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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Agriculture: Canadian farmers this year seeded the smallest wheat acreage since 1943 and the smallest rye acreage since 1947, but these reductions were offset by a record barley acreage and sharply increased acreages of oats and flaxseed. Farmers also seeded more mixed grains, corn for grain, dry beans, potatoes, tame hay and fodder corn, less buckwheat, dry peas, soybeans, field roots and sugar beets than in 1954... This year's crops of apples, pears, plums and prunes, peaches, apricots, cherries, loganberries and grapes are estimated above 1954 yields. (Pages 2 & 4)

Food: Wheat flour production was up slightly in the August-June period of the 1954-55 crop year... Stocks of creamery butter and cold storage and frozen eggs in nine regional centres were larger at the start of August this year but holdings of cheese were down slightly from last year... Stocks of canned peaches were substantially above last year's level at the end of June. (Pages 3 & 4)

Merchandising: Department store sales averaged 11.8% above the 1954 level in last week of July... With gains in 9 of 11 trades, chain store sales averaged 3.3% above last year's level in June... Sales of farm implements and equipment were down 33% last year, with the sharpest decreases in the Prairies. Sales of repair parts dropped 14%. (Pages 5 & 6)

Prices: Slight increases in the costs of food and shelter outweighed declines in the costs of household operation and other commodities and services to boost the consumer price index to 116.0 at July 2 from 115.9 at June 1... Wholesale prices of 30 industrial materials averaged 0.5% higher on July 22 than on June 30, the main increases being in raw rubber and linseed oil... Prices of farm products at terminal markets averaged 2.1% less on July 22 than on June 30, with decreases recorded in both field and animal products... Common stock prices averaged 4.6% higher at July 28 than at the end of June. (Pages 7 & 8)

Production: With gains of 10% in electricity and gas, 7.6% in manufacturing and 6.5% in mining, Canada's industrial production averaged 7.6% above last year's level in May. Tally for the first five months: gains of 13% in mining, 11.6% in electricity and gas, and 3.7% in manufacturing for an average increase of 5.6%. (Page 10)

Labour: Industrial employment increased 3.7% during May and the June 1 level was 2.2% above a year earlier. Gains were recorded in all provinces, the increases over May 1 ranging from 2.3% in Ontario to 9.1% in Newfoundland. (Page 11)

Smaller Wheat And Rye Acreages  
This Year But Others Increased

Preliminary estimates of 1955 field crop acreages indicate that Canadian farmers seeded the smallest wheat acreage since 1943 and the smallest rye acreage since 1947, but that reductions in these two crops and summerfallow are offset by a record barely acreage and sharply increased acreages of oats and flaxseed. Other crops with increases in area over 1954 are mixed grains, corn for grain, dry beans, potatoes, tame hay and fodder corn. In addition to winter wheat, spring wheat and fall rye, smaller acreages have been seeded to buckwheat, dry peas, soybeans, field roots and sugar beets. The direction of the shifts in acreages among major grains was indicated by the Bureau's March 1 survey of farmers' acreage intentions but an unusually late seeding season throughout most of the Prairie Provinces increased the extent of the shift from wheat to coarse grains and flaxseed and resulted in a smaller decrease in summerfallow acreage than originally planned.

For Canada as a whole, the area seeded to the 15 spring-planted crops included in this report is estimated at 47.7 million acres compared with 46.3 million in 1954 and the ten-year (1944-53) average of 47.4 million. An additional 24 million acres is in summerfallow in the Prairie Provinces, a decrease of 1.3 million acres or 5% from last year's record area. Total acreage in the 15 spring-planted crops, together with winter wheat, fall rye, tame hay and summerfallow amounts to 83.8 million acres, practically unchanged from last year's 83.7 million. Acreage estimates for 1955 are, with some exceptions, based on returns from the Bureau's annual June average survey and have been made in consultation with the officials responsible for agricultural statistics in each of the provinces. Data on sugar beets have been supplied by the processing companies and, in most cases, allowance has been made for acreage abandoned to date. As in former years, current estimates are subject to revision in the light of further information obtained during the season and when marketing and other check data become available after the end of the crop year.

One of the largest shifts in crop acreage in recent years has taken place in the Prairie Provinces where estimated reductions of 2.6 million acres in wheat and 1.3 million in summerfallow from 1954 have been accompanied by increases of 2.1 million acres in barley, 1.1 million in oats and 0.8 million in flaxseed. The sharp reduction in wheat area in the Prairies has resulted in lowering the all-Canada acreage for this crop to 21.5 million acres, the smallest since 1943 when only 16.7 million acres were seeded. The 1955 total acreage of spring and winter wheat is 11% below last year's 24.3 million and 14% below the ten-year average of 25.0 million acres.

In the Prairie Provinces the wheat area is placed at 20.8 million acres, 11% down from last year's 23.4 million. Most of the decrease from last year took place in Saskatchewan where the area is estimated at 13.1 million acres compared with 15.5 million last year and the ten-year average of 15.0 million. Saskatchewan also had the largest proportional decrease, 15%, while Alberta's acreage, estimated at 5.7 million acres, and Manitoba's, at 1.9 million, showed decreases of 3 and 4%, respectively. The area of winter wheat in Ontario, the principal producing area for that crop, is estimated at 582,000 acres, 18% below the 1954 level and 11% below the ten-year average of 656,000 acres.

(More)



The area seeded to oats is placed at 11.2 million acres, 10% above last year's 10.2 million but 3% below the ten-year average of 11.5 million acres. Practically all of the increase is in the Prairie Provinces where the total oats acreage is estimated at 7.8 million acres, 16% above the 1954 area. A slight increase occurred in Ontario where this year's acreage is placed at 1.7 million acres.

After last year's reduction, Canadian farmers this year seeded a record barley acreage, estimated at 9.9 million acres. This exceeds the previous record of 8.9 million in 1953 and is 26% above last year's area of 7.9 million acres and 38% above the ten-year average of 7.2 million. As with oats, the greatest increase occurred in the Prairie Provinces where barley acreage is estimated at 9.6 million acres.

The combined area seeded to fall and spring rye is placed at 778,000 acres, 9% below the 1954 area of 850,000 acres and 33% below the ten-year average of 1.2 million. In the Prairie Provinces, the largest producing area, total rye acreage is estimated at 707,000 acres, 6% below 1954.

The largest proportional increase in acreage seeded to an individual crop in 1955 has taken place in flaxseed, currently estimated at almost 2.0 million acres, 65% above the 1954 level of 1.2 million and the largest since 1943 when almost 3.0 million acres were seeded. All four Western Provinces share in the increase, with the largest change in Saskatchewan where the estimated acreage is more than double last year's 518,000.

The acreage seeded to mixed grains is estimated at 1.7 million acres, up 4% over last year. Most of this crop is grown in Eastern Canada, but practically all of the increase over 1954 in the Prairie Provinces. The area planted to corn for grain has continued the upward trend of recent years, with this year's acreage estimated at 514,000 acres, 23% above the 1954 total of 418,000.

Potato acreage, estimated at 306,300 acres, is up 3% over 1954, but 20% below the ten-year average of 382,700 acres, all provinces except British Columbia sharing in the increase, over last year. (1)

Wheat Flour Production Down In  
June, Up In 11 Months Of Crop Year

Canadian production of wheat flour was lower in June, amounting to 1,639,457 barrels versus 1,768,977 in the corresponding month last year

but there was a small rise in the August-June period to 19,287,445 barrels versus 19,205,662

Wheat milled for flour in June amounted to 7,354,785 bushels versus 7,807,008 a year ago, bringing the cumulative total to 85,989,969 bushels versus 84,849,066. Flour mill operations in June averaged 68.5% of daily rated capacity.

Wheat flour exports in June amounted to 849,843 barrels. Total shipments for the August-June period of the current crop year totalled 8,517,116 barrels versus 9,522,841 in the like period of 1953-54. (2)

First Estimates Of Fruit Crops Throughout most of the fruit growing regions of central and eastern Canada there has been little rain since June 15 and higher than normal temperatures prevailed. By the latter part of July this hot, dry weather was having adverse effects on fruit crops. Strawberry yields had been reduced considerably and the rather favourable outlook earlier in the season was not realized. With hot, dry weather at picking time the berries failed to develop in some areas as well as would otherwise have been the case. Drought was also blamed for a reduction in the raspberry crop. Earlier in the season the outlook had been quite favourable for small fruit production in practically all parts of eastern Canada. A generally heavy blossom escaped early frost injury and set well.

In the case of tree fruits, plums, prunes and peaches in western Ontario were reported to be sizing less rapidly than normal due to dry weather. The apple and pear crops would only reach the estimated figures if rain were received. Grapes in Ontario, however, were not showing any adverse effects from the drought.

In British Columbia the season was later than usual due to cool, wet weather which prevailed until quite recently. In the coastal areas, excess moisture had an adverse effect on the strawberry crop although raspberry prospects were good. In the interior a recent change in the weather bringing higher temperatures and more sunshine was welcomed. Tree fruits in British Columbia were later than usual this year but the general outlook was favourable with the earlier prospects for a good crop likely to be realized.

Estimates of this year's fruits crops follow, last year's totals being bracketed: apples, 17,646,000 bushels (14,500,000); pears, 1,416,000 bushels (1,261,000); plums and prunes, 306,000 (716,000); peaches, 2,604,000 bushels (2,425,000); apricots, 181,000 bushels (118,000); cherries, 525,000 bushels (500,000); strawberries, 22,663,000 quarts (27,971,000); raspberries, 12,485,000 quarts (12,839,000); loganberries, 1,463,000 pounds (1,056,000); and grapes, 91,998,000 pounds (83,876,000). (3)

Creamery Butter Stocks Larger Stocks of creamery butter in nine regional cities totalled 69,975,000 pounds on August 1, up from 59,181,000 a month earlier and 57,037,000 on August 1 last year. Holdings were larger than a year ago in Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina and Saskatoon, but smaller in Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver.

Nine-city stocks of cheese were 18,356,000 pounds, up from 17,247,000 on July 1 but down slightly from last year's 18,647,000 pounds. Holdings of cold storage eggs amounted to 124,000 cases, down from 167,000 month earlier but up from last year's 117,000 cases. Stocks of frozen eggs rose to 6,717,000 pounds from 6,179,000 on July 1 and 6,221,000 a year ago. (4)

Canned Peaches The inventory of canned peaches at June 30 amounted to 801,637 dozen containers compared to 572,376 dozen a year ago. At the end of March the holdings stood at 1,542,646 dozen containers.



Visible Supplies Of Wheat Lower Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on July 20 totalled 360,740,000 bushels, moderately above the preceding week's 355,619,000 bushels but down from last year's 366,943,000. Prairie farmers marketed 12,471,000 bushels of wheat during the week, down from 13,088,000 a year ago, but overseas export clearances rose to 5,701,000 bushels from 4,754,000. (5)

## MERCHANDISING

Farm Implement & Equipment Sales Off By 38% Last Year The wholesale value of sales of farm implements and equipment dropped by more than 38% last year to \$146,702,-695 from \$238,050,354 in 1953, according to advance figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The wholesale value of sales of repair parts fell by 14% to \$27,335,796 from \$31,818,818.

Farm implement and equipment sales values were reduced last year in all provinces, the sharpest decreases occurring in the Prairies, where Saskatchewan sales fell 53.5% to \$37,371,962 from \$80,333,503, Alberta sales over 45% to \$28,017,559 from \$51,302,523 and Manitoba sales 44.5% to \$15,538,264 from \$28,030,312. Sales in the Maritime Provinces dropped 34% to \$4,987,275 from \$7,563,698, in Quebec nearly 18% to \$16,942,850 from \$20,587,165, in Ontario over 13% to \$39,360,291 from \$45,442,835, in British Columbia 6.5% to \$4,215,248 from \$4,508,606, and in Newfoundland over 4% to \$269,246 from \$281,712.

The sharper drops in the Prairie resulted in a larger proportion of the total sales for other provinces in 1954 than in 1953, the proportion accounted for by Newfoundland increasing to 0.2% from 0.1%, by the Maritime Provinces to 3.4% from 3.2%, by Quebec to 11.5% from 8.6%, by Ontario to 26.8% (the largest proportion accounted for by any province in 1954) from 19.1%, and by British Columbia to 2.9% from 1.9%. The proportion accounted for by Saskatchewan fell to 25.5% from 33.7%, by Alberta to 19.1% from 21.6% and by Manitoba to 10.6% from 11.8%.

Repair part sales values declined last year in all parts of the country except Newfoundland (up over 53% to \$47,518 from \$30,974) and British Columbia (up nearly 3% to \$600,091 from \$585,008). Here again the sharpest decreases were in the Prairies, where sales in Saskatchewan fell nearly 29% to \$7,899,989 from \$10,104,946, in Alberta 22% to \$6,025,669 from \$7,457,431 and in Manitoba 12% to \$3,315,757 from \$3,963,885. Sales declined 4.5% in Quebec to \$2,513,373 from \$2,632,097, nearly 3% in the Maritime Provinces to \$925,354 from \$952,502, and over 1% in Ontario to \$6,003,045 from \$6,091,975.

Saskatchewan accounted for 28.9% of the total sales of repair parts in 1954 versus 31.8% in 1953, Alberta for 22% versus 23.4%, Ontario for 22% versus 19.1%, Manitoba for 12.1% versus 12.5%, Quebec for 9.2% versus 8.3%, the Maritime Provinces for 3.4% versus 3%, British Columbia for 2.2% versus 1.8%, and Newfoundland for 0.2% versus 0.1%.

Chain Store Sales Up 8.3% In June

Chain store sales rose 8.3% in June to \$196,-255,000 from \$181,274,000 in the corresponding month last year. June 1 stocks, at cost, were valued 4.3% higher at \$258,531,000 versus \$247,995,000. Sales gains were posted by 9 of the 11 trades, hardware and grocery and combination stores leading with respective increases at 14% and 13%. Family clothing store sales declined 2% and men's clothing 0.1%.

June sales were as follows by trades: grocery and combination stores, \$80,-278,000 (\$71,043,000 a year ago); variety stores, \$16,778,000 (\$16,076,000); men's clothing, (2,014,000 (\$2,017,000); family clothing, \$2,911,000 (\$2,969,000); women's clothing, \$5,074,000 (\$4,623,000); shoe stores, \$4,350,000 (\$4,274,000); hardware, \$1,400,000 (\$1,223,000); lumber and building materials, \$8,319,000 (\$7,877,000); furniture, radio and appliance, \$9,725,000 (\$9,141,000); drug stores, \$2,762,000 (\$2,731,000); and jewellery, \$3,148,000 (\$2,988,000). (6)

Department Store Sales Increased 11.8% In Week

Department store sales increased 11.8% during the week ending July 30 as compared with corresponding week last year. All provinces shared in the sales gain, Alberta leading with an increase of 24.8%, followed by Quebec with 12%, the Atlantic Provinces 11.4%, Ontario 11.2%, Manitoba 9.4%, and Saskatchewan 3.2%.

## MANUFACTURING

Motor Vehicle Production Increased Again In July

Production of motor vehicles continued to increase over a year earlier in July, according to preliminary figures released by DBS. The month's output of passenger cars rose to 33,882 units from 20,968 in July last year, bringing January-July production to 270,194 units versus 217,962. Production of commercial vehicles advanced to 9,153 units in July from 5,353 and 58,611 in the 7 months from 54,231. (7)

Motor Vehicle Shipments Up In May & Five Months

Canada's automotive factories shipped 60,882 motor vehicles in May, a sharp increase over the 37,284 shipped in May last year and also above the May shipments of 50,590 in the record year of 1953. This brought total 1955 shipments to 221,436, up from 213,118 in the first five months of 1954 but still below the high 1953 level of 233,798.

Shipments of passenger cars increased to 43,425 in June from 30,135 in the same month last year, and to 135,150 in the first five months from 170,605 a year earlier. Shipments of commercial vehicles increased to 12,457 from 7,130 in June, but decreased to 36,286 from 42,513 in the first five months (8)

Shipments Of Primary Steel Shapes Increased In March

Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, rose in March to 290,440 net tons from 229,400 a year ago and to 742,-144 in the January-March period from 674,176. Producers' interchange climbed to 137,969 tons in March from 101,338 and in the quarter to 376,892 tons from 302,105. (8)



Production Of Pig Iron And Steel Ingots Up Again In July

Canadian production of pig iron and steel ingots increased again in July. The month's output of pig iron rose by 53% to 267,089 tons from last year's corresponding total of 174,403 and steel ingots by 39% to 355,688 tons from 255,328. This brought January-July production of pig iron to 1,788,083 tons versus 1,312,475 a year ago and steel ingots to 2,465,147 tons versus 1,810,425. (10)

Shipments Of Products By Roofing Paper Industry At New High In 1953

Value of factory shipments of Canada's roofing paper industry reached a new high total of \$42,774,000 in 1953, an increase of 2.3% over the preceding year's \$41,814,000, according to the Bureau's annual industry report. There were 26 establishments in the industry with 2,477 employees (2,294 in 1952) and salary and wage payments of \$7,803,000 (\$6,736,000). Cost of materials used was \$20,315,000 versus \$19,334,000.

Factory shipments in order of value were as follows in 1953: asphalt shingles, (2,573,000 squares) \$19,692,000; tar and asphalt saturated felts (46,300 tons) \$4,581,500; mineral surfaced roll roofings (883,800 squares) \$3,228,600; smooth surfaced roll roofings (1,057,900 squares) \$2,425,600; tar and asphalt saturated and coated sheathings (14,200 tons \$1,998,300); and roll type rag and asbestos felt sidings (302,500 squares) \$1,420,800. (11)

## P R I C E S

Consumer Price Index Almost Unchanged

Canada's consumer price index remained almost unchanged between June 1 and July 2, moving from 115.9 to 116.0, as slight increases in food and shelter indexes were partially offset by declines in the household operation and "other" commodities and services series.

The food component increased from 111.0 to 111.5 under the influence of a sharp increase in the price for eggs and somewhat higher prices for most fresh fruits and vegetables and meats. Decreases were registered by potatoes, tea and coffee. The clothing index remained unchanged at 107.8 as most items registered no change, and the few changes balanced each other. Decreases in prices of household appliances and, to a lesser degree, furniture prices, were mainly responsible for the decline in the household operation index from 116.1 to 115.8. Coal prices were up fractionally while electricity rates declined slightly.

The index of "other" commodities and services moved from 117.8 to 117.7 as increases in haircuts and some drug items more than outweighed decreases in radios and toilet soaps. The increase in the shelter index from 129.2 to 129.6 resulted from small increases in both rent and home-ownership costs. (12)

## Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities & Services
July 2, 1955	116.0	111.5	129.6	107.8	115.8	117.7
June 1, 1955	115.9	111.0	129.2	107.8	116.1	117.8
July 2, 1954	116.2	112.1	126.6	109.6	117.2	117.6

Wholesale Price Indexes Up In July

The weekly composite price index for 30 industrial materials at wholesale advanced 0.5% from 236.0 to 237.2 between the weeks of June 30 and July 22. The advance was due mainly to higher quotations for raw rubber and linseed oil. Other series contributing to the increase were spruce lumber, tin, sisal and steel sheets. Decreases were led by beef hides and hogs, followed by lesser declines for oats, raw cotton, steers, raw sugar, bleached sulphite pulp and iron ore.

Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets dropped 2.1% between the weeks of June 30 and July 22 to 207.9 from 212.4. Decreases were general in both field and animal products as the index for the former series moved down 2.1% to 169.4 from 173.0 and the latter 2.2% to 246.3 from 251.9.

In field products, eastern wheat and rye, and western potatoes, flax, hay and rye were substantially lower, followed by lesser declines for eastern potatoes, oats, barley, corn and hay. Lower hog quotations and a sharp decline in western lambs were mainly responsible for the drop in the animal products index. Other price series in this group to register weakness were eggs, steers, lambs and cheese milk in eastern Canada. Western eggs and eastern poultry were higher during the period. (12)

Security Price Indexes Show Strength In July

July was again a period of strength for common stock prices as gains occurred in all major groups and sub-groups of the Bureau's investors' index. The composite index rose to 4.6% to 250.8 from 239.8 between the weeks of June 30 and July 28.

In the major groups, the index for 7 bank stocks advanced 9.2% to 273.4 from 250.3, 14 utilities 4.8% to 214.1 from 204.2, and 78 industrials 4% to 257.0 from 247.0. Advances among the sub-groups were led by industrial mines, power and traction, food and allied products, textiles and clothing, and transportation. After a sharp increase in the first week, machinery and equipment issues and milling weakened slightly. Building materials were also somewhat below the high reached earlier during the month.

The composite index for 27 mining stocks moved up 4% over the four-week period to 127.6 from 122.7. Gold stocks were fractionally lower at 75.7 versus 75.9 but 5 base metals rose 7.2% to 246.3 from 229.7. (12)

Security Price Indexes

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>August 4</u>	<u>July 28</u> (1935-39 = 100)	<u>July 7</u>
Total Common Stocks .....	246.9	250.8	243.5
Industrials .....	253.1	257.0	250.3
Utilities .....	210.3	214.1	205.5
Banks .....	269.0	273.4	263.5

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks .....	128.9	127.6	125.0
Golds .....	77.4	75.7	75.5
Base Metals .....	246.9	246.3	238.3



Farm Prices Of Agricultural Products Canada's index number of farm prices of agricultural products for June is estimated at 229.3, slightly above the revised figure of 229.2 for May and the highest recorded since August 1954. Higher prices for live stock and poultry products and eggs slightly offset lower prices for dairy products and potatoes.

The provincial indexes were as follows: Prince Edward Island, 244.1 (302.1 in May); Nova Scotia, 244.8 (261.0); New Brunswick, 257.5 (291.3); Quebec, 271.2 (270.7); Ontario, 256.0 (254.1); Manitoba, 214.4 (211.5); Saskatchewan, 181.5 (180.4); Alberta, 208.4 (205.8); and British Columbia, 260.6 (255.1). (13)

## T R A N S P O R T A T I O N

Farm Trucks Represent 57% Of Manitoba Registrations Slightly more than 57% of the trucks licenced in Manitoba are farm trucks not restricted as to area of operation, according to an analysis by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics of 49,789 motor truck registrations in the province in the year ending February 28, 1955.

Just under 36% are town trucks restricted to a radius of 15 miles of place of registration, close to 5% are commercial trucks transporting the owner's goods anywhere in the province, and a little more than 2% are public service vehicles for hire operations anywhere in the province in accordance with operating licence.

The Bureau's analysis shows that nearly 58% of Manitoba's trucks have a gross vehicle weight of 2 1/2 to 5 tons. Just under 15% weighed less than 2 1/2 tons, 13% weighed 5 to 7 1/2 tons, 10% weighed 7 1/2 to 10 tons, almost 3% weighed 10 to 15 tons, and nearly 2% weighed over 15 tons.

A breakdown of registrations by type of truck shows that box trucks account for 37.5% of the total number, pickup trucks for 33.5%, stake trucks for 6.7%, panel trucks for 5.8%, dump trucks for 3.1%, tractor-trailers for 1.7%, van trucks for 1.8%, platform trucks for 0.9%, tank trucks for 0.7%, jeep trucks for 0.4%, metro trucks for 0.3%, utility trucks for 0.3%, mixer trucks for 0.2%, and other types for about 2%.

Classification by age showed that most of Manitoba's trucks are post-war models, 21,195 being 1946-50 models and 19,294 being 1951-55 models. Trucks manufactured in the years 1931-40 numbered 5,041, and those dated 1941-45 numbered 3,475. Trucks of pre-1931 vintage numbered 599. The analysis also shows that 49,563 of the trucks registered in Manitoba are owned by persons or companies located in that province. (14)

Part 2 Of Shipping Report The Bureau released today part 2 of the shipping report for the year 1954. It contains statistical data on the number and net tonnage of vessels which arrived and departed, the cargoes unloaded from foreign countries by Canadian ports, the number and gross tons of tugs and number and net registered tons of fishing vessels departed from Canadian ports. (15)

Fewer Passengers Carried  
By Transit Systems In May

Fewer passengers were carried by urban transit systems in May, the number dropping to 101,555,663 from 108,038,517 a year ago. At the same time total revenues rose to \$9,916,485 from \$9,910,214. Passengers carried by electric cars fell to 34,666,908 from 40,240,942, trolley bus to 20,061,471 from 20,150,573, and motor bus to 46,698,046 from 47,477,329. Charter passengers rose to 229,238 from 169,673. (16)

## INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Industrial Production Index  
7.6% Above A Year Earlier

Canada's composite index of industrial production for May, according to preliminary figures, stood at 264.2 or 7.6% above the May 1954 index of 245.6. All major industry groups shared in the advance. The manufacturing component of the index also rose by 7.6% to 273.3 from 254.1. The index of mineral output advanced 6.5% as compared with last May to 215.6 from 202.5. The sub-index measuring production of electricity and gas stood at 281.1 in May, nearly 10% higher than one year ago.

The index of non-durable manufactures, at 238.8, was more than 6% above last May's 224.9. Output in the textiles group advanced by nearly 20%, while tobacco products and rubber products rose by 10% and 7% respectively. Smaller gains were recorded in the output of the foods and beverages, clothing, paper products, printing and publishing and chemicals industries as compared with their May 1954 production.

The composite index of durable manufactures for May stood at 327.3, 9.1% above last May's index of 299.9. The volume of non-metallic mineral output rose by nearly 16%, while production in iron and steel and non-ferrous metal groups rose by 12% and 11% respectively. Gains of between 5 and 10% were recorded by the wood products, transportation equipment and electrical apparatus groups.

For the first five months of 1955 the index of industrial production averaged 252.1, 5.6% above the corresponding 1954 level of 238.7. The manufacturing index rose 3.9% to 259.4 in the same comparison. The non-durables component advanced 4.5% to 224.2 from 214.6, while the durables index rose 3.2% to 314.4 from 304.6. The mining index advanced nearly 13% to 205.5 from 182.0. The electricity and gas index stood at 282.6, 11.6% higher than in the same period last year.

## MINERALS

Less Silver & Lead  
More Zinc This May

Outputs of silver and lead were below last year's levels in May and the first five months of 1955 but production of zinc was up in both periods, DBS reports. Output of primary silver fell to 2,214,447 fine ounces from 2,509,619 in May and to 10,934,850 fine ounces from 12,128,059 in January-May. Primary lead production decreased to 16,808 tons from 19,954 in the month and to 87,740 tons from 91,089 in the five months. Primary zinc output rose to 37,367 tons from 30,140 in May and to 177,316 tons from 142,650 in January-May. (17)



Industrial Employment Up On June 1 Industrial employment showed important expansion at the beginning of June. On the 1949 base, the Bureau's advance index rose 3.7% to 111.4 from 107.4 a month earlier. The increase was above-average for the time of year, substantially exceeding that recorded a year earlier when the index was 109.0.

The industrial composite index of payrolls rose to 158.3 from 153.1 a month earlier and 148.9 a year ago. The observance of the Victoria Day holiday in many establishments during the period under review occasioned some losses as compared with a month earlier and was partly responsible for a decline of 20¢ in the average weekly wages and salaries. However, at \$60.76, the latest per capita figure was an all-time high in the record for the beginning of June, slightly exceeding the average in the week of June 1 last year. Gains in employment were indicated as compared with May 1 in all provinces, ranging from 2.3% in Ontario to 9.1% in Newfoundland. Employment in Quebec and British Columbia moved up 4.4% and 3.9%, respectively. Widely distributed improvement over May 1 was reported in manufacturing and in the non-manufacturing industries. The most noteworthy increases, seasonal in character, took place in construction manufacturing, forestry and transportation, storage and communication.

Factory employment reached its greatest volume since the end of 1953. The index, at 109.2, was 1.8% higher than at May 1 and 1.4% above the June 1, 1954 figure. The aggregate weekly wages and salaries also rose significantly in the month -- 1.3% -- but the advance was limited to some extent by the observance of the Victoria Day holiday. The payroll index, nevertheless, established a new all-time maximum, 6.5% higher than at June 1, 1954. The per capita weekly wages and salaries stood at \$63.53, a peak figure for the time of year. The average was \$63.81 for May and \$60.54 for June 1, 1954. (18)

## I N T E R N A T I O N A L     T R A D E

Commodity Imports Reached     The value of Canada's commodity imports reached an  
Record High Value In May     all-time high of \$434,000,000 in May, according to  
final figures released today by DBS. This was one-  
fifth larger than last year's corresponding total of \$359,700,000. In January-  
May period imports rose 10.5% to \$1,807,300,000 from \$1,634,100,000 a year  
earlier.

The gain in May was widely spread among the commodities and the principal increase among the countries was in purchases from the United States. The increase in total value in May was due to a rise in volume, prices averaging slightly below year earlier levels. Purchases from the United States increased to \$318,515,000 in May from \$259,977,000 a year earlier, raising the five-month total to \$1,348,972,000 from \$1,205,795,000. Gains were shown in all main commodity groups both in May and the cumulative period with the largest increase in iron and products. There were conspicuous increases in imports of automobiles and parts and many other metal products.

MORE

Imports from the United Kingdom in May were moderately higher at \$37,095,000 versus \$35,999,000 a year ago but declined in the cumulative period to \$156,345,000 from \$159,507,000. Imports of iron and products were lower both in May and the five months but higher for fibres and textiles, non-ferrous metals and non-metallic minerals.

Imports from the rest of the Commonwealth moved up to \$20,578,000 in May from \$17,029,000 a year ago and to \$74,386,000 in the five months from \$60,737,000. Imports were larger in both periods from Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, India, Ceylon, and Malaya and Singapore but smaller from British Guiana and Australia.

Purchases from Latin American countries rose to \$28,624,000 in May from \$24,100,000 a year ago and to \$120,527,000 in the five months from \$115,772,000. Imports were larger in both periods from Cuba, Mexico, and Venezuela, but smaller from Brazil and Colombia.

Imports from European countries moved up to \$18,236,000 in May from \$16,098,000 a year ago and to \$65,950,000 in the five months from \$63,519,000. Among major sources there were larger purchases both in May and the five months from France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and Sweden, but smaller imports from the Netherlands and Switzerland.

Larger purchases from Japan and the Netherlands Antilles boosted total imports from all other countries to \$10,113,000 in May from \$5,355,000 a year ago and to \$38,385,000 in the five months from \$24,412,000. (19 & 20)

## MOTION PICTURES

### More Movies Made In Canada In 1954

Motion pictures produced in Canada last year earned 45 film companies \$2,106,131, some 32% more than the \$1,592,779 earned by 32 Canadian concerns from films produced in 1953, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Revenue from printing and laboratory work rose 18% to \$1,456,405 from \$1,230,493, and income from equipment sales, projection rentals and other sources totalled \$1,328,021 (no figure available for 1953).

Production of films of 5 minutes duration or longer by these firms and by government-controlled concerns included two feature films (the same number as in 1953), 50 theatrical shorts (55 in 1953) and 363 non-theatrical films (481). The non-theatrical films included 335 for television in 1954. Of the 750 films produced last year, 185 were in color (including four for television and 566 had sound (327 English; 216 French; 23 other languages).

Other production last year included 691 TV commercials (196 in 1953), 1,551 theatre trailers (1,172), 903 TV newsreel stories (249), 347 theatre newsreel stories (the same number as in 1953), 263 silent slide films (80) and 53 slide films with sound records (31). (21)



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

- 1- Preliminary Estimate of Crop & Summerfallow Acreages, 10¢ -- Released August 5.
- 2- Grain Milling Statistics, June, 10¢
- 3- M: First Estimate of Commercial Production of All Fruits, 1955,  
& Report on Condition of Fruit Crops in July, 10¢
- 4- M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products in 9 Cities, Advance Statement, August 1, 10¢
- 5- M: Grain Statistics Weekly, July 20, 1955, 10¢
- 6- Chain Stores Sales & Stocks, June, 10¢
- 7- Preliminary Report on the Production of Motor Vehicles, July, 10¢
- 8- Motor Vehicle Shipments, May, 10¢
- 9- Primary Iron & Steel, March, 25¢
- 10-M: Steel Ingots & Pig Iron, July, 10¢
- 11-The Roofing Paper Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 12-Price Movements, July, 10¢
- 13-M: Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, June, 10¢
- 14-R: Analysis of Manitoba Motor Truck Registrations, Year Ending  
February 28, 1955, 25¢ (Reference Paper No. 59).
- 15-Shipping Report, Section 2, 1954, 50¢
- 16-M: Urban Transit Statistics, May 10¢
- 17-M: Silver, Lead & Zinc Production, May, 10¢
- 18-Advance Statement on Employment & Weekly Earnings, June 1, 10¢
- 19-Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade, May, 10¢
- 20-Imports for Consumption (Summary), May, 20¢
- 21-M: Motion Picture Production, 1954, 10¢
- Canadian Statistical Review, July, 35¢

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M: Memorandum

R: Reference Paper

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Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P., Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery,  
4502-503-85 OTTAWA, 1955

August 12, 1955

53% More Apricots    Canada's    1955  
crop of apricots  
is estimated at 181,000 bushels,  
63,000 or 53% more than last year.

Afghanistan Buys Less    The value of Canadian  
exports to Afghanistan  
dropped to \$7,000 in  
the first half of this year from  
\$43,000 in the first six months of  
1954.

More Hair Seals    Canada's Atlantic  
Coast fishermen  
took 165,130 hair seals in the first  
half of this year, 35,867 more than  
in the first six months of 1954.  
Landed value rose to \$419,000 from  
\$272,000.

Manitoba Trucks: 58%    Of the 49,-  
Weigh 2 1/2 To 5 Tons    789 trucks  
licenced in  
Manitoba in the year ending Febru-  
ary 28, 1955, nearly 58% were of a  
gross weight of 2 1/2 to 5 tons.  
Just under 15% weighed less than  
2 1/2 tons, 13% weighed 5 to 7 1/2  
tons, 10% weighed 7 1/2 to 10 tons,  
almost 3% weighed 10 to 15 tons and  
close to 2% weighed over 15 tons.

More Bait Worms    Fishermen on the  
Atlantic coast  
landed 1,903,030 bait worms in the  
first half of this year, 346,155  
more than in the first six months  
of 1954.

Over Twice As Much    Lebanon bought  
Exported To Lebanon    \$753,000 worth  
of Canadian  
goods in the first half of 1955,  
more than double the \$344,000 worth  
purchased in the first six months  
last year.

Farm Implements    Farm implements  
In Saskatchewan    and equipment sold  
in Saskatchewan  
last year were worth \$37,371,962  
at wholesale prices, a 53.5% drop  
from \$80,333,503 in 1953.

Cornwall Cheque    Cheques cashed  
Cashings Club    against individual  
accounts at the  
Cornwall, Ontario, clearing house  
centre totalled \$126,443,000 in the  
first half of this year, one-third  
more than the \$94,370,000 total for  
the first six months of 1954.

\$85.16 Per Capita    Net general ex-  
penditure, ex-  
clusive of debt retirement, of  
Canada's ten provincial govern-  
ments averaged \$85.16 per capita in  
the fiscal year ended March 31, 1954,  
provincial per capita figures rang-  
ing from \$57.73 in Manitoba to  
\$139.66 in British Columbia.

Sales To Ireland    Canada exported  
More Than Doubled    \$6,375,000 worth  
of goods to  
Ireland in the first half of 1955,  
over twice as much as in the first  
six months last year when sales  
amounted to \$2,668,000.

\$566,000 For    Canada's ten prov-  
Civil Defence    incial governments  
spent \$566,000 on  
civil defence in the fiscal year  
ended March 31, 1954, Alberta lead-  
ing with an expenditure of \$245,000,  
followed by British Columbia with an  
outlay of \$208,000. Ontario spent  
\$37,000, Saskatchewan \$34,000,  
Manitoba \$25,000, New Brunswick  
\$6,000, Nova Scotia \$5,000, Quebec  
\$4,000, and Newfoundland and Prince  
Edward Island \$1,000 each.



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