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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Agriculture: As a result of unfavourable weather conditions, particularly in the Prairie Provinces, only an estimated 77% of the total acreage expected to be sown to spring wheat, oats, barley, flaxseed and mixed grains was seeded by May 31. Provincially, seeding varied from only 63% completed in Prince Edward Island to 99% in Ontario... The general outlook for fruit crops was favourable throughout most of the fruit growing regions of Canada at the end of May. (Page 11)

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Prices: Eight of the ten regional city consumer price indexes increased from 0.3% to 1.4% between April 1 and May 2, while two showed no change. Most of the increases centered around potato price movements, but fresh fruits and vegetables, beef and tea were also highest in most centres. Butter, veal, pork and coffee were lower. (Page 18)

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Merchandising: Department store sales were over 7% above last year's level in the first week of June. May sales averaged more than 10% higher than a year earlier... With five of nine trades reporting gains, sales of wholesalers were almost 2% above the 1954 level in April. (Pages 18 & 19)

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Transportation: Boosted by substantial increases in grain, iron ore, sand and gravel, lumber and timber, and automobiles, railway carloadings were nearly 20% above the 1954 level in May. Receipts from foreign connections were up almost 13%. Five month tally: carloadings up close to 7%, receipts from connections nearly 9%. (Page 16)

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Travel: 16% more foreign vehicles entered Canada from the United States in April than in the same month last year, and the number of returning Canadian vehicles was up 20%. The four-month tally shows close to 6% more foreign entires, over 8% more returning Canadian vehicles this year. (Page 4)

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Housing: Nearly 27% more new housing units were completed this April to put four-month completions more than 21% above last year's record level. The number of units started was up 4.5% in the month, 7% in January-April, and over 11% more than last year were under construction at the end of April. (Page 20)

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Gross National Product: Canada's gross national product in the first quarter this year moved up to an annual rate of \$25.0 billion, an increase of 3% over the fourth 1954 quarter and 4% above the 1955 average. (Page 2)

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Gross National Product Rose Further
In The First Quarter Of This Year

Canada's gross national product showed a further advance in the first quarter of 1955, as the upturn in business activity which began in the second half of last year continued, according to the Bureau's quarterly report on the National Accounts. Seasonally adjusted at annual rates, the value of the nation's total production of goods and services amounted to \$25.0 billion in the first quarter, an increase of 3% over the fourth quarter of 1954 and 4% above the average of \$24.0 billion for the year 1954 as a whole. These gains over last year include an allowance for an estimated higher crop production in 1955 and are thus subject to partial qualification. About 1 percentage point of these increases, or \$200 million, is attributable to this factor.

The report indicates that in the non-farm sector of the economy the expansion in activity which began last year brought the level of non-farm production in the first quarter to a point about 2% above last year's peak fourth-quarter level. Seasonally adjusted at annual rates, the increase in gross national product, excluding accrued net income of farm operators, amounted to about \$400 million. Related indicators suggest that, after allowing for seasonal factors, about one-half of the production gain occurred in manufacturing, with the major increases in transportation equipment, iron and steel products, and wood products. Non-durable manufacturing production also rose from the fourth to the first quarter, as major gains occurred in foods and beverages and in rubber products. Among the primary industries, mining and forestry output expanded further, while production in the service industries showed a continuation of previous gains.

The expansion of business activity from the fourth to the first quarter was accompanied by a build-up of business inventories and a sharp rise in merchandise exports, on the seasonally adjusted basis. Apart from these two expenditure categories, other major components of demand in the first quarter were relatively stable. Approximately half of the inventory build-up (seasonally adjusted) appears to have been in automobiles, production of which was a major factor in the upturn in manufacturing activity. The gains in merchandise exports in the first quarter were generally wide-spread and affected most of the major categories in the export group. In particular, exports of agricultural products, iron and its products, non-ferrous metals and chemicals showed major gains from the fourth to the first quarter, after allowing for seasonal factors. This rise in export demand, as has been noted, was accompanied by gains in production in durable manufacturing, forestry and mining.

National Income and Gross National Product

Wages, salaries and supplementary labour income, seasonally adjusted, amounted to \$12.3 billion in the first quarter of 1955, nearly 1% higher than in the last quarter of 1954. The largest increase from the fourth to the first quarter occurred in the manufacturing group. The remainder of the gain was almost entirely attributable to increases in the service industries. Taking labour income as a whole, the gains in the first quarter of 1955 brought total labour income to a point about 4.5% above the first quarter of the year 1954. Accompanying this increase over a year ago, paid workers with jobs were up by nearly 1.5%, and average weekly earnings in the main non-agricultural industries were up by approximately 3%.

M O R E

Investment income, seasonally adjusted, rose moderately in the first quarter over the last quarter of 1954. Corporation profits before taxes, after having remained comparatively level throughout most of 1954, showed a moderate gain. The largest increases were in the mining and durable manufacturing groups.

Indirect taxes less subsidies, seasonally adjusted, showed a substantial gain in the first quarter of 1955 over the fourth quarter of last year, as federal excise tax collections and customs import duties rose sharply. These increases were related to higher production of durable goods, a moderate increase in consumer outlays for durables, a build-up of business inventories (especially automobiles), and a higher level of imports. Relative to the first quarter of 1954, indirect taxes less subsidies were higher by about 5%.

Personal expenditure on consumer goods and services showed little change in total from the fourth to the first quarter (seasonally adjusted), but was at an annual rate approximately 2% above the average for the year 1954 as a whole. Durable goods purchases, which had been declining throughout most of 1954, rose by 5% from the fourth to the first quarter, and were at a level only slightly below the first quarter of a year ago. The recent pick-up in durable goods sales was concentrated in automobiles, but purchases of major appliances (including television sets) were also higher in the first quarter. Consumer outlays for non-durable goods dropped fractionally from the fourth to the first quarter, reflecting some decline in purchases of clothing and foot wear. Outlays for services, which have grown steadily in recent quarters, continued to move upward.

Government expenditure on goods and services was approximately unchanged from the fourth quarter of last year, at an annual rate of \$4.5 billion. This constitutes a gain of about 4% over the first quarter of 1954. In the year-over-year comparison, defence expenditures have remained level (on the national accounts basis), while federal non-defence expenditures and the total of provincial and municipal expenditures have increased.

Expenditure on new residential construction in the first quarter was at an annual rate of \$1.3 billion, unchanged from the high fourth-quarter level, and 11% above the 1954 annual average. Housing starts and completions were well above any previous first-quarter level. Investment in new non-residential construction showed little change from the fourth quarter of last year, and remained below the level of a year ago. Investment in new machinery and equipment showed a modest rise over the fourth quarter.

The build-up of business inventories was a major factor in the increase in output from the fourth to the first quarter. Seasonally adjusted at annual rates, the accumulation of business inventories in the first quarter amounted to \$0.4 billion. During the second and third quarters of 1954, a substantial part of final demand was being met through the drawing down of existing inventory stocks, and this development tended to have a restraining effect upon production. The turn-around in business inventories from the third quarter of 1954 to the first quarter of 1955 has amounted to approximately \$0.8 billion (seasonally adjusted at annual rates), or somewhat more than 3% of gross national product.

MORE

The build-up of business inventories in the first quarter occurred almost wholly at the manufacturing and retail trade levels, with small additions in wholesale trade. The major item in the total build-up was automobile inventories, which accounted for a large share of the accumulation at both the manufacturing and retail trade levels.

Substantial increases were experienced in both exports and imports of goods and services in the first quarter of 1955. Seasonally adjusted at annual rates, exports rose by 8% over the fourth quarter, while imports showed a gain of 4%.

The gains in exports over the fourth quarter were widespread in the goods group, but little change occurred in services. Sharp increases occurred in exports of wood products, as well as in the major base metals; in the latter case both volume and price gains were contributing factors. It was previously noted that activity in forestry, mining and manufactured wood products was rising in the first quarter of this year. Exports of chemicas were also up significantly.

On the import side, iron and its products was the only commodity group to show any significant change from the fourth to first quarter. This appears to be related to the increase in automobile production and to the improvement in investment in machinery and equipment. Freight and shipping payments increased in response to the higher volume of imports. Interest and dividend payments also rose sharply.

The Bureau also released today its annual report entitled "National Accounts, Income and Expenditure, 1951-1954", which provides revised annual figures of the national accounts aggregates. Gross national product for 1954 was estimated at \$24,-041 million as compared to \$24,449 million in 1953. The report provides additional information on the industrial distribution of national income, the geographical distribution of personal income, and other supplementary detail. (1 & 2)

TRAVEL

Canada-U.S. Border Crossings Up In April And Four Months

Volume of highway traffic crossing the border between Canada and the United States was 18% heavier in April than in the same month of 1954 when they numbered 1,108,400 versus 936,300. Foreign vehicle entries increased 16% to 531,700 and Canadian vehicles returning by 20% to 576,700.

In the first four months of this year the number of foreign vehicle entries rose to 1,733,733 from 1,642,111 a year earlier and returning Canadian vehicles increased to 1,505,730 from 1,392,713.

The number of foreign travellers entering Canada from the United States by rail, bus, boat and plane in March was 54,987, up from last year's 51,042, and returning Canadians numbered 86,496, down from 87,843. In the quarter entries from the United States by these four means of transportation rose to 161,297 from 157,927 but returning Canadians were slightly fewer in number at 245,538 versus 245,742. (3)

Exports To The United Kingdom
Increased Sharply In April

Major increases in the exports of planks and boards, newsprint paper, aluminum, copper, nickel, asbestos and petroleum and lesser gains in wood pulp, zinc and fertilizers were main factors in pushing the value of Canada's domestic exports up 15% in April to \$336,100,000 from \$292,400,000 in the corresponding month last year. Cumulative exports for the January-April period rose 13% to \$1,287,200,000 from \$1,143,400,000. The rise in overall value in April was largely due to a 13.3% advance in volume, prices being only slightly higher.

Area totals show a particularly sharp rise in exports to the United Kingdom, substantial increases to the United States, Europe and the rest of the Commonwealth, and reduced shipments to Latin America and other foreign countries as a group.

Domestic exports to the United Kingdom in April were steeply higher in value at \$70,316,000 versus \$39,118,000 in the corresponding month last year, raising the cumulative total for the January-April period to \$253,118,000 from \$173,801,000. Most of the increase both in April and the four months appeared in the agricultural and vegetable products, wood and paper, and non-ferrous metals and products groups.

Exports to the United States in April climbed to \$190,539,000 from \$176,746,000 a year earlier, boosting the January-April total to \$757,122,000 from \$703,280,000. Most of the increase in both periods occurred in four main groups -- wood and paper products, non-ferrous metals and products, non-metallic minerals and chemicals and allied products.

Shipments to all other Commonwealth countries were higher in value at \$20,505,000 in April versus \$18,785,000 a year earlier and \$72,540,000 in the four months versus \$56,040,000. There were larger totals in both periods for the Union of South Africa, India, and New Zealand. Australia's total was down in April but up in the four months.

Mainly as a result of a sharp drop in shipments to Brazil, the value of exports to Latin American countries as a whole dropped in April to \$12,059,000 from \$20,091,000 a year earlier and to \$50,450,000 in the four months from \$58,220,000. Sales were larger in both periods to Colombia and Mexico, and higher in the month but lower in the cumulative period to Venezuela.

Exports in April to European countries as a group moved up to \$26,622,000 from \$20,370,000 and in the four months to \$99,147,000 from \$80,187,000. Among the individual markets there were gains in both periods to France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Netherlands and Norway. Mainly as a result of a drop in shipments to Japan, exports to all other foreign countries fell in April to \$14,659,000 from \$16,315,000 and in the four months to \$49,476,000 from \$67,979,000. (4)

The following table shows the values of 14 leading commodity exports in April and the first four months of 1955, together with comparative figures for 1954, ranked according to value in this year's January-April period:-

M O R E

	April		January-April	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
(in thousands)				
Newsprint paper	\$ 48,637	\$ 55,934	\$ 192,976	\$ 207,608
Planks & Boards.....	23,514	32,401	84,347	117,943
Wheat	27,277	24,170	100,070	104,703
Wood pulp	21,465	23,271	83,620	89,193
Nickel	14,643	19,660	58,160	70,798
Aluminum & products ...	12,131	21,476	52,877	68,435
Copper & products	9,149	11,609	35,327	47,388
Fish & Fishery products	10,665	7,729	38,790	35,489
Farm machinery & implements	10,221	8,806	36,505	34,024
Gains other than wheat.	8,108	6,308	26,972	25,513
Fertilizers	3,950	5,863	18,355	25,224
Flour of Wheat	7,640	7,473	31,557	25,207
Asbestos & products ...	5,781	7,506	21,835	24,640
Zinc & products	4,458	5,946	15,584	24,232

Reduced Deficit Of \$157 Million In Transactions
With Other Countries In First Quarter Of 1955

Canada's transactions in goods and services with other countries led to a reduced deficit of \$157 million

in the first quarter of 1955, compared with a deficit of \$176 million in the first quarter of 1954, according to the Bureau's quarterly estimates of the Canadian balance of international payments.

Both merchandise exports and imports exceeded the levels of one year earlier. The increase in exports was considerably larger than that in imports, however, so that the commodity trade deficit of \$51 million in the first quarter of 1954 changed to a surplus of \$8 million in the first quarter of 1955. Two-thirds of this improvement in the trade balance, however, was offset by an increase of \$40 million to \$165 million in the deficit on invisibles, mainly because of sharply increased dividend payments. A substantial increase in the current surplus with the United Kingdom offset the effects on the current balance of an enlarged deficit with the United States and a decreased surplus with other overseas countries in the first quarter of 1955 compared to the same period of 1954.

Unlike the experience in most of 1954, the levels of both merchandise trade and other current transactions in this year's first quarter were considerably over the levels of a year earlier. During the last half of 1954 the recessionary forces in Canada and the United States were increasingly offset by expansionary forces, and marked increases in economic activity occurred in both countries early in 1955. At the same time, economic activity in the United Kingdom and other west European countries has continued at high levels. The levels of current receipts and payments have responded strongly to these changes. Export and import volume in the first quarter of 1955 exceeded the levels of one year earlier by 12% and 6%, respectively. Current receipts and payments were also higher, particularly the latter.

M O R E

In the first quarter of 1955 the value of exports and imports, as adjusted for balance of payments purposes, exceeded the first quarter of 1954 by \$96 million and \$37 million, respectively. Price changes were slight when compared to the levels of the first quarter of 1954, although a further moderate deterioration in the terms of trade appears to have occurred. In the fourth quarter of 1954 the deficit on invisibles had widened over that of the previous year and offset the improvement in the trade balance. A similar pattern appeared in the first quarter of 1955 compared to the first quarter of 1954, with the increase of \$40 million in the deficit on invisibles to \$165 million. In each case the income account contributed most to this change.

There were some moderate increases in non-merchandise receipts, especially freight and miscellaneous receipts, but these were much more than offset by a considerable increase in interest and dividend payments to \$117 million from \$89 million. In addition, travel expenditures and military service expenditures rose well over the levels one year earlier. The increase in net income payments of \$29 million was virtually all due to higher dividend payments to parent companies abroad, with the other components of this account showing little change. Travel payments rose by \$11 million (to \$77 million from \$66 million) over the first quarter of 1954, while receipts increased only slightly.

Capital Movements in First Quarter

Gross direct investment inflows continued to be large in the first quarter of 1955, although below the record level established in the previous quarter. The liquidation of important investments, however, reduced the net inflow. Security transactions led to a relatively small inflow because heavy repatriation of bonds and debentures offset large net sales of stocks. There was a small inflow from the amortisation of loans to overseas governments. The net movement from these transactions in long-term assets and liabilities was not sufficient to meet Canada's current account deficit in the quarter. Net inflows of direct investment capital in the quarter are tentatively estimated at \$75 million. With the exception of the third quarter of 1954, this is the lowest quarterly level of net transfers recorded since early in 1953 and represents a decline of more than 40% from the last quarter of 1954 when inflows were at a record level. Mining and petroleum investment continued to be heavy with considerable overseas participation. Flow of Canadian capital for direct investment abroad appear to have been smaller than usual and are tentatively placed at about \$5 million.

Transactions in Canadian portfolio securities led to a small capital inflow of \$4 million, following outflows in the last two quarters of 1954. Trade in outstanding Canadian issues led to an outflow of \$20 million, after four successive quarters of inflow. This outflow occurred despite the fact that there were net sales of Canadian stocks aggregating nearly \$52 million. Proceeds of new Canadian securities sold abroad totalled \$105 million, which is remarkably large in view of the prevailing narrow differential in interest rates. Retirements of foreign-held debt, amounting to \$81 million, were also at a high level. Transactions in foreign securities led to a net capital inflow of \$9 million, reflecting mainly net sales of outstanding issues, chiefly United States stocks, in the amount of \$12 million.

M O R E

Among other types of capital movements classified separately in the Canadian balance of payments statements, were inflows of \$7 million representing principal repaid on outstanding loans to foreign governments, and \$36 million covering increased holdings of Canadian dollars by non-residents. A capital inflow of \$71 million resulted from reductions in official holdings of gold and foreign exchange; a substantial part of this decline was related to official debt repatriation. All other capital movements resulted in a net capital outflow of \$40 million in the first quarter of 1955, reflecting mainly the transfer of Canadian short-term funds to the London money market. (5)

Canada Had Slightly Smaller 1954 Deficit
In International Transactions Than In 1953

Canada's transactions in goods and services with other countries resulted in a deficit of \$431 million last year as com-

pared to a deficit of \$443 million in 1953, according to the Bureau's annual report on the balance of international payments. (Both figures are slight upward revisions from the preliminary estimates released in March). While the current account deficit last year was little different from the previous year, the levels of both current receipts and payments were 5% less.

The stability of the deficit reflected opposite movements in the balances on merchandise and non-merchandise transactions. The trade balance, as adjusted for purposes of the balance of payments, swung from a deficit of \$58 million in 1953 to a surplus of \$13 million, merchandise exports falling by \$223 million and imports still further by \$294 million. Most of this improvement in the trade balance was offset by larger payments for invisibles, the customary deficit on these transactions rising by \$59 million from \$385 to \$444 million. The greater part of this change was due to higher payments and lower receipts for interest and dividends. Travel expenditures also rose, while receipts were unchanged. These increased deficits on income and travel account were only partly offset by higher gold production available for export and a reduced deficit on freight and shipping account.

Following is a summary of the principal elements of Canada's current account with all countries last year, with 1953 figures in brackets (in millions of dollars); balance on commodity trade, 13(-58); gold production available for export, 155 (144); balance on travel, -80 (-63); balance on interest and dividends, -288 (-239); freight and shipping balance, -46 (-56); inheritances and migrants' funds, -5 (--); all other current transactions, -180 (-171).

The general pattern of capital movements was little changed in 1954. Inflows for direct investment in foreign-controlled enterprises fell some 12% below the record 1953 levels. The net inflow from Canadian security transactions was also smaller, although there was a spectacular increase in sales of Canadian stocks to non-residents. After several years of heavy outflows of private short-term capital, near-balance was restored in 1954, but there were substantial additions to Canada's official holdings of gold and foreign exchange. The report discusses at some length the factors in Canada's recent deficits and the various transaction involved in the current accounts. In addition there is a review of Canada's international investment position. (6)

Review Of 1954 Trade For the first time since World War II Canada's exports and imports were lower in 1954 both in value and volume than those recorded during the preceding year, but still remained large in comparison with other peacetime years, states the Review of Foreign Trade for 1954 released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The decline last year was more pronounced for imports than exports and produced a smaller passive trade balance than in 1953.

Total exports in 1954 at \$3,946,900,000 were 5.4% lower in value than in 1953 as well as below the record value for 1952 and slightly under the 1951 figure, but 25% above the 1950 value. The volume of exports, however, was exceeded only during 1953 and 1952, the decline from these two years amounting to 3.3% and 4.6%, respectively. Compared with 1950, the 1954 volume was 17% greater.

Imports last year were valued at \$4,093,200,000, down 6.6% from the all-time high reached in 1953 but above the preceding years and showing a gain of 28.9% over 1950. In volume, 1954 imports were 6.6% less than in 1953 but greater than previous years with a rise of 29.1% over 1950.

Export prices in 1954 were a little less than 3% below those prevailing during 1953, while import prices remained almost constant. The movement of prices, though small, was chiefly responsible for a continued import balance on trade last year. This amounted to \$146,300,000 as compared to \$210,200,000 in 1953.

The net decline in exports last year, the Review states, can be largely attributed to lower exports of two commodities, wheat and motor vehicles. These commodities are primarily shipped to overseas markets, and their decline was partly offset by larger shipments of industrial materials to increasingly prosperous European and other overseas markets. Exports to the United States were lower principally due to smaller shipments of coarse grains and industrial materials. The decline in imports was more widespread, resulting from a lower level of economic activity in Canada accompanied by a generally lower demand for industrial materials and many finished goods. The trend of both imports and exports during the year, however, was towards recovery from the low level of trade during the fourth quarter of 1953 and the first quarter of 1954.

Some trends significant for future years began to show in the 1954 trade statistics. The first shipments of iron ore from Labrador and of aluminum from Kitimat left the country in the latter part of the year, and crude petroleum began to be exported on the Pacific coast. Imports of coal and petroleum products from the United States continued to decline. Coal is being increasingly displaced by petroleum fuels in Canada, and United States crude petroleum by the production of western Canadian wells.

One of the world's chief trading nations in spite of a relatively small population, Canada ranked fourth in 1954 in the value of exports, imports and total trade, the Federal Republic of Germany regaining Germany's pre-war position of third place. While complete data are not yet available, it appears that Canada ranked second in per capita trade during the year, with New Zealand regaining first place.

MORE

There were few changes in the overall direction of Canadian trade during 1954. The small changes occurring were, on balance, in the direction of reducing the bilateral disequilibrium of Canada's trade. Some individual commodities showed greater changes than the trade totals would indicate, important among these being the increased proportion of industrial materials shipped to overseas markets.

The Review contains a revision of the seasonal patterns for exports and imports first published in 1953. It emphasizes that variations in the number of working days falling in a given month from year to year can cause wide departures from the normal monthly seasonal pattern. For quarters the seasonal pattern has much more stability. (7)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Wheat Visible Down 5% Stocks of Canadian wheat in store at the beginning of June were down 5% from a year earlier, totalling 324,434,000 bushels versus 340,558,000. Prairie marketings during the week rose to 6,398,000 bushels from 5,561,000 but overseas export clearances fell to 2,673,000 bushels from 3,714,000. (8)

Wheat Supplies And Exports In Four Major Exporting Countries Supplies of wheat remaining on or about May 1 this year in the four major exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 1,849,600,000 bushels, about 1% less than the 1,865,000,000 available a year ago.

This year's May 1 supplies were held as follows, a year earlier totals being in brackets: United States, 1,024,900,000 bushels (945,000,000); Canada, 532,300,000 (650,300,000); Argentina, 147,000,000 (128,900,000); and Australia, 145,400,000 (140,800,000).

Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from the four major exporting countries for the first nine months of the current Canadian crop year, at 566,100,000 bushels, were some 22% greater than the shipments of 463,200,000 during the comparable period of 1953-54. Nine-month shipments from the United States were 204,000,000 bushels (146,400,000 a year earlier); Canada, 189,400,000 (187,000,000); Argentina, 102,600,000 (86,800,000); and Australia, 70,100,000 (43,000,000). (9)

Canadians Eat Less Potatoes Apparent per capita disappearance of potatoes in Canada was 158 pounds in 1953, according to estimates published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Although this was 11 pounds more per Canadian than in 1952 and one pound more than in 1951, it was appreciably below the apparent per capita disappearance in each of the 10 previous years. Compared with 1941, the 1953 figure was lower by 71 pounds per capita.

The figures for 1941-53 follow: 1941, 229 pounds; 1942, 217; 1943, 224; 1944, 205; 1945, 190; 1946, 207; 1947, 164; 1948, 184; 1949, 177; 1950, 191; 1951, 157; 1952, 147; 1953, 158.

Progress Of Seeding To May 31 As a result of unfavourable weather conditions, particularly in the Prairie Provinces, only an estimated 77% of the total acreage expected to be sown to spring wheat, oats, barley, flaxseed and mixed grains in Canada was seeded by May 31.

Seeding of these five crops, normally accounting for at least 95% of the total spring-sown crop acreage in Canada, varied from only 63% in Prince Edward Island to 99% in Ontario.

Although Ontario was the only province in which seeding was virtually completed, good progress had also been made in both British Columbia and Quebec where an estimated 89% and 82%, respectively, had been seeded.

Seeding in the Prairie Provinces, which had been repeatedly delayed in some districts by excessive moisture and flooding, was estimated as 73% completed in Manitoba, 77% in Saskatchewan and 79% in Alberta.

Least progress had been made in the Maritimes where proportions seeded were estimated at 63% for Prince Edward Island, 72% for Nova Scotia and 74% for New Brunswick.

Seeding of spring wheat, which usually accounts for slightly more than half the total acreage in the five crops, was to have been 87% completed by May 31. Percentages seeded in the Prairie Provinces, where almost all the spring wheat acreage is located, were estimated at 87 in each of Saskatchewan and Alberta and 90 in Manitoba.

Progress of seeding of coarse grains varied widely, with 90% of the mixed grains, 74% of the oats, and 57% of the barley seeded by May 31. Seeding of flaxseed was least advanced, with only slightly more than half completed at the end of May.

Seeding progress varied widely not only among crops but also among provinces for the same crop. Estimated percentages of wheat seeded at May 31 varied from 60 in Nova Scotia to 100 in Ontario, while those for oats ranged from 55 in Saskatchewan to 99 in Ontario; barley, from 54 in Prince Edward Island to 99 in Ontario; flaxseed, from 44 in Manitoba to 88 in British Columbia and Ontario; and mixed grains, from 55 in Saskatchewan to 99 in Ontario.

Estimates of the progress of seeding, as well as those of winterkilling, spring condition and rates of seeding, are based on the May 31 survey of the Bureau's crop correspondents which is conducted in co-operation with provincial departments. This survey was formerly made at April 30 along with the acreage intentions survey. However, it was found that in some years little, if any, seeding had been done by April 30 and, if the season was particularly late, it was also difficult for correspondents to assess damage caused by winterkilling. With the exception of winterkilling, no direct comparisons with previous years are available for estimates in this report. Average rates of seeding obtained from the survey are included in this report for the first time. (10)

Outlook For Fruit Crops
Favourable At End Of May

The general outlook for fruit crops at the end of May throughout most of the fruit growing regions of Canada was rather favourable, states the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Winter damage was slight. Although some injury to fruit buds and blossoms occurred in the soft fruit growing areas of Ontario and British Columbia, present indications suggest that the effects of this damage will be limited.

In the important fruit growing sections of western Ontario about 10 days of dry, cool weather followed rains at the middle of May. This slowed the rate of growth so that crops which earlier had been two weeks ahead of last year were by the end of May only about one week ahead. It is becoming apparent in the Niagara district that some damage has been done to the roots of fruit trees (particularly peaches and plums) due to wind pressure of last fall's hurricane. In British Columbia all fruit crops are about two weeks later than usual. Since 1955 fruit crops will still be subject to many hazards throughout the growing season this report should be regarded only as a general summary of conditions in the latter part of May. (11)

Stocks Of Fruit And
Vegetables On June 1

Storage stocks of potatoes, onions, carrots and cabbage were smaller on June 1 this year than at the same time last year but holdings of celery were larger. Stocks of potatoes were 1,883,000 bushels versus 1,933,000; onions, 70,000 bushels versus 82,000; carrots, 48,000 bushels versus 69,000; cabbage, 22,000 bushels versus 33,000; and celery, 21,000 crates (14,000).

June 1 holdings of apples were larger at 248,000 bushels versus 201,000 but pears were down to 2,000 bushels from 3,000. Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives increased to 21,738,000 pounds from 19,146,000, but the holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine decreased to 10,853,000 pounds from 15,733,000. (12)

Meat Stocks Lower

Stocks of meat in cold storage were smaller on June 1, amounting to 74,491,000 pounds versus 75,204,000 on May 1 and 81,154,000 at the same time last year. Holdings of frozen meat were 43,789,000 pounds (51,525,000 a year ago); fresh meat, 17,817,000 (17,467,000); and cured meat, 12,885,000 (12,162,000). (13)

Canned Meat Stocks Larger

Stocks of canned meats held by manufacturers and wholesalers at the end of April were generally larger than a year earlier, according to a special statement released by DBS. The holdings amounted to 23,458,120 pounds, up about 28% from last year's corresponding total of 18,344,298 pounds.

Holdings were as follows by kinds, a year earlier totals being bracketed: beef products -- ready dinners, stews, 7,070,135 pounds (4,749,610); roast beef, 323,844 (145,467); corned beef, 863,311 (670,407); and other beef products, 1,775,397 (1,418,620). Pork products -- spiced pork and ham, 6,856,723 pounds (5,186,225); roast pork and ham, 2,457,203 (1,626,793); and other pork products, 1,578,260 (2,060,355). Miscellaneous -- canned fowl, 913,781 pounds (673,158); meat paste, 831,000 (1,062,126); and all other kinds, 788,466 (751,537).

Production Of Creamery Butter And Cheese Up In May, Down In 5 Months

Production of both creamery butter and cheddar cheese increased in May from a year earlier but declined in the January-

May period. Ice cream production increased in both periods, while the output of concentrated milk products was unchanged in May but slightly higher in the cumulative period.

The month's output of creamery butter amounted to 36,200,000 pounds versus 34,112,000 a year earlier, bringing the January-May total to 92,711,000 pounds versus 93,198,000. Domestic disappearance in May totalled 26,835,000 pounds versus 24,919,000 and in the five months aggregated 116,078,000 pounds versus 112,131,000.

Cheddar cheese production in May amounted to 9,311,000 pounds (9,238,000 a year ago), bringing the January-May total to 20,011,000 pounds (21,325,000). The month's output of ice cream totalled 3,445,000 gallons (2,952,000) and in the five month's aggregated 10,529,000 gallons (9,289,000). Production of concentrated milk products in May amounted to 54,968,000 pounds versus 55,052,000, bringing the January-May output to 163,715,000 pounds (162,567,000). (14)

Creamery Butter Stocks Up

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on June 9 increased to 46,973,000 pounds from last year's corresponding total of 39,425,000 pounds. Holdings were as follows by cities, a year earlier totals being in brackets (in thousands): Quebec, 2,272 pounds (3,441); Montreal, 22,853 (19,852); Toronto, 8,137 (6,965); Winnipeg, 11,190 (6,917); Regina, 772 (287); Saskatoon, 418 (287); Edmonton, 484 (717); Calgary, 219 (275); and Vancouver, 628 (684).

Butter, Cheese And Egg Stocks Larger On June 1

Stocks of creamery butter, cheese and eggs were larger at the beginning of June this year than last but the holdings of evaporated whole milk and skim milk powder and poultry meat were smaller, DBS reports. June 1 stocks of creamery butter were 67,573,000 pounds (52,220,000 a year earlier); cheese, 31,409,000 pounds (25,415,000); evaporated whole milk, 24,741,000 pounds (31,468,000); skim milk powder, 6,151,000 pounds (10,159,000); poultry meat, 9,997,000 pounds (16,579,000); and eggs, 580,000 cases (479,000). (15)

Production Of Process Cheese Up In May But Down In 5 Months

Production of process cheese in May amounted to 3,661,000 pounds, an increase of 10% over the revised output of 3,332,000 pounds for April and 27% over the 2,876,000 pounds in May, 1954. Cumulative output for the January-May period fell to 18,648,000 pounds from 19,050,000 a year earlier. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of May amounted to 1,674,000 pounds versus 1,519,000 a month earlier and 1,731,000 a year ago.

Salt Shipments Lighter

Shipments of dry common salt by Canadian producers in April fell to 33,208 tons from 40,141 in the preceding month and 36,929 in the corresponding month last year, but cumulative shipments in the January-April period rose to 163,065 tons from 149,744 a year earlier. (16)

Production And Stocks
Of Margarine Higher

Production of margarine increased to 11,447,000 pounds in May from 8,712,000 in the corresponding month last year, boosting the cumulative output for the January-May period to 55,721,000 pounds from 46,949,000 a year earlier. The figures for the current year have been revised to include certain "spreads" that were not reported formerly but these revisions do not invalidate comparisons with last year's figures. Stocks at the beginning of June totalled 4,571,000 pounds, up from last year's 3,152,000 pounds. (17)

Sea-Fish Catch Up In April

Canada's sea-fisheries yielded 83,229,000 pounds of fish worth \$3,894,000 in April, up from last year's 72,491,000 pounds valued at \$3,501,000. This brought January-April landings to 321,731,000 pounds worth \$10,960,000 versus 312,457,000 pounds valued at \$10,413,000 a year earlier.

The Atlantic coast catch in April rose to 79,356,000 pounds from 68,510,000 and the value to \$3,494,000 from \$3,126,000. In the four months the landings were up to 189,423,000 pounds from 164,031,000 and the value to \$8,510,000 from \$7,748,000. Landings of fish in British Columbia fell to 3,873,000 pounds from 3,981,000 but the value rose to \$400,000 from \$375,000. Four-month landings dropped to 132,308,000 pounds from 148,426,000 and the value to \$2,450,000 from \$2,665,000.

Newfoundland fishermen landed 20,162,000 pounds of fish in March, up slightly from 20,209,000 a year earlier and the value rose to \$572,000 from \$530,000. Four-month figures followed the same trend with landings up to 61,224,000 pounds from 54,451,000 and the value to \$1,574,000 from \$1,304,000.

Landings in Nova Scotia in April were up to 34,668,000 pounds from 27,079,000 a year ago and the value rose to \$2,720,000 from \$2,415,000. This brought four-month landings to 93,811,000 pounds versus 84,031,000 and the value to \$6,109,000 from \$5,869,000. The New Brunswick catch in April dropped to 3,771,000 pounds from 5,502,000 a year ago but the value was moderately higher at \$94,000 versus \$92,000. The January-April catch fell to 10,974,000 pounds from 11,182,000 but the value moved up to \$615,000 from \$439,000.

Landings in Prince Edward Island declined to 1,100,000 pounds from 1,902,000 and the value to \$11,000 from \$21,000. In the four months the catch rose to 3,219,000 pounds from 2,320,000 and the value to \$60,000 from \$40,000.

Quebec landings were up in April to 19,655,000 pounds from 11,818,000 and the value to \$97,000 from \$68,000. This raised four-month landings to 20,195,000 pounds from 12,047,000 and the value to \$152,000 from \$96,000.

Landings in Ontario in March (latest available) fell to 1,013,000 pounds from 2,084,000 and the value to \$201,000 from \$335,000. In the first quarter the landings dropped to 1,547,000 pounds from 2,585,000 and the value to \$278,000 from \$424,000. (18)

More Refrigerators Shipped Canadian shipments of household electric refrigerators increased to 30,179 in April and 94,604 in the first four months from 27,306 and 90,906 in the corresponding period last year, DBS reports. Export shipments rose to 643 from 36 in the month and to 1,062 from 179 in January-April. Production amounted to 28,885 versus 28,671 in April and 92,393 versus 89,506 in the four months. April-end stocks were down to 39,565 from 41,403 last year.

Canadian shipments of electric home and farm freezers increased to 1,097 in April and 3,868 in the first four months from 927 and 2,435 in the same periods of 1954. Exports rose to 11 from none in the month and to 26 from one in January-April. Production amounted to 1,183 versus 755 in April and 3,441 versus 2,576 in the four months. April-end stocks were larger this year at 1,315 versus 1,025. (19)

More Radio, TV Sets Sold Canadian manufacturers sold 56,829 television sets and 39,911 radios this February as compared with 38,029 TV sets and 33,828 radios in February last year, DBS reports. January-February TV sales increased to 111,617 from 72,425 last year and radio sales to 70,008 from 69,691. February TV sales were larger this year for table models (34,317 versus 21,733) and consoles (22,023 versus 14,720), but smaller for three-way combinations (489 versus 1,576). February radio sales were up for portable and auto models (17,160 versus 9,789), but down for home sets (19,466 versus 19,628) and combinations (3,285 versus 4,402). (20)

Storage Battery Sales Up In Value In April 4 Months Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal Canadian producers were higher in value in April and the first four months of this year as compared with a year ago. Sales in April were valued at \$1,776,861 versus \$1,643,485 bringing January-April sales to \$7,612,567 versus \$7,460,043. (21)

Shipments Of Steel Wire, Wire Fencing Up In April Producers' shipments of steel wire and wire fencing were larger in April than in the corresponding month last year but shipments of steel wire nails and wire rope declined. The month's shipments of steel wire amounted to 11,318 tons versus 9,125; wire fencing, 3,339 tons versus 2,782; steel wire nails, 6,135 tons versus 8,094; and wire rope, 2,481 tons versus 2,522. January-April shipment totals were: steel wire, 45,489 tons (36,942); wire fencing, 7,345 (6,892); wire nails, 26,956 (22,318); and wire rope, 8,773 (8,533). (22)

Miscellaneous Non-Metallic Mineral Products Industry The 52 plants classified in the miscellaneous non-metallic mineral products industry in 1953 turned out \$13,227,517 worth of products as compared with \$12,110,532 worth produced by 53 plants in 1952. Production of foundry facings and partings decreased in value to \$364,706 in 1953 from \$393,010 in 1952, oil gas (Pintsch) to \$554,027 from \$619,806, and re-fractories to \$4,600,213 from \$4,614,189. Output of core oil and compounds increased to \$128,510 from \$111,790, expanded vermiculite to \$1,466,944 from \$1,169,696, and enamel frit, chalk and wax crayons, asphalt tile and other products to \$6,113,117 from \$5,175,041. (23)

M O R E

Consumption, Stocks & Production Of Rubber Combined consumption of rubber -- natural, synthetic and reclaim -- increased in March from a year earlier. Month-end stocks also were larger. Domestic production of synthetic rubber moved up but reclaim was lower.

Consumption in March amounted to 8,896 tons versus 8,286 a month earlier, and comprised 4,140 tons of natural (3,804 in February), 3,366 tons of synthetic (3,132), and 1,390 tons of reclaim (1,350).

Month-end stocks totalled 10,411 tons versus 10,335 in February. Making up the total were: 3,749 tons of natural (3,898); 4,985 tons of synthetic (4,887); and 1,667 tons of reclaim (1,550). Domestic production of synthetic rubber amounted to 8,673 tons (7,646); and reclaim, 384 tons (419). (24)

More Coke This Year Supplies of coke available for consumption in Canada increased to 353,483 tons in March and 981,894 tons in the first quarter from 308,098 tons and 940,339 tons in the corresponding periods last year, DBS reports.

Production rose to 335,121 tons from 293,262 in the month and to 936,678 tons from 900,642 in the quarter. Landed imports advanced to 28,738 tons from 26,328 in March and to 73,313 tons from 70,814 in the three months. Exports decreased to 10,376 tons from 11,492 in the month and to 28,097 tons from 31,117 in the first quarter.

East of Ontario supplies available for consumption in the first quarter were reduced this year to 214,026 tons from 237,002 in the first three months of last year. In Ontario the first-quarter supply increased to 708,482 tons from 653,574, and west of Ontario to 59,386 tons from 49,763. (25)

Production And Shipments Of Veneers, Plywoods Up In April Production and shipments of both veneers and plywoods were higher in April and the first four months of this year as compared with a year earlier. Month-end stocks were smaller for veneers but larger for plywoods.

Output of veneers in April amounted to 84,166,000 square feet versus 57,107,000, bringing the four-month total to 366,167,000 square feet versus 282,483,000. The month's shipments were 83,096,000 square feet versus 55,299,000 and in the four months aggregated 335,422,000 square feet versus 274,303,000. Month-end stocks were 29,071,000 square feet versus 54,489,000.

Plywood production in April amounted to 91,189,000 square feet versus 72,493,000, bringing the four-month output to 360,641,000 square feet versus 269,263,000. Shipments in April were 96,367,000 square feet versus 76,441,000 and for the four months totalled 343,529,000 square feet versus 270,556,000. End-of-April stocks were 65,299,000 square feet versus 46,610,000. (26)

Veneers And Plywoods Industry: Canada's veneers and plywoods industry turned out Output Upped One-Third In 1953 a record \$97,259,976 worth of products in 1953, a one-third increase over the 1952 peak of \$73,126,-024, according to the annual report by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Output of veneers and plywoods was valued at \$83,896,205, up 35.5% from the \$61,908,718 worth produced in 1952. The value of other products of the industry increased to \$13,363,771 from \$11,217,806.

Output of veneers increased to 577,504,000 square feet valued at \$17,639,735 from 412,751,000 worth \$11,999,203, and production of plywoods to 779,051,000 square feet worth \$66,256,470 from 595,038,000 valued at \$49,909,515. (27)

Cement Manufacturing Industry Canadian manufacturers shipped a record 22,437,477 barrels of Portland cement valued at \$59,035,644 last year as compared with 22,238,335 barrels worth \$58,842,022 in 1953, according to the annual report by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Exports, however, showed a sharp increase to 123,645 barrels from 14,728 in 1953 while imports declined to 2,292,200 barrels from 2,482,783. As a result, the apparent consumption of cement in Canada showed a slight decrease to 24,606,032 barrels from 24,706,390.

Quebec was the leading producer last year with shipments of 7,541,373 barrels, closely followed by Ontario with shipments of 7,208,061 barrels. Shipments from other producing provinces were: Alberta, 3,052,805 barrels, British Columbia, 1,743,526; Manitoba, 1,633,389; New Brunswick, 854,808; and Newfoundland, 403,515. (28)

TRANSPORTATION

Car Loadings Up 20% In May Boosted by substantial increases in grain, iron ore, sand and gravel, lumber and timber, and automobiles, car loadings on Canadian railways rose nearly 20% in May to 353,958 cars from 295,511 in the corresponding month last year. At the same time receipts from connections rose 12.7% to 140,504 cars from 124,675.

From the beginning of the year to the end of May loadings in Canada rose 6.7% to 1,514,803 cars from 1,419,465, and receipts from connections were up 8.9% to 674,150 cars from 613,227. In the last 10 days of May, 107,750 cars were loaded, up 27.2% from 84,684 and receipts from connections rose 16.7% to 45,501 cars from 38,987.

Carried in larger volume in May were: grain, 37,466 cars (24,271 a year ago); iron ore, 14,935 (2,973); sand, gravel and stone, 21,267 (13,724); other mine products, 10,199 (8,416); lumber, timber and plywood, 20,479 (15,193); automobiles, trucks and parts, 11,287 (7,392); and miscellaneous commodities, 23,367 (19,876). (29)

Fewer Passengers Carried By
Inter-City Transit Systems

Fewer passengers were carried on urban transit systems in March and the first quarter of this year than last. Passenger traffic in March dropped to 111,401,448 from 117,651,187 and in the quarter to 317,605,428 from 336,272,926.

January-March passenger traffic was lighter for all types of service except charter. Number carried by motor bus fell to 148,175,759 from 151,496,319, electric car to 106,547,987 from 121,272,045, and trolley bus to 62,409,902 from 63,220,749, but charter passengers rose to 471,780 from 283,813. (30)

Fewer Passengers Carried On
Intercity And Rural Routes

Passengers carried by intercity and rural motor carriers in February numbered 5,111,914, a decrease of 6% from last year's corresponding total of 5,442,463. In the two months, January and February, the number carried dropped to 10,611,544 from 11,243,689.

Passenger traffic on regular service in February fell to 4,686,033 from 5,097,413 a year earlier and in the two months to 9,743,824 from 10,577,956. In charter service the month's passenger count rose to 425,881 from 345,050 and in the two months to 867,720 from 665,733. (31)

MINERALS

Zinc Output Up In April,
Lead And Silver Lower

Production of zinc increased in April and the first four months of this year as compared with a year earlier but there were decreases in both lead and silver. April production totals were: zinc, 34,719 tons (31,528 a year ago); lead, 17,865 (19,452); and silver, 2,251,698 fine ounces (2,700,315). January-April totals: zinc, 139,719 tons (112,510); lead, 70,907 tons (71,135); and silver, 8,708,157 fine ounces (9,618,440). (32)

PRICES

Security Price Indexes

	<u>June 9</u>	<u>June 2</u> (1935-39=100)	<u>May 12</u>
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
Total Common Stocks	236.2	229.7	219.3
Industrials	243.5	236.2	224.5
Utilities	202.2	198.1	189.0
Banks	241.0	237.5	237.1
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total Mining Stocks	120.6	117.9	112.8
Golds	76.1	74.0	72.2
Base Metals	222.6	218.5	205.8

Consumer Price Indexes
For 10 Regional Cities

Eight of the ten regional city consumer price indexes increased between April 1 and May 2, while two were unchanged. Three increased 0.3%, three 0.4%, one 0.7% and one 1.4%. Most of the city increases centred around potato price movements. Other foods to record increases at most centres, however, were fresh fruits and vegetables, beef and tea. Butter, veal, pork and coffee were generally lower.

Shelter costs continued to advance slightly as seven of the ten city rental series moved up. Group indexes for clothing and household operation were generally steady although a seasonal decline in coal prices in Montreal was reflected in a lower household operation index in that centre, while an advance in the same series for Ottawa was mainly due to a sharp increase in the price of ice. Counterbalancing factors were observed to account for the moderate change in city indexes for other commodities and services. Automobile tires and toilet soap were lower at all centres, while theatre admissions were mainly up.

Total indexes for May 2 and April 1 and May 2 group index detail are shown in the following table. These indexes show changes in retail prices of goods and services in each city. They do not indicate whether it costs more or less to live in one city than another.

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities of Canada
at the beginning of May 1955 (base 1949 = 100)

	Total Indexes		Group Indexes - May 2, 1955				
	April 1 May 2		Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities & Services
	1955	1955					
St. John's *	103.5	105.0	106.1	108.6	101.1	100.5	106.5
Halifax	114.6	115.4	108.8	123.6	114.6	118.9	119.3
Saint John	117.6	118.1	113.7	125.1	116.2	116.4	124.1
Montreal	116.7	117.0	114.8	134.8	107.1	115.2	117.3
Ottawa	116.9	117.3	111.2	132.7	111.1	117.2	120.1
Toronto	118.4	118.9	111.1	145.9	109.9	114.7	119.4
Winnipeg	115.3	115.6	110.9	126.0	112.6	113.5	118.1
Saskatoon-Regina	113.9	114.4	109.5	117.4	114.9	117.8	114.8
Edmonton-Calgary	114.2	114.2	108.5	121.1	112.5	115.7	118.1
Vancouver	117.2	117.2	109.5	126.6	112.2	125.8	120.4

* Index on the base June 1951 = 100.

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

Department Store Sales
Increased 7.1% In Week

Department store sales were generally higher across Canada in the week ending June 4, the average rise for Canada as a whole standing at 7.1%. Quebec led with an increase of 14.7%, Alberta next at 10.2%, the Atlantic Provinces 10.1%, Ontario 5.9%, Saskatchewan 2.9%, Manitoba 2.7%, and British Columbia 2%.

Department Store Sales Increased 10.3% in May Department store sales rose 10.3% in May as compared with the corresponding month last year. All regions shared in the rise, Quebec leading with a gain of 15.7%, Ontario next with 13.3%, Manitoba 11.6%, Atlantic Provinces 11%, British Columbia 5%, Alberta 3.9%, and Saskatchewan 0.6%.

Wholesale Sales Up In April With five of nine trades reporting gains, sales of Canadian wholesalers were 1.8% above last year's level in April, DBS reports. April-end inventories averaged 2.6% less in value than a year earlier, five trades reporting declines.

Largest percentage sales increase over last year (8%) was reported by fruit and vegetable wholesalers. Other increases were: auto parts and equipment, 6%; tobacco and confectionery, 3.2%; groceries, 2.8%; and footwear, 2%. Decreases were: dry goods, 5.9%; clothing, 4.5%; drugs, 3.1%; and hardware, 2.3%. Trades with larger April-end inventories this year were: fruits and vegetables, up 32.5%; tobacco and confectionery, 4.8%; drugs, 4.7%; and groceries, 0.2%. Trades with smaller stocks were: footwear, down 11.2%; hardware, 6.9%; dry goods, 3.5%; auto parts and equipment, 1.6%; and clothing, 0.9%. (33)

L I B R A R I E S

West Vancouver Leads In Public Library Circulation Per Capita West Vancouver lead all Canadian cities of 10,000 population and over in free public library circulation per capita, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Last year West Vancouver citizens borrowed an average of 12.7 books each. This compares with a per capita figure of only 0.1 for St. Jerome, Quebec, the city at the bottom of the list.

In second and third position are Kingston and Port Arthur, Ontario, with per capita circulations of 12.3 and 10.1 respectively. The city with the second-lowest figure (0.2) is Sherbrooke, Quebec. Among cities with populations of 100,000 and over, Toronto leads with a per capita circulation of 7.0, followed by Vancouver with a figure of 6.4, Calgary with 6.3, Edmonton with 5.8, Hamilton with 4.9, Windsor with 4.6, Winnipeg with 4.1, Victoria with 4.0, Ottawa with 3.2 and Montreal with 1.3.

The Bureau's report shows that reading tastes vary considerably between cities. Adult fiction accounted for 69.7% of the books borrowed in Shawinigan Falls, Quebec, the highest percentage of any city of 10,000 and over. At the opposite end of the scale, adult fiction accounted for only 12.9% of the books borrowed in Trois-Rivieres, Quebec. The range for adult non-fiction was from 62.7% in St. Jerome, Quebec, to 5.2% in Trois-Rivieres. Juvenile books accounted for 81.9% of the total in Trois-Rivieres versus a low of 12.5% in St. Jerome. Among cities of 100,000 and over, Montreal led in juvenile books (51%) and adult non-fiction (33.9%), was lowest in adult fiction (15.1%). Victoria led in adult fiction (46.7%), was lowest in juvenile books (22.3%). Edmonton ranked last in adult non-fiction (16.4%).

M O R E

Per capita expenditures (1954) of free public libraries also varies widely between cities. Niagara Falls, Ontario, leads with a per capita figure of \$3.01, while St. Jerome and Drummondville, Quebec, trail with expenditures of only 14¢ per resident. In second and third positions are London and Leaside, Ontario, with per capita expenditures of \$2.76 and \$2.32 respectively. Among cities of 100,000 and over the range is from \$2.14 in Vancouver to 60¢ in Montreal.

Similar figures for free regional public libraries show per capita expenditures highest in Lacombe, Alberta, at \$1.47, and lowest in Welland County, Ontario, at 10¢. Per capita circulation ranged from 8.3 books in Barrhead, Alberta to 0.2 in Thunder Bay District, Ontario. The Peel County, Ontario, library led in adult fiction (47.3%), the North Central Saskatchewan library in adult non-fiction (18.2%), and the Kent County, Ontario, library in juvenile books (92.4%). Libraries reporting the smallest percentages of books borrowed in these categories were Wentworth County, Ontario (adult fiction: 5.3%), Kent County, Ontario (adult non-fiction: 2.1%), and Okanagan Regional Library, British Columbia (juvenile books: 37.1%).

The free urban and regional public libraries covered in the Bureau's report had a total of 6,281,260 volumes last year, about 65% of the estimated 9,663,476 volumes in all public libraries. Total circulation of the free libraries was 27,672,278 or almost 83% of the estimated 33,432,730 circulation of all public libraries. Their expenditures amounted to \$7,414,752 or nearly 87% of the estimated total of \$8,540,373 for all public libraries. (34)

CONSTRUCTION

Housing: More Gains In April The number of new housing units completed in April increased nearly 27% this year to put January-April completions more than 21% above last year's record level, DBS reports in an advance statement. The number of units started was up 4.5% in April and more than 7% in the first four months. Over 11% more were under construction at the end of April this year.

With increases over last year in all provinces except Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan, April completions increased to 8,594 from 6,774. The January-April total rose to 32,907 from 27,101 last year, with gains in all provinces except Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Starts numbered 9,085 in April versus 8,692 a year earlier, increases in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia out-weighting decreases in the other provinces. January-April starts increased to 21,933 from 20,414, with gains in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Manitoba and Alberta.

The number under construction at the end of April was greater this year in all provinces except Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the national total increasing to 58,862 from 52,978 last year.

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

- 1 -National Accounts, Income & Expenditure, First Quarter, 1955, 25¢
 - 2 -National Accounts, Income & Expenditure, 1951-1954, 50¢
 - 3 -Travel Between Canada & the United States, April, 20¢
 - 4 -Trade of Canada: Domestic Exports (Summary), April, 20¢
 - 5 -Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments,
First Quarter, 1955, 25¢
 - 6 -Canadian Balance of International Payments, 1954 & International
Investment Position, 25¢
 - 7 -Review of Foreign Trade, Calendar Year 1954, 75¢
 - 8 -Grain Statistics Weekly, June 1, 1955, 10¢
 - 9 -The Wheat Review, May, 25¢
 - 10-Progress of Seeding: Winterkilling & Spring Condition of Winter Wheat, Fall Rye,
Tame Hay & Pasture; Rates of Seeding, 10¢
 - 11-M: Condition of Fruit Crops, May, 1955, 10¢
 - 12-M: Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, June 1, 10¢
 - 13-M: Cold Storage Holdings of Meat & Lard, June 1, 10¢
 - 14-Dairy Factory Production, May 10¢
 - 15-M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, June 1, 10¢
 - 16-M: Salt, April, 10¢
 - 17-M: Margarine Statistics, May, 10¢
 - 18-Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, April, 25¢
 - 19-M: Domestic Electric Refrigerators, April, 10¢
 - 20-Radio & Television Receiving Sets, February, 10¢
 - 21-M: Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, April, 10¢
 - 22-M: Steel Wire & Specified Wire Products, April, 10¢
 - 23-Miscellaneous Non-Metallic Mineral Products Industry, 1953, 25¢
 - 24-Consumption, Production and Inventories of Rubber, March, 25¢
 - 25-Coal & Coke Statistics, March, 25¢
 - 26-M: Peeler Logs, Veneers, & Plywoods, April, 10¢
 - 27-Veneers & Plywoods Industry, 1953, 25¢
 - 28-Cement Manufacturing Industry, 1954, 25¢
 - 29-M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, May 31, 1955, 10¢
 - 30-M: Urban Transit Statistics, March, 10¢
 - 31-M: Motor Carrier - Passenger (Intercity and Rural), February, 10¢
 - 32-M: Silver, Lead & Zinc Production, April, 10¢
 - 33-Wholesale Trade, April, 10¢
 - 34-Free Urban & Regional Public Libraries, 1954, 25¢
- M: Memorandum
-

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

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Oil Leads An estimated 1,417,000
Heat Parade Canadian households
were heated with oil
last September as compared with 1,
169,000 heated with coal or coke,
846,000 with wood, 254,000 with gas
and 48,000 with sawdust, electricity
or briquettes.

Oars Shipments of oars and paddles
by the boatbuilding industry
were valued at \$165,786 in 1953 more
than 2½ times the 1952 value of
\$62,144.

More Volumes Canada's public lib-
In Libraries raries had an esti-
mated 9,663,476 books
on their shelves last year, about 10
for every 16 Canadians. In 1953
they had 8,413,800 or about 10 for
every 18 Canadians.

More Books Borrowed Circulation of
Canada's pub-
lic libraries reached an estimated
33,432,730 volumes last year, about
22 books for every 10 Canadians.
Their 1953 circulation was 30,779,-
828 volumes, about 20 books for
every 10 Canadians.

Adult Vs Juvenile In 37 Canadian
cities of 10,000
population and over the largest pro-
portion of books borrowed from free
libraries are juvenile books,
while adult fiction leads in 22 cen-
tres and adult non-fiction in one.
Juvenile books account for about 41%
of the total number of volumes bor-
rowed, adult fiction for 38% and
adult non-fiction for 21%.

Zipppers Up Canada's button, buckle
and fastener industry
produced \$6,379,123 worth of zipppers
in 1953, some \$224,161 worth more
than in 1952.

More Concrete Factory shipments of
Laundry Tubs concrete laundry
tubs increased to
32,149 worth \$482,699 in 1953 from
27,232 valued at 8,299,308 in 1952.

Free Libraries Busiest Free urban
and region-
al public libraries contain 65% of
the volumes in all public libraries
in Canada but account for almost 83%
of the total circulation and nearly
87% of the total expenditures.

More Plywood Canadian production
of plywoods jumped
almost 31% in 1953 to 779,051,000
square feet from 595,038,000 in 1952.
Nearly 81% of the total was Douglas
fir in 1953 as against above 78% in
1952.

Pintsch Pinch Canadian production
of Pintsch oil gas
dropped to 38,130,000 cubic feet in
1953 from 43,987,000 in 1952.

Kiln Capacity The number of kilns
in Canadian cement
plants increased by one to 28 in
1954, raising the total capacity to
68,650 barrels every 24 hours from
63,825 barrels in 1953. In 1945
there were 19 kilns with a total
capacity of 33,250 barrels per 24
hours.



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