sales of manufactured gas declined to 2,003,056,000 cubic feet from 2,078,136,000, and in the 10 months fell to 21,371,899,000 cubic feet from 21,747,073,000. Natural gas sales in the month were up to 4,842,913,000 cubic feet from 4,465,714,000, raising 10-month sales to 55,694,005,000 cubic feet from 52,660,428,000.

Alberta's production of crude petroleum in October climbed to 6,815,600 barrels from the preceding year's 5,937,967, bringing the 10-month output to 62,039,972 barrels as compared with 47,967,423. Saskatchewan's output for the month was up to 271,174 barrels from 149,992, and for the January-October period to 2,235,716 barrels from 1,367,406. Manitoba's output soared in October to 78,779 barrels from 17,468, and in the 10-month period to 426,340 barrels from 52,346. (20)

Production Of Leading Minerals
In October And 10 Months Of 1953

Production of 12 of the 16 leading minerals of Canada was higher in volume or value in the first 10 months of last year than in the corresponding 1952 period, while in October there were increases in eight and declines in an equal number as compared with a year earlier. Cement, clay products, natural gas, crude petroleum, and silver showed the largest increases in the January-October period.

Ten-month production totals for the 12 minerals with output increases were: cement, 18,960,268 barrels (15,865,675 in 1952); clay products, \$23,899,218 (\$19,508,992); copper, 218,411 tons (214,380); gypsum, 3,335,712 tons (3,155,053); iron ore, 5,563,849 tons (4,551,252); lead, 156,088 tons (137,552); lime, 1,005,792 tons (977,486); natural gas, 78,520,730 M cubic feet (69,895,320 M); nickel, 118,315 tons (117,363); petroleum, 65,221,979 barrels (49,842,448); silver, 23,476,291 fine ounces (20,335,680); and zinc, 332,347 tons (310,911).

Production totals for the four minerals with output decreases in the 10 months were: asbestos, 762,862 tons (781,581); gold, 3,519,931 fine ounces (3,691,400); coal, 12,607,793 tons (14,149,787); and salt, 787,328 tons (816,352). (21)

T R A N S P O R T

Railway Carloadings
Continue To Decline

Railway car loadings during the week ended January 21 totalled 64,484 cars, a drop of 9,028 cars or 12.3% from the same 1953 period. At the same time receipts from connections declined 2,820 cars to 28,475 cars.

Cumulative loadings in Canada for the first three weeks of 1954 were 182,086 cars, down from 201,425 a year earlier. Eastern loadings in the three-week period totalled 119,778 cars, down 6,956 from the 1953 equivalent. In the western division, loadings were down to 62,308 cars from 74,691. (22)

Canal Freight Traffic Sets
New Record In 1953 Season

Volume of freight transported through Canadian canals during the 1953 season of navigation reached a modern record total of 33,402,789 tons, surpassing the previous high of 31,354,139 tons in 1952 by 6.5%. All of the canals, except the St. Andrews, reported increased traffic last year.

The Welland Ship canal showed the greatest gain over the preceding year, followed by the St. Lawrence and the Sault Ste. Marie. Increased tonnage of soft coal and iron ore shipped through the Welland canal, crude oil and petroleum through the St. Lawrence system, and wheat, other grains and other freight on all three were mainly responsible for the advance.

New highs were also established for the number of vessel passages, registered net tonnage, and number of passengers and pleasure craft. The number of vessels locked through the 10 canals rose to 27,568 from 26,322, while the net tonnage advanced to 32,734,617 tons from 29,809,378. The number of passengers totalled 112,082 as compared with 104,135, and pleasure craft passages numbered 54,282 as against 45,902.

The tonnage of freight locked through Canadian and United States locks of the Sault Ste. Marie canal in the 1953 season aggregated 128,489,170 tons, a new all-time high, and considerably above the previous record of 120,200,814 set in 1942, and 19.7% more than in 1952 when labour strikes curtailed the flow of iron ore for six weeks. The tonnage of freight transported through the Canadian lock totalled 3,389,409 tons, an increase of 2.9% over 1952's 3,295,423. On the Welland Ship canal the season's freight tonnage was at an all-time peak of 19,571,875 tons, up 9.3% from the previous high of 17,910,756 tons in 1952. Freight tonnage on the St. Lawrence system in 1953 exceeded the 10,000,000 ton mark for the first time, reaching 10,081,992 tons, up 2.5% from 1952's 9,836,395 tons. (23)

P R I C E S

Price Trends In 1953

Retail prices, as measured by the consumer price index, were notably stable in 1953 and averaged 0.9% lower than those prevailing in 1952. The level position of the index during the 12 months ending December, 1953 was a continuation of the plateau established during the latter half of 1952, although the slightly lower level in 1953 as compared to 1952, marked the first decline in the yearly average during the war and post-war period. The remarkable stability of the total consumer price index during 1953 may be judged from the fact that at no time during the year was the index more than 1% from the annual average of 115.5. This reflected both stable prices within certain areas of the index and compensating upward and downward movements between other areas.

The total index dipped from 115.8 at December 1, 1952 to 114.4 at May 1, 1953, rose to 116.7 over the next five months and returned to 115.8 on December 1, 1953. The two main turning points at May and October can be traced to movements of the food index which largely determined the pattern of the total index. The steady fall in the food component from 114.1 at December, 1952 to 110.1 at May, was mainly attributable to declines in beef, vegetable, and butter prices. Increases for eggs, pork, bread, flour and coffee, contributed to the rise in the level of the food index between May and October when it reached a high for the year of 115.5.

In the shelter group, steady fractional gains were recorded in all months except March. This was a continuation of the movement of this series since early 1950. Both rent and home-ownership contributed to the advance with rent maintaining a slight edge over the other series throughout the year. On average, the clothing index was 1.5% lower in 1953 than in 1952, with four of the five sub-group indexes averaging from 1.1 to 2.6% lower. There were no pronounced monthly movements in clothing, the highest and lowest monthly indexes deviating not more than 0.5% from the yearly average of 110.1.

The household operation index advanced 1.1% between December, 1952 and December, 1953, most of the rise occurring during the latter half of the year. Two of the three main sub-group indexes -- fuel and lighting, and supplies and services -- recorded the same trend. Between December, 1952 and June, 1953, fuel and lighting increased only 0.2 and supplies and services only 0.7%. However, during the last six months of the year the rise in both series approximated 1.4%. The homefurnishings sub-group index fluctuated narrowly over the year, making a net gain of only 0.3% from December, 1952 to December, 1953.

The trend in other commodities and services was generally upward as the services component of the group continued its slow advance. The major factors offsetting this movement were tax and price reductions on cigarettes and the removal of radio licenses. The tobacco and alcoholic beverages sub-group averaged 4.7% lower in 1953 than in 1952, while other main sub-groups averaged higher within a range of 0.3% for personal care to 2.7% for health care. (24)

Wholesale Price Movements

Between the outbreak of war in Korea in June, 1950 and subsequent post-war price peaks, which the retail index reached in January, 1952, and the wholesale index in July, 1951, both series increased almost the same amount, the retail index rising 16% and the wholesale index 16.5%. The consumer price index subsequently declined approximately 2% over four months, and since May, 1952 has been relatively unchanged. On the other hand, the wholesale index declined almost steadily for 15 months after reaching its peak, for a total drop of 9.6% and has been practically unchanged since October, 1952. Thus, the stable period of the retail index which has lasted for 24 months, came after a 16% increase followed by a distinct but small decline, whereas the level position of the wholesale series which has lasted for 16 months, came after a similar increase succeeded by a substantial and lengthy decline.

The general wholesale index fluctuated narrowly in 1953, the low point for the year being 218.8 and the high, 222.4. Within this spread of approximately 1.6%, the index averaged somewhat lower during the last three months of the year than during the first three quarters, and the December index of 219.0 was 1% below the level of December, 1952. Both the peak and the trough occurred in the latter half of the year, the index declining 1.6% between August and November, followed by a fractional advance between November and December.

Most of the larger aggregate indexes stood at lower levels at the end of the year than 12 months earlier. Five of the eight major group indexes of the general wholesale price index, as well as the residential and non-residential building materials price indexes, were all lower in December, 1953 than in December, 1952. (24)

Security Price Indexes

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>Jan. 28, 1954</u>	<u>Jan. 21, 1954</u>	<u>Dec. 31, 1953</u>
Total Common Stocks	160.4	158.0	152.4
Industrials	159.4	157.2	151.6
Utilities	152.2	149.3	144.0
Banks	189.1	185.9	180.4
 <u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total Mining Stocks	81.8	81.7	78.8
Golds	61.1	60.2	56.7
Base Metals	129.2	130.9	129.4

Number Of Juveniles Found Delinquent By Courts In 1952 Was Lowest Ever Recorded

A total of 6,068 boys and girls of 15 years and under were found delinquent by Canadian courts in 1952, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in its latest edition of Juvenile Delinquents. This was 7% less than in the preceding year, one-fifth less than five years earlier, 49% less than a decade before, and the lowest number reported in the 31 years the Bureau has kept records.

Matched against the total population of 7 to 15 years the figures reveal still sharper reductions. The record low 1952 rate of 272 delinquents per 100,000 juveniles was 12% below 1951's, 31% under 1947's, and 55% lower than in 1942.

<u>Juvenile Cases</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1942</u>	
Number Brought To Court..	7,213	7,521	8,265	13,802	with an estimated 6,794 cases in 1952, a reduction of 28% from the 9,482 reported in the preceding year (comparative figures were not collected in earlier years). About 2.5% of the court cases were dismissed, the proportion showing little change from 1951 and 1947 and a slight advance over ten years earlier. At 13.4%, the proportion adjourned <u>sine die</u> was appreciably higher than a year and five years
% Dismissed	2.5	2.6	2.4	1.9	
% Adjourned <u>sine die</u> ..	13.4	9.1	6.3	12.9	
% Delinquent	84.1	88.3	91.3	85.2	
Number Found Delinquent..	6,068	6,644	7,545	11,758	
Per 100,000 juveniles..	272	310	392	606	earlier but only slightly greater than in 1942. The proportion declared delinquent was smaller than in each of the three earlier years, the sharpest drop occurring since 1947.
Per 100,000 boys.....	476	553	689	1,091	
Per 100,000 girls.....	59	58	87	110	

The ten years saw steady increases in the proportion convicted of offences against property, against the person and against currency, including forgery, and a corresponding drop for other offences. Offences against property without violence accounted for 41.1% of the total in 1952 versus 34.1% in 1942, against property with violence for 24% against 13.1%, willful offences against property for 10.4% in both years, offences against the person for 2.8% against 1.7%, forgery and offences against currency for 0.4% against 0.1%, and other offences for 21.2% versus 40.3%.

The disposition of the delinquent cases was significantly different in 1952 than in the three earlier years, the general trend in the decade being towards probation and training schools and away from corporal punishment, indefinite detention, fine or restitution, and suspended sentence. Only two young offenders were administered corporal punishment in both 1951 and 1952 (the two in the latter year were convicted of car theft) as compared with 24 in 1947 and 51 in 1942. Only one delinquent was sentenced to indefinite detention in 1952 as against 45 in 1951, 40 in 1947 and 117 ten years earlier.

On the other hand, 19% of the delinquents in 1952 as against 17.2% in 1951, 14.7% in 1947, and 12.4% in 1942, were sent to training schools. A much larger proportion were put on probation under court supervision (39.8% versus 34.8, 30.1 and 26.1%) and care of parents (2.4% against 2.3, 0.9 and 0.7%). Fine or restitution was decreed in only 16.7% of the cases as compared with 21.6, 28.1 and 19.6% in the earlier years. The proportion let off with a reprimand was 4% against 4.6, 2.4 and 3.7%, while suspended sentences were given to 18.1% as compared with 18.8, 23 and 36.1%.

In 1952, as in earlier years, different offences predominated among girls and boys. Of the 5,418 delinquent boys, 48.5% were convicted of theft or receiving stolen goods, 26.4% of burglaries, robberies, house and shop breaking, and 11.3% of willful acts against property. In comparison only 3% were guilty of offences against the person. Of the 650 girls declared delinquent, 26% were charged with incorrigibility and 25.5% with theft. The sources of complaints also showed wide variation between the sexes.

The police laid the charges against 79% of the boys but only 52.1% of the girls declared delinquent in 1952, while parents were responsible for 16.4% of the complaints against girls and only 2.3% of those against boys. Social agencies were the complainants in 7.5% of the girls' cases and 1% of the boys', probation officers in 6.6% of the girls' and 2.3% of the boys', and school authorities in 5.7% of the girls' and 1.9% of the boys' cases.

The ratio of boys to girls among delinquents has remained much the same over a long period and in 1952 was about nine to one. Juveniles of 13, 14 and 15 years also continued to comprise the majority of the offenders, accounting for 68.9% of the boys and 85.1% of the girls. However, 5.2% of the children were under 10, and two six-year-old boys were arraigned for setting fires and causing willful damage to property.

A breakdown of the delinquents by education shows that in the latest year nearly half the total were two or more years below the normal grade for their years while a little less than 4% were a year or more above it. About 10% of the girls and 18.5% of the boys were not attending school at the time of their arrest, and of these, 27.6% of the boys and 36.7% of the girls were unemployed. About one out of three had one or more previous convictions.

The Bureau's report also provides statistics on the home circumstances of young offenders. Separated parents, divorce and death were the background from which 19% of 1952's delinquents came, while the parents of 77.4% were reported to be living together. Both parents were dead in 22 cases, while the fathers of 6% and the mothers of 2.9% were deceased. Only 3.3% of the fathers who were living were unemployed or retired, while 9.9% of the mothers who were alive worked during the day. About 89% of the delinquents were living in their own homes when they broke the law, while 4.7% were living in foster homes and 1.7% in institutions. (25)

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Trade In Outstanding Securities Between
Canada And Other Countries In November

Trade in outstanding securities between Canada and other countries in November resulted in a capital inflow of \$4,300,000, slightly under the preceding month's \$4,500,000. Over the January-November period there was a capital outflow of \$16,600,000 in contrast to \$91,300,000 in the first 11 months of 1952.

In November, securities trade with the United States produced a small sales balance of \$500,000 in contrast to a purchase balance of \$4,800,000 in October, while 11-month totals show a purchase balance of \$59,600,000 as compared with \$102,300,000 a year earlier.

November's trade with the United Kingdom produced a sales balance of \$3,500,000 as compared with \$5,600,000 in October, bringing the 11-month total to \$24,000,000, which compares with a purchase balance in the 1952 January-November period of \$2,200,000. With all other countries, net sales in November amounted to \$300,000 as compared with \$3,800,000 a month earlier, bringing the 11-month total to \$19,000,000 as compared with \$13,100,000.

Sales to all countries in November totalled \$42,300,000 as compared with \$43,500,000 in October, and purchases amounted to \$38,000,000 as compared with \$39,000,000. In the 11-month period the sales aggregated \$444,500,000 (\$463,000,000 a year earlier), and the purchases \$461,100,000 (\$554,300,000). (26)

RELEASED THIS WEEK

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

- 1- Steel Ingots, Dec., 10¢
- 2- Production, Shipments & Stocks of Sawmills East of the Rockies, Nov., 25¢
- 3- Production, Shipments & Stocks of Sawmills in British Columbia, Nov., 25¢
- 4- Radios & Television Receiving Sets, Oct., 25¢
- 5- M: Stoves & Furnaces, Oct., 10¢
- 6- M: Asphalt Roofing, Dec., 10¢
- 7- M: Asphalt Floor Tiles, Dec., 10¢
- 8- M: Hard Board, Dec., 10¢
- 9- M: Products Made From Canadian Clays, Oct., 10¢
- 10- The Fertilizer Trade, July 1, 1952 - June 30, 1953, 25¢
- 11- The Dairy Review, Dec., 25¢
- 12- M: Fluid Milk Sales, Nov., 10¢
- 13- M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products in 9 Cities, Advance Statement, Feb. 1, 10¢
- 14- M: Live Stock Survey, Dec. 1: Cattle Horses, Sheep, 10¢
- 15- The Sugar Situation, Dec., 10¢
- 16- Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, Dec., 30¢
- 17- M: Preliminary Report on Coal Production, Dec., 10¢
- 18- M: Gold Production, Nov., 10¢
- 19- M: Silver, Lead & Zinc, Nov., 10¢
- 20- M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, Oct., 15¢
- 21- Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, Oct., 10¢
- 22- M: Carloadings on Canadian Railways, Weekly, 10¢
- 23- M: Summary of Canal Statistics, Dec. & 1953 Season of Navigation, 10¢
- 24- Prices & Price Indexes, Dec., 25¢
- 25- Juvenile Delinquents, 1952, 25¢
- 26- Sales & Purchases of Securities Between Canada & Other Countries, Nov., 10¢

M - Memorandum

D.B.S. NEWS NOTES

Hops: 984 acres were sown last year, 500 or over a third less than in 1952, all but 50 acres in 1952 and 42 acres in 1951 were sown in British Columbia.

Nurseries sold 37,291 ornamental climbers in year ending June 1952, 11,217 or 43% more than in 1950-51.

Bakers' Bread: Per capita consumption rose to 105.6 pounds in 1952 from 101.3 in 1951, was topped only by 1946's 111.9, 1947's 110.4, 1945's 107.0 and 1948's 106.9.

Fig Iron: The number of blast furnaces in operation increased by one to 15 in 1952 and rated capacity totalled 3,450,000 net tons, nearly one-fifth more than in 1951.

Aircraft: 461 were imported in 1952 versus 268 in 1951, of which 20 against 40 were re-exported, a net import gain of 213 or over 93%. Canadian planes exported numbered 321 in 1952, nearly six times the 1951 total of 57.

Inks Industry included 34 firms at the start of 1953, of which 25 produced printing ink and printers' rollers, and nine made writing inks as their main product.

T.B. death rate per thousand Canadians made the sharpest drop on record in 1952, plunging 30% from 23.2 in 1951 to 16.2 to register below 20 for the first time. In 1946 it was nearly three times as high (47.2), in 1932 over four times (68.2), in 1926 more than five times (85.4).

Breweries: Exports of beer, ale, stout and porter totalled 1,805,010 gallons in 1952, less than 1% of total sales but nearly nine times the 201,699 gallons imported. Compared with 1939, almost 20 times as much was exported, only twice as much imported.

Mental Institutions: Over 76% of all the patients admitted for the first time are committed by medical certificate and about 11% by judicial warrant, while approximately 12% enter voluntarily.

Breweries: 51.6% of the beer, ale, stout and porter sold in 1952 was in small bottles, a jump from 46.7% in 1951. Large bottles represented 23.5 against 25.4% of the total, while cans accounted for about one-tenth of 1% in both years. Draught or bulk sales made up the balance.

Concentrated Milk Products: Last year's output was 438,917,000 lbs., a drop of 32,558,000 or 7% from 1952.

Canned Pears: The pack of Keiffer pears jumped 46% to 14,637,694 lbs. last year while the pack of Bartlett pears was over two and a half times as large at 9,777,283 lbs., the former accounting for about 60% of the total as against 73% in 1952, and the latter for 40 compared with 27%.

Primary Iron & Steel: Industry sales reached a record \$504,000,394 in 1952, more than twice as much as five years earlier, over three times as much as in 1946.

Nurseries sold less fruit stock in the 12 months ending June 1952 than in the preceding year. Sales of apple trees fell by 74,934 or 27% to 201,692, sales of other fruit trees by 20,294 or 5% to 396,887, and sales of fruit bushes and plants by 2,171,973 or 31% to 3,333,686.

Public Libraries: The proportion of adult fiction among books borrowed is highest in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, at 69.5%, while Port Arthur, Ontario, leads in juveniles with 63.1% of its total in this category. Victoria, British Columbia, has the largest proportion for adult non-fiction at 33.4%, but only in Toronto does adult non-fiction account for a larger proportion than adult fiction at 31.5% versus 25.3%.

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