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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Labour: The level of industrial employment at March 1 was slightly below a month earlier and about 1% below last year. The decrease was sharper among men than among women in both comparisons, averaging 1.2% for men and 0.2% for women in the 12-month period. (Page 9)

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Production: With increases of 19% in mineral production, 12% in electricity and gas output and 3% in manufacturing production, the level of industrial production in Canada was almost 6% above a year earlier in March. The first-quarter tally showed increases of about 2% in manufacturing, 16% in mining and 13% in electricity and gas, and an overall rise of over 4%. (Page 5)

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Mining: Iron ore shipments jumped 50% over last year's level in April. Most of the gain was in Ontario, where shipments were almost twice as large as last year... Asbestos shipments were up substantially in April and the first four months. (Page 6)

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Manufacturing: Outputs of steel ingots and pig iron were again sharply above last year's levels in May... Motor vehicle production increased for the third month in a row in May, set a new record for the month. April shipments were twice as large as in March and 45% greater than in April last year. (Page 10)

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Food: More margarine, lard and tallow was produced this April but less shortening, refined oils and grease than in April last year... Nine-city stocks of creamery butter, cheddar cheese and cold-storage eggs were larger than a year earlier at the start of June. (Pages 6 & 7)

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Transportation: Railway carloadings were nearly 17% above last year's level in the third week of May, and receipts from foreign connections were up almost 13%. Since the start of the year carloadings were over 5% and receipts from connections 9.5% higher. (Page 8)

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Prices: The consumer price index rose from 116.1 at April 1 to 116.4 at May 2 due almost entirely to a sharp boost in potato prices from 47.8¢ to 73.3¢ for 10 pounds... Prices of farm products at terminal markets receded 1.5% during May, a 5.6% drop in field products outweighing a 1.7% increase in animal products... The price index for 30 industrial materials inched higher during May, registering 233.1 at May 27 as against 233.0 at April 29. (Pages 2 & 3)

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Consumer Price Index
Up Slightly In April

The consumer price index moved from 116.1 to 116.4 between April 1 and May 2. The advance was due almost entirely to an exceptionally sharp increase in the price of potatoes from 47.8¢ to 73.8¢ per 10 pounds. This increase also accounted for the advance in the food index from 111.0 to 112.3. Other foods were relatively stable; somewhat higher prices were registered for fresh fruits and most cuts of beef, while butter, margarine and all items of pork were fractionally lower.

The clothing index remained unchanged at 107.9 as the few fractional decreases registered were not sufficient to move the total clothing series. A seasonal decrease in the price of coal and a slight drop in insurance rate on household effects decreased the household operation series from 116.9 to 116.4.

The index of other commodities and services remained practically unchanged, moving from 118.2 to 118.3 as higher quotations for theatre admissions and men's hair cuts outweighed decreases in automobile tires and insurance, and toilet soap. The shelter component moved from 128.7 to 128.8 as both the rent and home-ownership components moved up slightly. (1)

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities & Services
May 1, 1955	116.4	112.3	128.7	107.9	116.4	118.3
April 1, 1955	116.1	111.0	128.7	107.9	116.9	118.2
May 1, 1955	115.5	110.2	125.8	109.9	117.3	117.5

Industrial Materials Prices
Moved Narrowly In May

The Bureau's weekly composite price index for 30 industrial materials, on the base 1935-39, moved within very narrow limits during May, increasing only from 233.0 for April 29 to 233.1 for May 27. Commodity price changes were scattered. Six series - hogs, raw wool, raw cotton, raw rubber, fir timber and raw sugar - showed strength, while decreases occurred for beef hides, sisal, steel sheets, steers, imported bituminous coal, tin, iron ore, bleached sulphite pulp and western oats. (1)

During April the general wholesale price index (on the base 1935-39), as reported in the April issue of Prices and Price Indexes, advanced 0.5% to 218.5 from 217.4 for March. Six of the eight major group indexes recorded increases, while two declined. Vegetable products moved up 1.1% to 199.0 as sharp advances in potatoes, coupled with lesser changes in sugar, coffee, beans, canned peas, imported citrus fruits and miscellaneous items outweighed declines in bakery products in a few areas, automobile tires and tubes, livestock feeds and vegetable oils. Further advances in copper and its products, zinc, aluminum and gold overbalanced a fractional decrease in tin ingots to move the non-ferrous metals index up 2.7% to 183.8. Wood, wood products and paper rose 0.4% to 293.8, reflecting advances in newsprint, wood pulp, spruce lumber and lath, and cedar lumber and shingles; fir lumber and timber decreasing slightly.

M O R E

Increases of 0.4% each were registered by iron and its products and non-metallic minerals, due to firmer prices for scrap iron and steel and hardware for the former, and coal, building tile, window glass and sulphur for the latter. Chemicals and allied products changed 0.2% to 177.2 with higher quotations for some paint materials, sodium bichromate, methylene blue and industrial gases.

Animal products and fibres, textiles and textile products were the exceptions to the upward trend in April. The former declined 0.5% to 225.0 with decreases in livestock, milk and its products and raw furs overbalancing increases in hides and skins, fowl, cured and fresh meats, eggs, lard and tallow, and fishery products. Relatively substantial declines in binder twine, imported raw wool and raw cotton were reflected in a like decrease of 0.5% to 226.3 in fibres, textiles and textile products. (2)

Farm Product Prices Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets receded 1.5% during May, the Bureau's weekly index declining to 212.3 for the week ending May 27 from 215.6 for the week of April 29. Weakness was concentrated in field products, the index for the group falling 5.6% to 179.5 from 190.2 between the two weeks.

Eastern potato prices were substantially lower, and eastern wheat and tobacco also moved down, while prices were firmer for western flax, rye, potatoes and hay and for eastern barley. Animal products strengthened, the group index rising 1.7% to 245.1 from 240.9. Higher hog prices were the principal supporting factor, followed by lesser increases for western steers, calves, eggs and raw wool and for eastern poultry. Steers, lambs, eggs, cheese-milk and butterfat in the east, and fluid milk and butterfat in the west were lower.

The overall decline in May followed an advance of 4.4% in the monthly index to 212.7 for April from 203.7 for March. In this comparison, field products moved up 12.5% to 186.8, reflecting the sharp change in potato prices and a lesser advance in hay, eastern grains being lower. The animal products index, on the other hand, declined 1.1% due to easier quotations for live stock and butterfat, fluid milk and eggs in eastern markets, which outweighed advances in fowl, cheese-milk and raw wool in eastern Canada and eggs in the West. (1)

Indexes Of Farm Prices Of Agricultural Products Up Canada's index number of farm prices of agricultural products moved up in April to 228.6, seven points above the revised March figure of 221.6. The index is also at its highest level since last September when it stood at 228.3. Much higher prices for potatoes and slightly higher prices for some grains and poultry and eggs more than offset lower prices for live stock and dairy products.

All provincial indexes except that for British Columbia moved up from March and were as follows: Prince Edward Island, 365.6 (224.5 in March); Nova Scotia, 281.8 (254.1); New Brunswick, 315.6 (225.9); Quebec, 266.2 (261.8); Ontario, 252.0 (245.4); Manitoba, 209.1 (208.0); Saskatchewan, 177.4 (177.3); Alberta, 204.9 (202.0); and British Columbia, 254.4 (257.7). (3)

Building Material Prices
Slightly Firmer In April

Residential building material prices were slightly firmer in April, the Bureau's composite index (on the base 1935-39 equals 100) moving up to 280.7 from 279.5 for March. Quotations were higher for spruce lumber, window glass and a number of heating and electrical items. The non-residential building materials price index (on the base 1949 equals 100) also moved upward to 122.0 from 121.7, as increases in lumber, glass, building tile and a few plumbing, heating and electrical fixtures outweighed declines in brass strip and floor tiles. (1)

Security Price Index
Advanced Again In May

Following the pattern established in April, common stock prices continued to forge ahead in May. Between the weeks of April 28 and May 26 the investors' index moved from 217.5 to 226.7 for a gain of 4.2%. Over the same period the group index for 78 industrials moved up 4.3% to 233.1, while 14 utilities advanced 5.3% to 195.2 and 7 banks 0.6% to 234.6. All except three sub-groups increased. Advances were led by beverages, machinery and equipment, pulp and paper, industrial mines and transportation issues. Milling, oils and textiles and clothing weakened slightly.

Mining stocks also were firmer in May due mainly to strength in base metal issues. The composite index for 27 issues changed from 110.6 to 114.8 between April 28 and May 26, while five base metals advanced from 119.4 to 122.0. Golds advanced moderately from 71.8 to 72.4 (1)

Security Price Indexes

	<u>June 2</u>	<u>May 26</u> (1935-39=100)	<u>May 5</u>
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
Total Common Stocks	229.7	226.7	219.3
Industrials	236.2	233.1	224.8
Utilities	198.1	195.2	190.7
Banks	237.5	234.6	230.5

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks	117.9	114.8	114.6
Golds	74.0	72.4	73.4
Base Metals	218.5	212.0	208.8

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

Department Store Sales Up

Department store sales rose 4.6% during the week ending May 28 as compared with a year earlier. Quebec led the sales gains with a rise of 11.2%, followed by the Atlantic Provinces with 7.1%, Ontario 5.9%, and British Columbia 4.3%. The decline in Saskatchewan was 4.9%, Alberta 2.4%, and Manitoba 1.8%.

March Industrial Production Index
Nearly 6% Above Year Earlier

Canada's composite index of industrial production for March, according to preliminary figures, stood at 250.6, which is 5.8% above

the March 1954 index of 236.8. The manufacturing component of the index rose slightly over 3% as compared with last March, from 249.9 to 258.0. The index of mineral production however, advanced nearly 19% in this comparison from 171.1 to 203.5. The sub-index measuring output of electricity and gas stood at 281.4 in March, over 12% higher than a year earlier.

The index of non-durable manufactures, at 220.9, was nearly 3% above the previous March's 214.6. Output in the textiles and rubber products groups increased by 17% and 13% respectively in this comparison, while smaller gains were recorded by production in the tobacco, paper and printing and publishing groups. Output of chemical products showed little change, and small declines were shown by the clothing and foods and beverages industries.

In the durable manufactures field, the composite index for March stood at 316.0, 3.6% above last March's index of 305.1. Output of non-ferrous metal products and wood products rose substantially by 15% and 12% respectively, and production of electrical apparatus rose by 8%, with the iron and steel and non-metallic mineral groups recording smaller gains. Volume of output in the transportation equipment group dropped by 9%.

For the first three months of 1955, the index of industrial production averaged 245.5, a rise of 4.4% over the corresponding 1954 figure of 235.1. The manufacturing index rose 1.7% to 251.3 in the same comparison, the non-durables component advancing 3.3% from 209.8 to 216.7, while the durables index rose fractionally from 305.1 to 305.5. The mining index, in the three-month comparison, advanced over 16% from 174.8 to 203.4. The sub-index for electricity and gas increased by nearly 13%, from 249.1 to 280.8.

MINERALS

Production Of Crude Petroleum And
Sales Of Manufactured & Natural Gas

Canadian production of crude petroleum continued to climb in February, the month's output rising to 9,108,-

167 barrels from 7,616,939 a year earlier. This followed a gain in January to 9,956,076 barrels from 8,014,161, and the cumulative output for January and February rose to 19,064,443 barrels from 15,631,100.

Natural gas output increased to 14,137,508 M cubic feet from 11,217,728 a year earlier. This followed a small decline in January to 15,024,593 M cubic feet from 15,186,240 M and the combined output for January and February rose to 29,162,101 M from 26,403,968 M.

February sales of manufactured gas fell to 1,765,306 M cubic feet from 2,524,284 a year earlier but the sales of natural gas rose to 11,962,536 M cubic feet from 10,635,621 M. (4)

Shipments Of Iron Ore
Up Sharply In April

Iron ore shipments from Canadian mines jumped 50% in April as compared with a year earlier, DBS reports. This followed a smaller rise in March and decreases in both January and February. April's total rose to 199,478 tons from 132,950 a year ago, Ontario shipments accounting for most of the gain at 121,316 against 65,881 tons. Cumulative shipments for the January-April period were below last year at 485,716 tons versus 549,284.

April shipments of ore for export climbed to 137,686 tons from 117,559, but the four-month total was down to 349,035 tons from 381,976. Shipments of ore to Canadian consumers rose sharply in April to 61,792 tons from 15,391 but there was a decrease in the four months to 136,681 tons from 167,308. Month-end stocks were up to 2,192,085 tons from 1,942,270. (5)

Asbestos Shipments Higher

Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines in April climbed to 98,658 tons from 82,950 in the corresponding month last year, raising January-April shipments to 306,668 tons from 276,154. Exports moved up in April to 77,909 tons from 64,525 and in the four months to 269,373 tons from 243,666. (6)

Miscellaneous Non-Metal
Mining Industry In 1953

Gross selling value of the products of the miscellaneous non-metal mining industry was \$9,987,665 in 1953 as compared with \$9,299,130 in the preceding year, according to the annual report by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

There were 40 plants in the industry in 1953, two less than in 1952, and their products ranged from barite and diatomite to silica brick and employed 1,405 versus 1,535 in 1952, and man-hours worked decreased to 3,110,359 from 3,270,305. The payroll was reduced to \$4,168,645 from \$4,257,845. The cost of process supplies used rose to \$1,030,764 from \$1,022,488, while the cost of containers fell to \$130,437 from \$146,809, freight to \$59,240 from \$122,127 and fuel and electricity to \$1,261,364 from \$1,327,929. (7)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

More Margarine, Lard And
Tallow Produced In April

More margarine, lard and tallow was produced in April than in the corresponding month last year but less shortening, refined oils and grease. April output of margarine was 9,648,000 pounds (9,476,000 a year earlier); shortening, 11,483,000 (13,123,000); refined oils, 2,960,000 pounds (3,341,000); lard, 8,838,000 pounds (7,387,000); tallow, 11,214,000 pounds (10,317,000); and grease, 796,000 pounds (896,000);

January-April production totals follow: margarine, 42,121,000 pounds (38,237,000 a year ago); shortening, 51,517,000 (51,421,000); refined oils, 10,762,000 (13,499,000); lard, 34,330,000 (28,958,000); tallow, 43,200,000 (40,998,000); and grease, 3,313,000 (3,337,000). (8)

Creamery Butter, Cheddar Cheese
And Storage Egg Stocks On June 1

Total stocks of creamery butter, cheddar cheese and cold storage eggs held in nine cities of Canada on June 1 were larger than a year earlier, according to the Bureau's monthly advance statement.

June 1 stocks of creamery butter in nine cities totalled 42,580,000 pounds versus 35,802,000 on June 1, 1954; cheddar cheese, 14,982,000 pounds versus 12,028,000; cold storage eggs, 175,000 cases versus 138,000; and frozen eggs, 3,294,000 pounds versus 4,764,000.

By cities, creamery butter stocks were as follows (in thousands); Quebec, 1,833 (3,402 a year earlier); Montreal, 20,499 (17,776); Toronto, 7,573 (6,502); Winnipeg, 10,328 (6,244); Regina, 705 (200); Saskatoon, 353 (268); Edmonton, 351 (459); Calgary, 203 (237); and Vancouver, 735 (714).

Cheddar cheese stocks, in thousands of pounds, were: Quebec, 105 (68); Montreal, 11,769 (8,671); Toronto, 1,574 (1,363); Winnipeg, 396 (400); Regina, 48 (45); Saskatoon, 34 (50); Edmonton, 358 (442); Calgary, 264 (475); and Vancouver, 434 (514) (9)

Stocks And Marketings Of
Wheat And Coarse Grains

Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America on May 25 totalled 323,292,000 bushels, about 5% less than last year's corresponding total of 341,564,000. Deliveries of wheat from Prairie farms moved up in the week to 5,139,000 bushels from 3,954,000, and overseas export clearances were moderately higher at 2,639,000 bushels versus 2,374,000. Deliveries of oats from Prairie farms during the week ending May 25 totalled 352,000 bushels versus 528,000 a year ago; barley, 966,000 bushels versus 1,065,000; rye, 91,000 bushels versus 77,000; and flaxseed, 34,000 bushels versus 9,000. (10)

Wheat Flour Production Lower In April

Production of wheat flour was lower in April, amounting to 1,694,243 barrels versus 1,757,884 in the corresponding month last year, but August-April output was moderately higher at 15,965,479 barrels versus 15,727,576. Export in April amounted to 856,263 barrels versus 845,896 a year earlier, bringing August-April exports to 6,849,055 barrels versus 7,769,392 (11)

Flour Milling Industry In 1953

The total value of all shipments of Canada's flour milling industry in 1953 amounted to \$266,430,548, a decrease of 2.9% from \$274,208,040 in the preceding year. Of the total value shipments of flour accounted for \$209,141,362. Next in importance were the shipments of more than \$38,000,000 worth of bran, shorts and middlings, while certain types of specially prepared flour and milled products amounted to slightly over \$10,662,000, the shipments of cake mixes alone approaching \$7,000,000.

The volume of flour shipped showed a slight reduction to 23,445,532 barrels, about 50,000 barrels less than in 1952. Exports of flour decreased slightly more than 2,000,000 barrels from 1952. The amount of all types of flour available for domestic consumption consequently rose by nearly that quantity to 12,302,151 barrels, an increase of approximately 2,000,000 over 1952.

M O R E

There were 95 mills in operation in 1953, five less than in 1952. There was no change in the number of workers with 4,962 reported but salaries and wages increased about \$500,000 to \$14,946,310. The total cost of raw materials amounted to \$224,518,387, down from \$236,194,234. (12)

Commercial Fruit Crop Value Higher In 1954 Farm value of Canada's commercial fruit production in 1954 was \$48,700,000, an increase of \$1,500,000 over 1953. Farm prices were somewhat higher for all fruits except apples, raspberries and blueberries. Another factor contributing to the increased total value of production was the larger 1954 apple crop.

Accounting for approximately one-third of the total value, the 1954 apple crop was worth \$17,963,000 (\$17,578,000 in 1953); strawberries were next at \$6,904,000 (\$6,405,000); peaches, \$5,252,000 (\$5,543,000); grapes, \$3,896,000 (\$3,496,000); blueberries, \$3,409,000 (\$3,339,000); raspberries, \$3,236,000 (\$3,661,000); cherries, \$3,232,000 (\$2,658,000); pears, \$2,716,000 (\$2,653,000); plums and prunes, \$1,539,000 (\$1,252,000); apricots, \$319,000 (\$425,000); and loganberries, \$207,000 (\$197,000).

Ontario led the provinces with a total fruit crop value of \$21,132,000 (\$20,510,000 in 1953); British Columbia next at \$15,058,000 (\$16,320,000); Quebec, \$8,114,000 (\$7,240,000); Nova Scotia, \$3,032,000 (\$1,915,000); New Brunswick, \$1,015,000 (\$740,000); Prince Edward Island, \$197,000 (\$178,000); and Newfoundland, \$125,000 (\$304,000). (13)

Revised Figures On The Packs Of Beets, Sauerkraut & Mixed Vegetables According to revised figures the commercial pack of canned beets in 1954 amounted to 688,901 dozen containers with a net weight of contents of 10,711,049 pounds (660,108 dozen containing 10,481,486 pounds in 1953); sauerkraut, 378,512 dozen containing 7,650,927 pounds (521,554 dozen containing 9,960,021); and mixed vegetables, 700,323 dozen containing 10,435,819 pounds (685,798 dozen containing 9,849,875 pounds in 1953).

TRANSPORTATION

Railway Carloadings 16.7% Higher In Third Week Of May Railway carloadings in the third week of May total-led 85,198 cars, up 16.7% from last year's corresponding total of 73,018. This brought cumulative loadings from the beginning of the year to May 21 to 1,406,414 cars, up 5.4% from 1,334,781 a year earlier. Receipts from connections in the week rose 12.7% to 31,975 cars from 28,360 and were up 9.5% in the cumulative period to 628,672 cars from 574,240.

Commodities carried in greater volume in the week were: grain, 10,257 cars (versus 6,092 in 1954); coal, 4,493 (4,081); iron ore, 3,296 (693); sand, gravel and stone, 5,282 (3,562); other mine products, 2,537 (2,104); lumber, timber and plywood, 4,919 (3,853); pulpwood, 2,136 (1,712); automobiles, trucks and parts, 2,693 (1,790); and miscellaneous carload commodities, 5,427 (4,854). Carried in fewer cars were: vegetables, 467 (1,133); and merchandise, L.C.L., 14,470 (15,144). (14)

Railway Revenue And Expenses
Down In February From Year Ago

Operating revenues of the C.N.R., C.P.R., and 15 other railways totalled \$81,882,-775 in February, down 2.6% from \$84,-084,553 reported by 15 railways a year earlier, according to the Bureau's monthly report. Operating expenses totalled \$79,070,934, a decrease of 4.5% from \$82,774,461. Net operating revenues amounted to \$2,811,841 versus \$1,310,092, and net operating loss declined to \$765,794 from \$2,103,275.

Revenue freight carried rose 1.7% to 11,728,316 tons from 11,535,409 and freight ton miles increased to 4,522,147,000 from 4,492,488,000. Passengers carried numbered 2,138,558, down 5.6% from 2,266,066 and passenger miles dropped to 174,557,000 from 190,780,000. There were 175,825 employees on payrolls, down 5% from 185,101, while earnings dropped to \$44,714,-559 from \$46,670,428. (15)

LABOUR

Industrial Employment In March
Slightly Under February Level

Industrial employment showed a minor decline at March 1 when the index, at 105.6 on the 1949 base, was 0.2 points lower than a month earlier. The slight easing was seasonal, the trend having been downward at March 1 in each of the post-war years except 1952. The latest index was a little below the figures for March 1, 1952-53, but was otherwise the highest in the record for that date. The falling-off in the 12 months amounted to 0.9%. The loss at the beginning of March as compared with a month earlier took place among men, there being practically no change in the reported number of women. In the last 12 months, employment for men has fallen by 1.2% and for women by 0.2%.

In spite of the small general reduction in employment, the weekly wages and salaries at March 1 were higher by 1.1% than in the week of February 1, establishing a new peak for the time of year. The per capita earnings, at \$60.89, were the highest in the record. Widely-dispersed increases, industrially and geographically, were shown in both payrolls and average earnings.

There was important expansion in employment at March 1 as compared with a month earlier in manufacturing, in which the gain of 1.8% substantially exceeded the average at the beginning of March in the post-war period. The advance was due in large measure to resumption of operations on a more usual scale in certain automotive plants. Improvement was also reported in many other durable goods industries and in numerous classes of non-durables.

The trend was downward in most of the non-manufacturing groups. The largest losses, seasonal in character, were in logging, construction and trade. Employment rose from its February 1 level in Prince Edward Island, Ontario and British Columbia, showing moderate curtailment in the remaining provinces. Industrial activity was higher in 17 of the 32 metropolitan areas for which data are available. The most outstanding increase was in Windsor, where the index rose from 81.2 at February 1 to 100.4 at March 1. (16)

Motor Vehicle Production At New High Record In May Canadian factories produced a record 58,279 motor vehicles in May, 4,256 more than in April and sharply above last year's May total of 38,213, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was the third successive monthly rise which more than counterbalanced decreases in both January and February. In the January-May period production rose to 224,517 units from 215,614 a year ago.

Passenger car production in May climbed to 46,349 units from 31,283 a year ago, bringing the five-month total to 187,438 units versus 172,645. Commercial vehicle output rose in May to 11,930 units from 6,930 but the five-month output dropped to 37,079 units from 42,969. (17)

Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles also topped all previous monthly records in April (latest available) when 66,944 units left the factories, more than double the March total of 32,380 units and 45% above last year's April shipments of 45,622 units. The sharp increase in April followed declines from January through March and four-month shipments were down to 160,554 units from 175,834.

Passenger cars accounted for the bulk of the increase in April, the month's total of Canadian-made units mounting to 56,276 units from 36,354 a year earlier. Commercial vehicle shipments rose to 10,668 units from 9,268. Shipments of vehicles imported from the United States were lower in number, passenger cars dropping to 2,386 units from 2,532 and commercial vehicles to 364 units from 457.

In the January-April period shipments of Canadian-made passenger cars dropped to 136,725 units from 140,470 and commercial vehicles to 23,829 units from 35,364. Four-month shipments of passenger cars imported from the United States fell to 7,790 units from 8,001 but commercial vehicles were slightly higher at 1,508 units versus 1,423. (18)

Production Of Steel Ingots And Pig Iron Higher Again In May Production of steel ingots and pig iron were again sharply above last year's levels in May, DBS reports. Steel ingot production rose to 376,249 tons from 252,988 a year earlier, putting total output in the first five months at 1,732,002 tons versus 1,290,627 last year. Pig iron production increased to 284,311 tons in May from 178,742, raising the January-May output to 1,246,766 tons from 970,861 in the first five months of 1954. (19)

Factory Sales Of Paints Higher In Value In April & 4 Months Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for all but a small part of the all-Canada total moved up in April to \$10,987,428 from \$10,013,454 in the corresponding month last year and in the January-April period to \$34,935,746 from \$33,733,507. (20)

Clay Product Sales Down In Value In February Producers' sales of products made from Canadian clays in February dropped in value to \$1,712,123 from \$1,829,797 a year earlier. This drop more than offset a January rise to \$1,729,951 from \$1,648,935 and the combined total for January and February fell to \$3,441,974 from \$3,478,732. (21)

Production And Shipments Of
Cement Down In April, 4 Months

Both production and shipments to customers of Portland cement were lower in April and the first four months of this year than a year earlier but month-end factory inventories were higher, DBS reports.

The month's output amounted to 1,674,749 barrels versus 1,974,816 and shipments totalled 1,776,394 barrels versus 1,833,913. January-April production aggregated 6,898,061 barrels versus 7,017,287 and shipments were 4,911,983 barrels versus 5,668,535. End-of-April stocks were 3,076,759 barrels versus 2,276,248. (22)

Mineral Wool Production
Up In April And 4 Months

Production of mineral wool moved up in April and the first four months of this year as compared with last. The month's output comprised 11,442,094 square feet of batts (9,683,990 a year ago), and 632,097 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool (473,271). January-April production: batts, 45,780,564 square feet (42,311,884); and bulk or loose wool, 2,933,425 cubic feet (2,254,691). (23)

Sawn Lumber Production
Up In March And Quarter

Production of sawn lumber increased in March and the first three months of this year both in British Columbia and East of the Rockies, DBS reported.

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia in March rose to 422,687,000 board feet from 375,247,000, raising the quarter total to 1,225,243,000 board feet from 931,670,000. East of the Rockies March production climbed to 315,719,000 board feet from 254,396,000 and in the three months to 789,068,000 board feet from 681,041,000.

January-March production totals for the provinces East of the Rockies follows: Alberta, 306,255,000 board feet (258,345,000 a year earlier); Quebec, 173,619,000 (179,321,000); Ontario, 92,911,000 (66,809,000); Nova Scotia, 77,368,000 (48,193,000); New Brunswick, 76,762,000 (68,891,000); Saskatchewan, 48,067,000 (52,048,000); Manitoba, 12,350,000 (6,266,000); and Prince Edward Island, 1,736,000 (1,167,000). (24 & 25)

Asbestos Products Industry

Factory shipments by manufacturers of asbestos goods in Canada in 1953 were valued at \$22,031,000, up 12% from the preceding year's \$19,639,000, the Bureau's annual industry report shows. Among the principal products made were: brake linings worth \$3,472,888 (\$3,348,531 in 1952); boiler and pipe coverings, \$1,506,667 (\$1,668,890); clutch facings, \$551,574 (\$597,019); gaskets, \$88,451 (\$79,537); and asbestos packings, \$525,084 (\$1,009,451).

Eighteen factories were included in this industry in 1953, one more than in 1952. Their employees numbered 1,930 (1,826 in 1952), and salary and wage payments totalled \$6,223,024 (\$5,448,895). Cost of materials at the works aggregated \$10,363,034 (\$9,306,930), and \$557,589 was expended on fuel and electricity (\$535,910). (26)

Value Of Shipments Of Petroleum Products Industry At New High

Boosted by substantial gains in aviation gasoline, motor gasoline, aviation turbine fuel, stove oil and furnace fuel oil,

the value of shipments by Canada's petroleum products industry in 1953 climbed to a new high record value of \$694,988,605 from the preceding year's \$660,356,584. There were lower values for diesel fuel and heavy fuel oil. Output of petroleum refineries climbed in 1953 to \$679,960,932 from \$643,-151,105 in the preceding year. Shipments from factories engaged in blending oils and greases fell to \$10,391,128 from \$12,320,823, and from absorption plants to \$4,636,545 from \$4,884,656.

Thirty-seven petroleum refineries were in operation in 1953, three more than in 1952, and their daily rated capacity was 509,300 barrels of crude oil versus 448,400 the year before. During the year 2,896,594,489 gallons of imported crude oil and 2,507,927,775 gallons of crude oil and absorption gasoline from Canadian wells, or a total of 5,404,522,264 gallons, was put through Canadian refineries -- about 84% of the rated year-end capacity. Of the total crude input, about 9.8% was imported from the United States and nearly 43.8% from other countries, while about 46.4% came from Canadian wells.

Refinery production of gasoline amounted to 2,252,434,809 gallons, 10% more than in 1952. Imports of gasoline, including casinghead, amounted to 291,608,276 gallons. Production of fuel and gas oils (excluding any made and used for cracking processes) totalled 2,582,250,988 gallons, of which 2,398,-516,445 gallons were made for sale and 183,734,543 gallons for use as fuel in the producing plants. Imports amounted to 767,166,373 gallons and exports, including re-exports, totalled 5,510,806 gallons. Consumption of fuel oils and distillate in Canada, excluding consumption under refinery boilers, as reported by distributors and refiners, amounted to 2,871,416,639 gallons in 1953.

Thirteen plants were occupied chiefly in compounding lubricating oils and greases in 1953, two less than in 1952. Total Canadian output of lubricating oils, including production from refineries, amounted to 69,120,056 gallons (72,143,859 in 1952), and lubricating greases totalled 48,477,566 pounds (50,476,080 in 1952). (27)

Broom, Brush & Mop Industry In 1953

Factory value of products shipped by establishments comprising the broom,

brush and mop industry of Canada in 1953 totalled \$17,160,595, 3% more than the preceding year \$16,654,381, according to the Bureau's annual industry report. There were 95 establishments in the group in 1953, one less than in 1952, their employees numbered 2,195 versus 2,177, salaries and wages totalled \$4,949,726 versus \$4,787,774, and materials cost \$8,112,766 versus \$7,947,253.

Paint brushes, numbering 416,613 dozen and valued at \$3,886,656, led the list of commodities shipped by the industry in 1953. Shipments of other main commodities in order of importance were: 245,496 dozen corn brooms valued at \$3,000,402; 295,778 dozen mops of all kinds at \$2,232,896; 254,774 dozen brushes for industrial use at \$1,434,241; and 650,868 dozen brushes for household use valued at \$1,291,507. (28)

Concrete Products Industry in 1953

Factory shipments of manufactured concrete products in Canada in 1953

jumped 15% in value to \$77,880,895 from \$67,756,528 in the preceding year, according to the Bureau's annual industry report.

Leading product was ready-mixed concrete worth \$27,570,788, up steeply from \$23,415,036, followed by building blocks at \$24,398,073 versus \$19,614,207, concrete pipes and culvert tile at \$10,070,626 versus \$10,036,049, artificial stone at \$2,529,703 versus \$2,084,935, concrete chimney blocks at \$809,283 versus \$801,985, and concrete laundry tubs at \$482,699 versus \$299,308. There were 486 plants in operation in 1953, 35 more than in the preceding year. They employed 6,722 persons versus 6,030, paid them \$19,385,183 in salaries and wages versus \$16,412,602, and expended \$34,886,105 on materials and supplies versus \$31,044,970. (29)

RELEASED THIS WEEK

- 1- Price Movements, May, 10¢
- 2- Prices & Price Indexes, April, 20¢
- 3- M: Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, April, 10¢
- 4- M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, February, 15¢
- 5- M: Iron Ore, March, 10¢
- 6- M: Asbestos, April, 10¢
- 7- Miscellaneous Non- Metal Mining Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 8- M: Oils & fats, April, 10¢
- 9- M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products in 9 Cities, Advance Statement,
- 10- M: Grain Statistics Weekly, May 25, 10¢ June 1, 10¢
- 11- M: Grain Milling Statistics, April, 10¢
- 12- Flour Milling Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 13- M: Value of Fruit Production, 1954, 10¢
- 14- M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, May 21, 10¢
- 15- M: Railway Operating Statistics, February, 10¢
- 16- Employment & Payrolls, March, 25¢
- 17- Preliminary Report on the Production of Motor Vehicles, May, 10¢
- 18- Motor Vehicle Shipments, April, 10¢
- 19- M: Steel Ingots & Pig Iron, May, 10¢
- 20- M: Sales of Paints, Varnishes & Lacquers, April, 10¢
- 21- M: Products Made from Canadian Clays, February, 10¢
- 22- M: Cement & Cement Products, April, 10¢
- 23- M: Mineral Wool, April, 10¢
- 24- Production, Shipments & Stocks of Sawmills in British Columbia, March, 25¢
- 25- Production, Shipments & stocks of Sawmills East of the Rockies, March, 25¢
- 26- Asbestos Products Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 27- Petroleum Products Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 28- Broom, Brush & Mop Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 29- Concrete Products Industry, 1953, 25¢
- Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings, March, 25¢ -- Summarized in Bulletin of
- M: Production of Pig Iron & Steel, March & April, 10¢ June 3.
- Canadian Statistical Review, May, 35¢
- Trade of Canada: Imports (detailed), March, 50¢

M - Memorandum

Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.,
Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery,
Ottawa, 1955

June 10, 1955

Hot & Cold 64% of the homes in Canada last September had hot and cold water installed, 14% had cold only, and 22% had no water piped inside.

Refineries At the end of 1953 Canada had 37 petroleum refineries with a daily capacity of 509,300 barrels of crude oil as compared with 34 with a capacity of 448,400 barrels per day at the end of 1952.

Electric Blankets Factory shipments of electric blankets increased to 13,990 worth \$328,763 in 1953 from 9,365 valued at \$214,406 in 1952.

More Toy Brooms Factory shipments of toy brooms increased to 12,930 dozen worth \$47,996 in 1953 from 7,576 dozen valued at \$24,181 in 1952.

More Tubes Canadian factories turned out 12,803,162 tubes for radio and television receiving sets in 1953 versus 7,221,495 in 1952. Factory value jumped to \$8,476,680 from \$4,672,927.

10% With T.V. Of the estimated Have No Phone 820,000 Canadian homes with television sets last September, 3% had no radio and 10% had no telephone.

Lighting Fixtures Canadian factories shipped \$2,152,392 worth of residential fluorescent lighting fixtures in 1953 as against only \$357,794 worth in 1952.

Over Half Have Cars 53 out of every 100 Canadian households had an automobile last September, and 9% of these had two or more.

What's Cooking? 1,456,000 of the estimated 3,734,000 households in Canada last September cooked on electric stoves, while 1,243,000 used wood or coal cookstoves or ranges, 798,000 used gas stoves, 196,000 used kerosene or oil stoves and 23,000 used hot plates or sawdust burners. About 13,000 households had no cooking equipment.

Rents: 21% Are \$70 Up Of the estimated 1,073,000 Canadian dwellings rented for cash in September last year, 43.5% were rented for less than \$40 a month, 15% for \$40 to \$49, 11.5% for \$50 to \$59, 9% for \$60 to \$69, and 21% for \$70 or more.

More Food Mixers 83,799 electric food mixers were shipped by Canadian factories in 1953 versus 57,513 in 1952. Factory value rose to \$2,243,847 from \$1,683,112.

More Auto Lifts Canadian factories shipped 1,531 auto lifts for service stations and garages in 1953 as against 1,065 in 1952. Factory value was \$667,000 versus \$515,378.

Searchlights Producers shipped \$758,868 worth in 1953 versus \$806,563 worth in 1952.

Toasters: More Are Automatic Canadian production of domestic non-automatic toasters has gradually declined from the post war peak of 321,648 in 1946 and in 1953 amounted to 114,775. On the other hand, output of domestic automatic toasters has gradually increased from 1,183 in 1947 (the first year for which figures are available) and had reached 134,116 by 1953.

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