



# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

OTTAWA - CANADA

Vol. 23 -- No. 33

Friday, August 19, 1955

PROPERTY OF THE  
LIBRARY  
\$2.00 a year

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Agriculture: Total carryover stocks of the five major Canadian grains -- wheat, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed -- in all North America positions at the end of July were about 24% smaller than last year's record but some 86% above the ten year 1945-54 average. (Page 6)

Construction: With 67% more new housing units started and 82% more completed this June, half-year starts were up 25% and completions 26% over 1954, the record year to date. At the end of June 18% more units were under construction than on the same date last year. (Page 12)

Labour: Canadian workers earned a record \$1,049,000,000 in May, 7% more than in May last year. This put total labour income in the first five months at \$5,046,000,000, an increase of 5% over last year. (Page 17)

Mining: More than three times as much iron ore was shipped from Canadian mines in June than in the same month of 1954, and half-year shipments were more than double those of a year earlier. (Page 16)

Electric Power: The average cost of electricity for household purposes in Canada increased slightly last year but at year's end was still below the average cost during the years 1935-39. (Page 16)

Banking: The value of cheques cashed against individual accounts in the first half of 1955 rose 6% above last year's level to an all-time peak. (Page 11)

Prices: Consumer price indexes for seven of the ten regional cities advanced from 0.1% to 0.4% between June 1 and July 2, while indexes for two cities were unchanged and the index for the other declined 0.3%. (Page 13)

Merchandising: Wholesale sales averaged 5.7% above the 1954 level in June and month-end inventories were down 1.4%... Department store sales averaged 6.1% above last year's level in July... Sales of new passenger cars reached an all-time high in the first half of this year, increasing 16% over 1954. At the same time sales of new commercial vehicles were down almost 10% this year. Retail value of passenger cars rose 17% while that of commercial vehicles fell 1%. (Pages 10 & 11)

Domestic Exports Up 10% In First Half Detailed figures on Canada's domestic exports for the first six months this year show substantial gains in exports of planks and boards, wood pulp, newsprint paper, aluminum and products, copper and products, nickel, asbestos, fertilizers and iron ore, and slight declines in wheat and other grains, wheat flour, fish and products, and farm implements and machinery. Geographically there were increases to the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries, the United States and Europe, but declines to Latin America and other foreign countries as a group.

Total value of domestic exports in the half-year period was \$2,031,400,000 up 10.4% from \$1,839,900,000 a year earlier. The June value was \$377,700,000, 10.5% above last year's \$341,800,000. In the half-year the volume of exports averaged 9.5% larger than in the same 1954 period but prices were virtually unchanged. In June the volume was up by 9% and prices by 1.5%.

Domestic exports to the United States in the January-June period rose to \$1,202,840,000 from \$1,120,539,000 in the corresponding period last year, accounting for 59.2% of all exports as compared with 60.1% a year ago. June's value climbed to \$228,236,000 from \$208,432,000 last year. A large part of the increase in the half-year occurred in wood and paper, non-ferrous metals and non-metallic minerals. Agricultural and vegetable products, animals and products, and fibres and textiles were lower in value.

Exports to the United Kingdom climbed to \$384,486,000 in the January-June period from \$284,594,000 a year ago and to \$65,124,000 in June from \$52,537,000. There were increases in six of the nine major commodity groups in the six months, largest increases being in agricultural and vegetable products, wood and paper, and non-ferrous metals.

Shipments to all other Commonwealth countries advanced to \$111,939,000 in the six-month period from \$92,919,000 a year earlier and to \$18,433,000 in June from \$17,222,000. Half-year exports were larger to the Union of South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and India.

Six-month exports to Latin American countries dropped to \$77,785,000 from \$94,358,000 a year earlier. There was a large decline in exports to Brazil, lesser decreases to Cuba and Venezuela, but increases to Colombia and Mexico. The area total for June was \$13,154,000 versus \$16,773,000.

With general gains to most major markets, exports to European countries rose in the half-year period to \$170,612,000 from \$144,235,000 in the corresponding period of 1954. Chief gains were to Belgium and Luxembourg, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Netherlands, and Switzerland. Exports to Norway were lower in value. June's value moved up to \$37,459,000 from \$32,443,000.

Chiefly due to a reduction in the value of exports to Japan, January-June exports to all other countries fell to \$75,912,000 from \$97,183,000 a year earlier. June value was \$13,830,000 versus \$13,496,000.

MORE



January-June values for the nine main commodity groups were as follows, last year's totals being bracketed: agricultural and vegetable products, \$369,074,000 (\$365,772,000); animals and animal products, \$126,027,000 (\$134,403,000); fibres, textiles and products, \$9,340,000 (\$9,104,000); wood products and paper, \$730,328,000 (\$631,582,000); iron and products, \$165,808,000 (\$159,548,000); non-ferrous metals and products, \$396,071,000 (\$344,453,000); non-metallic minerals and products, \$89,474,000 (\$67,812,000); chemicals and allied products, \$106,158,000 (\$77,526,000); and miscellaneous commodities, \$39,169,000 (\$49,704,000).

The following table shows the values of 14 leading commodity exports in June and the first half of 1955, together with comparative figures for 1954, ranked according to value for 1955's half-year period: (1)

	June		January-June	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
	(In thousands)			
Newsprint paper .....	\$55,279	\$54,358	\$305,430	\$321,874
Planks & Boards .....	25,117	38,185	132,736	189,370
Wheat .....	33,948	30,582	166,483	165,554
Wood pulp .....	25,031	26,583	133,037	145,165
Nickel .....	17,601	20,265	91,243	109,309
Aluminum & products .....	16,201	17,247	93,742	106,098
Copper & products .....	13,670	14,611	63,477	74,594
Fish & products .....	10,779	11,511	59,876	57,138
Grains other than wheat ..	13,679	17,580	55,968	51,302
Farm machinery .....	7,492	7,477	53,763	50,340
Asbestos & products .....	7,565	9,371	37,986	44,627
Wheat flour .....	7,818	7,468	47,475	39,585
Fertilizers .....	3,191	2,692	26,449	33,413
Alcoholic beverages .....	4,566	5,773	25,406	26,469

## MANUFACTURING

More Concrete Products Sold In First Six Months Half-year shipments of concrete building materials by manufacturers normally accounting for 85% of the total Canadian output were above 1954 levels for all except cinder blocks and concrete chimney blocks, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports.

Factory sales of concrete bricks increased to 49,582,560 bricks from 29,955,514 in the first six months last year, gravel blocks to 35,827,404 blocks from 29,669,156, haydite, slag and other concrete blocks to 3,425,263 blocks from 3,017,416, cement drain pipe and culvert tile to 166,990 tons from 96,794 and ready-mixed concrete to 1,379,499 cubic yards from 861,574. Shipments of cinder blocks declined to 6,955,716 blocks from 7,887,188, and concrete chimney blocks to 328,317 blocks from 345,881. (2)

MORE

Cement Shipments Up In First Half With continued gains in June, half-year production and shipments of Portland cement were both above 1954 levels, and end-of-June stocks in plants and warehouses were smaller than a year earlier, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports.

Production increased to 2,253,251 barrels from 2,072,477 in June and to 11,357,782 barrels from 11,056,223 in January-June. Shipments to customers rose to 3,289,329 barrels from 2,578,824 in June and to 11,089,944 barrels from 10,548,052 in the first six months. June-end stocks dropped to 1,355,888 barrels from 1,419,143. (2)

Production, Shipments Of Veneers And Plywood Up In Half Year Production and shipments of both veneers and plywoods in the first six months this year moved up from a year earlier, while inventories at the end of the period moved down.

Half-year production of veneers rose to 478,522,000 square feet from 399,740,000, and shipments to 476,637,000 square feet from 387,952,000. Output of plywood advanced to 508,371,000 square feet from 425,733,000 and shipments to 504,936,000 square feet from 434,476,000. End-of-June stocks of veneers dropped to 26,586,000 square feet from 55,288,000 and plywoods to 21,542,000 square feet from 38,860,000.

June production of veneer rose to 56,667,000 square feet from 55,555,000 and shipments to 55,904,000 square feet from 49,945,000. The month's output of plywoods dropped to 51,684,000 square feet from 83,332,000 and shipments to 58,459,000 square feet from 86,699,000. (3)

Larger Quantities of Asphalt Road Emulsions And Coatings Shipped Larger quantities of asphalt road emulsions and asphalt and bituminous coatings were shipped in 1953 than in the preceding year, according to the Bureau's annual report on the miscellaneous products of petroleum and coal industry.

Value of all products shipped by the industry during the year was \$5,779,690 versus \$6,089,393 in 1952. Shipments of asphalt road emulsions amounted to 11,187,281 gallons valued at \$2,087,602 versus 10,691,695 gallons valued at \$1,835,674. Shipments of asphalt and bituminous coatings totalled 1,258,530 gallons valued at \$1,117,134 versus 1,178,595 valued at 1,204,520.

Other products -- wood preserver, furnace cement, asphalt tile, coal briquettes, asphalt plank, and paving asphalt -- were shipped to the value of \$2,574,954 versus \$3,049,199. (4)

Production Of Mineral Wood Higher In June & Half Year Production of mineral wool in June comprised 22,944,066 square feet of batts (16,958,063 a year ago) and 1,195,174 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool (963,642). Half-year output comprised 88,150,608 square feet of batts (74,081,268) and 5,052,249 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool (3,545,423). (5)



Dyeing & Finishing Of Textiles Value of work performed by establishments engaged primarily in the dyeing and finishing of textile goods in 1953 was \$13,104,552, a drop of 10% from the preceding year's \$14,606,604. There were 56 plants in operation during the year, 6 more than in 1952, their employees numbered 2,255 versus 2,331, and salary and wage payments aggregated \$1,153,225 versus \$5,965,882.

Dyeing and finishing of textile fabrics is the industry's major activity and in 1953 accounted for \$8,050,298 or 61% of total value of work performed. Printing and painting on textile fabrics amounted to \$1,716,324 or 13%. Other activities include dyeing, finishing and mercerizing of yarns, rubberizing and waterproofing fabrics, bleaching, shrinking, sponging, etc. (6)

Coke Supplies Larger Supplies of coke made available for consumption were larger in May and the first five months of this year than last. The month's total amounted to 366,411 tons versus 287,470, bringing January-May supplies to 1,691,055 tons versus 1,515,655. (7)

## FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Crop Conditions Across Canada Recent rains throughout the Maritimes provinces have benefited all crops and pastures. In Prince Edward Island the grain harvest is commencing this week with prospects for an average yield except in fields heavily damaged by aphids. Early planted potatoes are promising and the late seeded crop is making rapid growth. Recent rain in Nova Scotia has improved crop conditions particularly in the Annapolis Valley. Moisture is about adequate for crop development throughout the province. Pastures are average in most areas but the after growth in hay fields is slow. In New Brunswick haying has been almost completed with a large crop reported. All crops have benefited from the good growing weather during the last two weeks and are recovering from the effects of adverse weather earlier in the season. Grain cutting has begun.

During the past two weeks heavy rains have fallen in all regions of Quebec and crops are generally recovering from the adverse effects of the drought which was particularly severe in central and western parts of the province. With the exception of the eastern regions, grain harvesting is in progress and yields vary from fair to good, depending upon the locality and the lay of the land. With the advent of substantial rains and continued hot weather, meadows and pastures are becoming green again and the milk flow is getting back to its normal level for this time of the year. Generally speaking, vegetable crops are promising. The harvesting of a below-average crop of peas has just been completed in the Richelieu Valley but potatoes, sweet corn and tomatoes will yield better than last year. Present prospects favour a large apple crop in most districts. With the exception of the area around Joliette where from 5 to 10 per cent of fields were burned by drought, tobacco harvesting is in full swing and yields are good. An abundant crop of blueberries is being picked.

Heavy rains since the beginning of August have greatly improved the outlook for pastures, corn, tobacco, potatoes, sugar beets and other late crops in Ontario. However, the prolonged period of hot dry weather in July caused heavy losses through yields of spring grains, badly burned pastures, little second growth of hay crops and retarded development of most late crops. Harvesting of spring grains is almost completed in the earliest areas and is well advanced in later regions. Yields vary widely and, for the province as a whole, are below normal in the extreme southwestern section of the province, slightly below normal in the counties along Georgian Bay and Lake Erie, and considerably below normal in Central Ontario and the counties along the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers where effects of the drought were most severe.

Continued warm weather has been favourable to the rapid maturing of grain crops throughout the Prairie Provinces. With the exception of late-seeded barley in most areas, prospects for above-average yields of all crops have been maintained. Harvesting is in full swing in Manitoba while swathing of early-seeded crops is underway in Saskatchewan and Alberta. With the exception of the Regina area where crops are late, harvesting should be fairly general in Saskatchewan next week. In Alberta, harvesting is expected to be general early in September. Damage from hail storms during the past two weeks has been fairly widespread and was severe in some localities. Most of the crop is sufficiently well advanced to escape further serious damage from insects and plant diseases.

With the exception of a few scattered showers, the weather has been generally clear and warm in British Columbia during the past two weeks. Swathing of barley is under way in the Peace River District while in the Prince George area all grain is headed out and is just beginning to turn colour. Harvesting of second crop alfalfa has commenced in the Northern Okanagan district while harvesting of grain crops is now general in this area. Harvesting of peas has started in the Armstrong district. In the Grand Forks region, seed crops are developing much better than during the past two years. Peas are now ready for harvesting in the Lower Fraser Valley, and on Vancouver Island second-cut hay is being harvested under ideal weather conditions. Harvesting of spring grains should be general in about a week or ten days. (8)

Stocks Of Canadian Grain At End Of July      Total carryover stocks of the five major Canadian grains -- wheat, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed -- in all North American positions at the end of July were estimated at 668,800,000 bushels, about 24% below last year's record 876,200,000 but some 86% above the ten-year (1945-1954) average of 360,400,000, DBS reports.

This year's July 31 stocks, in millions of bushels, with last year's totals and the 1945-1954 averages, respectively, in brackets, were estimated as follows: wheat, 481.4 (582.7, 206.8); oats, 81.1 (125.8, 87.2); barley, 87.2 (145.9, 56.0); rye, 17.9 (19.3, 7.0); and flaxseed, 1.2 (2.6, 3.4). Wheat stocks were well below 1943's record 594,600,000 bushels. An estimated 100,900,000 bushels of this year's total were held on farms, while 212,200,000 of the off-farm stocks were in country elevators. The next largest amounts, 68,300,000 and 40,300,000 bushels, were in store in Eastern elevators and in Fort William -- Port Arthur terminals, respectively.

MORE



Rye stocks were second only to last year's record, but stocks of oats were well below the previous four years, barley the smallest in three years and flaxseed the smallest since 1951.

Farm-held stocks of each of the five grains at July 31, were well below last year's record or near-record levels but, except for oats and flaxseed, were above the ten-year averages. This year's stocks on farms, with last year's totals and the ten-year averages, respectively, in brackets, were estimated as follows (in millions of bushels): wheat, 100.9 (195.9, 49.4); oats, 53.4 (97.2, 59.3); barley, 42.3 (96.8, 27.0); rye, 10.2 (12.9, 2.5); and flaxseed, 0.3 (1.0, 0.6).

Although this year's farm-held stocks of wheat were the third largest on record, they were little more than half of either last year's record or the 190,200,000 bushels on farms in 1943. Farm stocks of both barley and rye were second only to last year's records but, in the case of barley, were less than half the 1954 total.

With the exception of oats, over 90% of this year's July 31 farm-held grain stocks was located in the Prairie Provinces. Distribution of farm stocks, in millions of bushels, for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, respectively, was estimated as follows: wheat, 2.0, 55.0, and 40.0; oats, 5.0, 20.0, and 15.0; barley, 8.0, 14.0, and 18.0; rye, 0.5, 6.0, and 3.5; and flaxseed, 0.1, 0.1 and 0.1 (9)

Wheat Visible Slightly Reduced Visible supplies of wheat at the end of the 1954-55 crop year amounted to 379,177,000 bushels, slightly below the preceding year's 384,142,000 bushels, DBS reports.

During the crop year farmers in the Prairie Provinces marketed 300,667,000 bushels of wheat versus 396,849,000 a year earlier. Marketings of barley amounted to 108,579,000 bushels versus 101,342,000; oats, 66,975,000 bushels versus 90,167,000; rye, 11,896,000 bushels versus 11,826,000; and flaxseed, 8,769,000 bushels versus 7,401,000. Crop-year overseas export clearances aggregated 206,829,000 bushels versus 201,157,000 (10)

Production Of Butter And Cheese Declined In July Creamery butter production declined 8% in July to 40,163,000 pounds from last year's corresponding total of 43,826,000 pounds and January-July output fell 2% to 180,588,000 pounds from 183,479,000. Domestic disappearance in July was estimated at 23,965,000 pounds, down 5% from 25,312,000 a year ago, but cumulative disappearance rose 3% to 165,337,000 pounds from 161,200,000.

Cheddar cheese production in July declined to 9,928,000 pounds from 12,797,000 a year ago and to 42,832,000 pounds in the seven months from 47,805,000. Output of ice cream rose to 5,319,000 gallons in July from 4,387,000 and to 20,205,000 gallons in the seven months from 17,516,000.

Production of concentrated milk products dropped to 49,825,000 pounds from 56,130,000 a year earlier and to 274,909,000 pounds in the January-July period from 281,839,000. (11)

Creamery Butter Stocks Larger On August First There were 106,174,000 pounds of creamery butter in store in Canada at the beginning of August, 13.6% above last year's corresponding total of 93,408,000 pounds, DBS reports. Holdings of cheese declined to 39,028,000 pounds from 40,332,000, evaporated whole milk to 48,106,000 pounds from 60,314,000, skim milk powder to 9,631,000 pounds from 17,912,000, and poultry meat to 8,453,000 pounds from 13,704,000. Holdings of eggs rose to 503,000 cases from 466,000 (12)

Stocks Of Creamery Butter In Nine Cities Of Canada Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on August 11 were larger this year than last, amounting to 72,115,000 pounds as compared with 60,810,000. Holdings were as follows by cities, in thousands: Quebec, 4,971 pounds (3,906 a year ago); Montreal, 34,380 (28,643); Toronto, 9,865 (9,744); Winnipeg, 16,805 (12,549); Regina, 1,437 (1,300); Saskatoon, 895 (312); Edmonton, 2,215 (2,607); Calgary, 579 (679); and Vancouver, 968 (1,070).

Production Of Margarine Down In July But Up In The Seven Months Production of margarine was slightly lower in July than in the corresponding month last year but the January-July output was about 12% higher. Output amounted to 7,750,000 pounds in July versus 7,802,000 and to 72,179,000 pounds in the seven months versus 64,298,000. Stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and other warehouses at the beginning of August totalled 3,602,000 pounds versus 5,167,000 a month earlier and 3,217,000 a year ago. (13)

Production And Stocks Of Process Cheese Up Production of process cheese in July amounted to 4,485,000 pounds, an increase of 18% over the revised total of 3,803,000 pounds for June and 31% above the 3,423,000 pounds produced in July last year. Cumulative production in the first seven months this year totalled 26,980,000 pounds as compared with 25,443,000 a year earlier. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of July amounted to 2,702,000 pounds as against 1,364,000 a month earlier and 1,271,000 a year ago.

Catch Of Sea Fish Slightly Larger In Six Months Canada's sea fisheries yielded an estimated 665,752,000 pounds of fish in the first six months of this year, slightly larger than last year's catch of 652,226,000 pounds. The value was slightly lower this year at \$29,392,000 versus \$29,652,000. June landings weighed in at 185,246,000 pounds versus 190,514,000 and the value was \$9,396,000 versus \$10,195,000.

The half-year catch on the Atlantic coast jumped to 508,004,000 pounds from 475,053,000 and the value to \$23,518,000 from \$22,678,000. There were larger landings of herring, haddock, plaice and greysole, and lobster, but smaller catches of rosefish, capelin and alewives. June's catch of all species in Atlantic waters fell to 172,641,000 pounds from 176,929,000.

The Pacific catch in the six-month period fell to 157,748,000 pounds from 177,173,000 a year ago and the value to \$5,874,000 from \$6,974,000. There were smaller landings of herring and halibut but larger landings of salmon, soles, clams and oysters. The June catch weighed 1,922,000 pounds versus 2,301,000. (14)



Holdings Of Canned Fruit Larger But  
Stocks Of Vegetables Slightly Smaller

Stocks of canned fruits held by commercial canners, wholesalers and chain store warehouses at the end of June were almost

double the holdings of a year earlier but inventories of canned vegetables showed little change, according to advance figures released by DBS. Canned fruit stocks amounted to 4,519,192 dozen as compared with 2,616,623 dozen and the holdings of canned vegetables totalled 11,079,127 dozen as compared with 11,507,675 dozen.

Among canned fruits, the principal increases in stocks occurred in applesauce, apricots, fruit cocktail for salad, peaches, pears, pineapple and strawberries, while decreases were minor except in loganberries and plums and gages. Stocks of canned vegetables such as green and wax beans, beets, carrots and peas combined, corn, pumpkin and tomatoes were lower. Increased inventories of asparagus, baked beans, carrots, macedoine, peas, sauerkraut and spinach were reported. End-of-June stocks of individual items in dozen cans, with 1954 figures in brackets, are detailed below:

Canned fruits: apples, solid pack, 159,726 dozen containers (89,881); crab-apples, 6,927 (9,869); applesauce, 409,904 (180,291); apricots, 179,879 (54,632); blueberries, 57,653 (14,584); cherries, 156,626 (52,264); fruit cocktail for salad, 610,845 (262,684); grapefruit, 27,275 (27,269); loganberries, 4,491 (21,855); peaches, 801,637 (572,376); Bartlett pears, 397,282 (240,299); Keiffer pears, 449,404 (155,565); apple pie filling, 112,671 (41,740); other pie filling, 53,897 (37,622); pineapple, 486,234 (363,116); plums, gages, etc., 101,919 (166,786); raspberries, 121,791 (51,594); rhubarb, 5,934 (3,645); strawberries, 333,042 (228,853); all other fruits, 41,965 (41,698).

Canned vegetables: asparagus, 400,104 dozen containers (344,309); green or wax beans, 1,027,458 (1,315,242); baked beans etc., 2,108,235 (1,552,931); beets, 257,976 (302,543); carrots, 281,337 (164,978); carrots and peas combined, 114,374 (187,733); corn, 2,049,185 (2,406,121); mixed vegetables, 322,633 (237,666); peas, 3,097,144 (2,172,507); pumpkin and squash, 318,126 (330,949); sauerkraut, 272,066 (209,283); spinach, 183,344 (173,950); tomatoes, 429,716 (2,004,820); all other vegetables, 217,429 (104,643).

Other canned foods: apple juice, 1,374,341 dozen containers (465,733); other fruit juices, 659,743 (692,703); apple juice concentrates, 2,964 (99); infant and junior foods, fruits, 1,888,151 (1,444,638); infant and junior soups, 710,900 (407,475); infant and junior vegetables, 247,922 (880,988); and other infant and junior foods, 2,812,560 (2,153,988); jams, 428,046 (383,884); jellies, 73,727 (68,462); marmalades, 144,602 (171,463); mayonnaise, salad dressing, 73,742 (111,645); peanut butter, 123,544 (118,146); pickles, 356,384 (403,894); prepared mustard, 137,673 (138,620); relishes, 79,453 (66,845); ready dinners, 607,085 (465,364); sandwich spread, 36,490 (49,507); chili sauce, 125,244 (91,585); meat sauce, 79,917 (78,629); other sauces, 214,907 (151,286); soups, all kinds, 7,030,119 (6,074,356); spaghetti, 478,619 (556,482); tomato juice, 1,108,521 (2,295,055); tomato ketchup, 1,146,966 (1,088,129); tomato pulp, paste and puree, 222,688 (174,667); vinegar, 267,767 (345,822); honey, 47,975 (60,880).

Fruit & Vegetable Stocks Larger Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, and vegetables, frozen and in brine, were larger on August 1 this year than last. Fruit stocks totalled 33,454,000 pounds versus 32,282,000 and vegetables amounted to 19,349,000 pounds versus 15,703,000. (15)

Storage Stocks of Meat Smaller Cold storage stocks of meat were smaller on August 1, amounting to 63,286,000 pounds versus 68,675,000 a year ago. Holdings comprised 32,599,000 pounds of frozen meat (37,792,000 a year ago); fresh meat, 16,982,000 pounds (17,406,000); and cured meat, 13,705,000 pounds (13,477,000). (16)

## MERCHANDISING

Passenger Car Sales Reached  
New High In First Half Sales of new passenger cars reached an all-time high in the first six months of this year, rising almost 16% as compared with a year earlier, DES reports. At the same time the sales of commercial vehicles dropped almost 10%. Retail value of new passenger cars sold advanced 17 % as compared with last year but that for commercial vehicles fell 1 %.

Half-year sales of passenger cars totalled 215,040 units valued at retail at \$560,264,000 versus 185,991 units valued at \$478,330,000 in the corresponding period last year. Commercial vehicle sales in the six months numbered 38,126 versus 42,308 a year earlier and were valued at \$109,331,000 versus \$110,417,000. June sales of new passenger cars increased to 45,923 units valued at \$119,516,000 from last year's 31,898 units which retailed for \$82,421,000. The month's sales of new commercial vehicles rose to 8,989 from 6,838 and the retail value to \$26,485,000 from \$17,970,000.

Financing of sales of new passenger cars in the half-year period climbed to 75,120 units from 69,134 and the financed value to \$143,717,000 from \$125,246,000. The sales of fewer new commercial vehicles were financed in this year's first half, the number standing at 12,717 versus 15,801 and the financed value at \$29,753,000 versus \$34,049,000. Used vehicle financing followed a similar pattern in the half year. Passenger car financing rose to 174,091 from 169,511 and the financed value to \$143,958,000 from \$142,094,000. Commercial vehicles dropped in number to 28,258 from 29,046 and in financed value to \$23,573,000 from \$25,593,000.

June financing of sales of new passenger cars jumped to 18,529 units from 13,801 and the financed value to \$35,527,000 from \$25,500,000. In the commercial vehicle class there was an increase in number to 3,336 from 2,757 and in value to \$8,186,000 from \$6,094,000. Financing of used passenger cars in June rose to 39,873 units from 36,754 and the financed value to \$32,973,000 from \$30,375,000. Used commercial vehicle sales financing rose to 6,113 units from 6,075 but the financed value fell to \$5,198,000 from \$5,488,000. (17)



Wholesale Sales Up Sales of wholesalers in nine lines of trade averaged 5.7%  
Nearly 6% In June higher in June than in the corresponding month last year,  
 while month-end inventories declined 1.4% in value, DBS  
 reports.

The index number of sales, on the 1935-39 base, averaged 416.2 for June versus 399.3 for May and 390.9 for June last year. Auto parts and equipment made the largest gain in June over a year earlier (17%), followed by dry goods (7.4%), and tobacco and confectionery (6.8%). Other trades made smaller gains with the exception of fruits and vegetables which recorded a decrease of 3.4%.

Fruits and vegetables showed the largest inventory increase (11.9%), while hardware inventories decreased by 5.5%. Inventory changes in the other trades ranged between these figures. (18)

Department Store Sales Department store sales rose to 6.1% in July as compared  
Increased 7.2% In July with the corresponding month last year, according to  
 preliminary estimates by the Bureau. All provinces  
 shared in the rise except Saskatchewan where there was a decline of 1.6%.  
 Manitoba had the largest increase of 14.1%, followed by Quebec with 12.7%, Alberta  
 7.1%, Ontario 6%, the Atlantic Provinces 3.3% and British Columbia 0.4%

In the week ending August 6 all-Canada sales rose 7.2%. Sales advanced 15.5% in the Atlantic Provinces, 13.1% in Ontario, 6.1% in Manitoba, 3.7% in British Columbia, 3.7% in Alberta and 0.9% in Saskatchewan. There was no change in Quebec.

## BANKING

Value Of Cheques Cashed Up Value of cheques cashed against individual accounts  
6% In First Half Of 1955 in the first half of 1954 rose 6% to a new peak total  
 for the period of \$79,044,143,000 versus \$74,598,520,  
 000 a year earlier. June's total advanced 3.2% to \$14,551,748,000 from \$14,101,  
 325,000. Except for a small decrease in the half-year period in the Atlantic  
 Provinces there were increases in all economic areas in both periods.

The half-year total for Ontario rose to \$35,916,417,000 from \$33,475,903,  
 000, Quebec to \$23,275,755,000 from \$21,551,779,000, Prairie Provinces to \$11,757,  
 076,000 from \$11,539,893,000, and British Columbia to \$5,956,000,000 from  
 \$5,857,015,000. Total for the Atlantic Provinces fell to \$2,138,895,000 from  
 \$2,173,930,000.

Totals for June follow by areas, corresponding figures for 1954 being bracketed; Ontario, \$6,256,821,000 (\$6,065,613,000); Quebec, \$4,351,744,000 (\$4,220,315,000); Prairie Provinces, \$2,412,371,000 (\$2,347,778,000); British Columbia, \$1,095,274,000 (\$1,062,682,000); and the Atlantic Provinces, \$435,538,000 (\$404,938,000). (19)

Housing Starts Up 67% And  
Completions 82% This June

Construction was started on 21,021 new housing units across Canada in June, 67% more than in June last year when 12,586 dwelling units were started, according to advance figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The sharp jump put half-year starts at 57,997, up 25% from the 46,398 started in the first half of 1954, the record year to date for new residential construction.

The number of new housing units completed showed an even sharper increase this June, jumping 82% to 10,989 from 6,047 a year earlier to put half-year completions at 52,228, almost 26% above 1954's first-half record of 41,572. The outlook at the end of June continued bright, with 75,684 units in various stages of construction, an increase of 18% over the 64,262 under construction at the end of June last year.

The Regional Picture

In the two most populous provinces residential construction has continued at a record level this year. In Ontario starts were up 62% to 7,597 from 4,687 in June and 16% to 22,339 from 19,224 in the half-year, and completions were up 79% to 4,088 from 2,280 in June and 31% to 22,484 from 17,105 in the first half. In Quebec starts were up 82% to 6,380 from 3,503 in June and 30% to 17,148 from 13,230 in January-June, and completions were up 115% to 3,554 from 1,652 in June and 29% to 14,246 from 11,076 in the first half. The number of units under construction at the end of June was up 6% in Ontario to 27,785 from 26,249 a year earlier, and 31% in Quebec to 20,143 from 15,417.

Construction was also well above last year's levels in the Maritimes in June and the half-year. The number of new housing units started in the three provinces increased to 1,074 from 294 in June and to 2,271 from 1,251 in January-June, and the number completed rose to 365 from 210 in June and to 1,704 from 1,493 in the half-year. There were 3,439 units under construction in the Maritimes at the end of June, 47% more than the 2,343 under construction a year earlier. Newfoundland starts dropped to 100 from 171 in June and to 337 from 367 in January-June, while completions increased to 70 from 51 in June but decreased to 299 from 396 in the first half. Units under construction in Newfoundland at the end of June numbered 2,930, up 3% from 2,833 a year earlier.

In the Prairie Provinces June starts were up 11% this year to 3,485 from 3,135 but half-year starts were down 2% from last year to 8,029 from 8,182. Completions, however, were up in both periods, by 27% in June to 1,597 from 1,255 and by 7% in the half-year to 8,301 from 7,773. The number under construction at the end of June was up slightly to 11,065 from 11,109. In British Columbia residential construction has made considerable gains over last year, June starts almost tripling to 2,385 from 796 and half-year starts increasing 90% to 7,873 from 4,144. June completions more than doubled to 1,315 from 599 and half-year completions were up 39% to 5,194 from 3,729. The number of units under construction in British Columbia at the end of June was 64% greater this year at 10,322 versus 6,311.



Consumer Price Indexes For Regional Cities

Consumer price indexes for seven of the ten regional cities advanced between June 1 and July 2, two were unchanged and one declined. Advances ranged from 0.1% in Ottawa and Halifax to 0.4% in Winnipeg with the decline in Vancouver 0.3%.

Food indexes were higher in all cities but St. John's and Saint John. Egg prices were substantially higher in most cities. Fruit and vegetable prices were generally higher, lower prices for potatoes in most cities being an exception. Meat prices, particularly those for pork, were higher.

The July clothing indexes showed little change from those of the previous month. There were slight declines in Winnipeg and Toronto, and unchanged indexes in the other eight cities.

Shelter indexes were slightly higher in seven cities, unchanged in three. Household operation indexes varied. A decline in the Vancouver index resulted from lower prices for wood fuel, and an advance in St. John's coal prices were reflected in a higher index in that city.

Increased telephone rates in Winnipeg advanced its index. The other commodities and services indexes were slightly lower in five cities, unchanged in four. The small increase in St. John's resulted mainly from higher prices for hair cuts.

Total indexes for July 2 and June 1, and July 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 July 1955 (base 1949 = 100)

	Total Indexes		Group Indexes - July 2, 1955				
	June 1, 1955	July 2, 1955	Food	Shelter	Cloth- ing	Household Operation &	Other Commodities & Services
St. John's*	104.3	104.3	103.5	108.6	100.7	103.0	106.6
Halifax	114.6	114.7	106.3	124.3	114.6	118.9	119.1
Saint John	117.3	117.3	110.7	125.6	116.1	116.5	124.0
Montreal	116.3	116.7	114.5	136.0	107.1	114.4	116.8
Ottawa	116.9	117.0	110.7	133.4	111.1	116.3	119.5
Toronto	118.3	118.7	111.2	146.9	109.7	114.3	118.4
Winnipeg	115.0	115.5	110.9	126.0	112.5	114.1	117.4
Saskatoon-Regina	114.3	114.3	110.1	118.1	114.6	116.9	114.2
Edmonton-Calgary	113.8	114.1	109.0	121.1	112.5	115.7	117.3
Vancouver	116.8	116.5	109.3	127.4	112.2	122.5	119.6

\* Index on the base June 1951 = 100.

Security Price IndexesInvestors' Price Index

	<u>August 11</u>	<u>August 4</u> (1935-39 = 100)	<u>July 14</u>
Total Common Stocks .....	241.2	246.9	244.6
Industrials .....	247.8	253.1	250.3
Utilities .....	204.6	210.3	207.0
Banks .....	260.0	269.0	275.1

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks .....	127.2	128.9	125.3
Golds .....	76.3	77.4	74.3
Base Metals .....	243.6	246.9	242.1

## P R O V I N C I A L   F I N A N C E

Provincial Government Revenues    Net general revenues of the governments of  
Up 6%, Expenditures 4% In 1953    Canada's ten provinces and the Yukon totalled  
    \$1,336,000,000 in 1953, up 6% from \$1,258,000,-  
 000 in 1952, and net general expenditures, exclusive of debt retirement,  
 amounted to \$1,258,000,000, an increase of 4% from \$1,207,000,000, the Dominion  
 Bureau of Statistics reports. Revenues exceeded expenditures by \$78,000,000 in  
 1953 versus \$15,000,000 in 1952.

Revenue increased in all provinces except Newfoundland, where the 1952  
 level of approximately \$32,000,000 was maintained.

In Prince Edward Island there was an advance to \$7,700,000 from \$7,300,-  
 000; in Nova Scotia to \$49,000,000 from \$47,000,000; in New Brunswick to \$49,-  
 000,000 from \$47,000,000; in Quebec to \$300,000,000 from \$285,000,000; in  
 Ontario to \$371,000,000 from \$365,000,000; in Manitoba to \$56,000,000 from  
 \$55,000,000; in Saskatchewan to \$98,000,000 from \$91,000,000; in Alberta to  
 \$186,000,000 from \$145,000,000; and in British Columbia to \$186,000,000 from  
 \$185,000,000.

The largest gains were \$41,000,000 in Alberta, \$15,000,000 in Quebec,  
 \$7,000,000 in Saskatchewan, and \$6,000,000 in Ontario.

Expenditures increased in all but two provinces in 1953, remaining un-  
 changed at \$7,000,000 in Prince Edward Island and decreasing to \$311,000,000  
 from \$313,000,000 in Quebec.

In Newfoundland there was an advance to \$33,000,000 from \$29,000,000; in  
 Nova Scotia to \$51,000,000 from \$46,000,000; in New Brunswick to \$48,000,000  
 from \$45,000,000; in Ontario to \$384,000,000 from \$372,000,000; in Manitoba to  
 \$47,000,000 from \$42,000,000; in Saskatchewan to \$86,000,000 from \$80,000,000;  
 in Alberta to \$118,000,000 from \$104,000,000; and in British Columbia to \$172,-  
 000,000 from \$169,000,000.

The largest increases were \$14,000,000 in Alberta and \$12,000,000 in  
 Ontario.

MORE



In 1953 a slightly smaller proportion of the total revenues of Canada's provincial governments were derived from taxes (37.9% versus 38.8% in 1952) and federal tax rental agreements (23.2% versus 24.1%), and a larger proportion from natural resource privileges, licences and permits (14.6% versus 12.3%). The proportion derived from taxes in 1953 ranged from 11% in Alberta to 66.6% in Quebec, and the proportion derived from federal tax rental agreements from nil in Quebec and 16% in Alberta to 47.3% in Prince Edward Island. The share obtained from Natural resource privileges, licences and permits ranged from 0.1% in Prince Edward Island to 55.4% in Alberta (up from 44.1% in 1952).

The next largest sources of revenue were liquor profits, which accounted for 9.3% of the total in 1953 versus 10% in 1952, and motor vehicle licences and permits, which accounted for 6.6% versus 6.4%. The proportion accounted for by liquor profits in 1953 ranged from 7% in Newfoundland to 19.1% in Nova Scotia and 45.2% in the Yukon. The share accounted for by motor vehicle licences and permits ranged from 3.1% in Newfoundland to 9.2% in Manitoba.

As in the previous year, the main expense was transportation and communications, which took 28.1% of the total in 1953, provincial proportions ranging from 18.4% in British Columbia to 36.9% in Alberta. Education took 18.6% of the total, provincial proportions ranging from 13.5% in British Columbia to 23.8% in Manitoba. Health accounted for 16.7%, the range being from 10.5% in Nova Scotia to 32.7% in Saskatchewan. The proportions of the total expenditure accounted for by other services were: social welfare, 8.2%; natural resources and primary industries, 8.2%; protection of persons and property, 6.1%; debt charges (exclusive of debt retirement), 4.2%; general government, 4.1%; contributions of other governments, 2.3%; and all other expenditures, 3.5%. (20)

## MINERALS

### Mineral Production Value Reached New Peak In 1953

Value of minerals produced in Canada during 1953 reached an all-time high total of \$1,336,303,503, an increase of 3.9% over the preceding year's \$1,285,342,353, according to the Bureau's annual general review of the mining industry. The index of the physical volume of mineral production, on the 1935-39 base, was 185.8 versus 174.7 in 1952. There were 101,500,000 tons or ore mined and rock quarried. Of this total 54,400,000 tons were from metal mines, 19,800,000 tons of non-metallics, and 27,300,000 tons of stone quarried.

The mineral industry employed 130,038 persons (134,116 in the preceding year) and paid them \$453,065,518 in salaries and wages (\$452,976,151). The ten leading minerals in order of production value in 1953 were as follows, 1952 totals being in brackets: crude petroleum, \$200,582,276 (\$143,038,212); nickel, \$160,430,098 (\$151,349,438); copper, \$150,953,742 (\$146,679,040); gold, \$139,597,985 (\$153,246,016); coal, \$102,721,875 (\$111,026,149); zinc, \$96,101,386 (\$129,833,285); asbestos, \$86,052,895 (\$89,254,913); cement, \$58,842,022 (\$48,059,470); sand and gravel, \$53,485,401 (\$51,339,043); and lead, \$50,076,822 (\$54,671,021). (20)

Shipments Of Iron Ore Reached New High In June An all-time high record monthly total of 2,129,963 tons of iron ore were shipped from Canadian mines in June, more than three times as large as last year's June tonnage of 654,174, DBS reports. This brought half-year shipments to 4,090,048 tons, steeply above last year's 1,756,047 tons.

Ore shipped for export climbed to 1,936,625 tons in June from 562,990 a year ago and to 3,679,658 tons in the six months from 1,365,303. Shipments of ore to Canadian consumers rose to 193,338 tons in June from 91,184 and to 410,390 tons in the six months from 390,744. End-of-June stocks were moderately higher at 1,969,312 tons versus 1,718,108. (22)

Shipments Of Asbestos Higher Again In June Shipments of asbestos from Canadian mines continued to climb in June, the month's total rising to 91,530 tons from last year's corresponding total of 78,960. This brought cumulative shipments for this year's half-year period to 505,199 tons versus 434,823. Exports rose to 95,917 tons in June from 81,936 and in the six months to 467,433 tons from 412,843. (23)

Crude Petroleum Production In April And The Four Months Canadian production of crude petroleum rose to 7,583,954 barrels in April from 5,377,262 in the corresponding month last year and to 36,180,392 barrels in the January-April period from 27,201,326.

Natural gas production also advanced, rising to 11,159,709,000 cubic feet in April from 10,424,621,000 and to 55,012,124,000 cubic feet in the four-month period from 48,735,989,000.

Sales of natural gas rose to 10,271,908,000 cubic feet in April from 8,915,959,000 a year earlier and to 45,973,843,000 cubic feet in the four-month period from 39,636,729,000. Manufactured gas sales dropped to 1,612,352,000 barrels in April from 2,349,074,000 cubic feet in the four months from 9,838,082,000. (24)

## ELECTRIC POWER

Domestic Electricity Cost Still Below Pre-War Level The average cost of electricity for household purposes in Canada increased slightly last year but at year's end was still below the average cost during the years 1935-39, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. The average cost increased in 1954 in two provinces, decreased in one and showed no change in the others.

The Bureau's index of the cost of electricity for domestic service on the basis of the average 1935-39 cost equalling 100 and computed on rates in effect on December 31 was 99.48 for 1954, the highest level since the war. This compared with 99.01 for 1953, the post-war low of 84.78 for 1947 and 103.25 for 1939.

MORE



Costs were below the 1935-39 level last year in all but two provinces. The British Columbia index registered a record 147.86 at year's end, up from 145.02 in two previous years and comparing with the 1947 low of 99.67 and the 1939 figure of 110.03. The Ontario index registered 100.81 versus 100.84 at the end of 1953, the first decline following regular annual increases since 1947's low of 81.06 and comparing with the 1939 figure of 100.96.

The Quebec index rose to 85.49 last year after remaining at 84.67 for three years. The 1947 low was 83.24 and the 1939 figure 104.35. The Prince Edward Island index remained at 91.82 for the fourth year, the Nova Scotia index at 91.01 for the third year, the New Brunswick index at 88.73 for the fourth year, the Manitoba index at 97.28 for the second year, the Saskatchewan index at 98.15 for the third year, and the Alberta index at 71.11 for the third year.

By municipality, average monthly consumption per domestic service customer ranged from a low of 64 kilowatt hours in Macleod, Alberta, to a high of 536 kilowatt hours in Ottawa last year, while the minimum net monthly bill ranged from 44¢ in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, to \$2.00 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

Net monthly bill at metered rates for lighting, small appliances, refrigeration, cooking and water heating using 500 kilowatt hours a month ranged from \$3.92 in Ottawa and \$4.00 in Hull to \$18.38 in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, and \$20.97 in The Pas, Manitoba. (25)

## LABOUR

Labour Income Reached Peak In May Labour income received by Canadian paid workers in May was estimated at a record high total of \$1,049,000,000, a gain of \$36,000,000 over the preceding month's \$1,013,000,000.

The April-May increase this year exceeded that taking place between the two months in any year since 1950. The May total was \$69,000,000 or 7% larger than the estimate for May 1954, and the cumulative total for the first 15 months of 1955 of \$5,046,000,000 was 5% above last year's \$4,793,000,000.

May advances in total wages and salaries were shared by all the major industrial groups, with increases ranging between \$10,000,000 for the primary industries and \$4,000,000 for manufacturing.

Within the primary group, the largest increases took place in logging and farming. Transportation, public utilities and trade accounted for most of the gain in the wages and salaries total for the distributive group.

With the exception of the clothing and transportation equipment industries in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, and in addition, the textile products in the latter province, all the important component groups registered advances in the manufacturing industry during May.

MORE

May estimates of labour income by main groups were as follows (in millions): agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping and mining, \$69 (\$66 a year ago); manufacturing, \$340 (\$320); construction, \$72 (\$67); utilities, transportation, communication, storage and trade, \$273 (\$257); finance, services, \$258 (\$235); and supplementary labour income, \$37 (\$35). (26)

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

Railway Car Loadings Increased Car loadings on Canadian railways in the last 10 days of July rose 2.6% to 112,609 cars from last year's corresponding total of 109,729, while receipts from connections increased 14.1% to 42,747 cars from 37,472.

In July, loadings in Canada increased to 260,380 cars from 231,012 and receipts from connections to 130,392 cars from 112,513.

In the January-July period domestic loadings advanced to 2,252,716 cars from 2,076,418 and receipts to 940,910 cars from 844,222.

Commodities carried in greater volume in the 10-day period were: iron ore, 9,269 (versus 2,296 in 1954); sand, gravel and crushed stone, 7,967 (6,067); automobiles, trucks and parts, 3,135 (1,977); and miscellaneous carload commodities, 6,596 (6,011).

Shipped in fewer cars were: grain, 10,147 (13,663); grain products, 3,080 (3,554); non-ferrous ores and concentrates, 4,596 (5,203); gasoline, 4,442 (4,976); lumber, timber and plywood, 7,421 (7,877); and L.C.L. merchandise, 17,286 (19,380).

Loaded in larger volume in the January-July period were: grain, 198,196 cars (189,955 a year ago); livestock, 30,411 (29,288); non-ferrous ores and concentrates, 90,319 (83,729); iron and steel products, 36,117 (33,483); gasoline, 81,174 (78,140); fuel oil, 62,089 (58,527); sand, gravel and crushed stone, 104,397 (75,755); logs, posts, poles and piling, 34,197 (29,747); lumber, timber and plywood, 133,836 (111,343); newsprint paper, 87,060 (85,431); and automobiles and parts, 66,526 (51,323).

Loaded in smaller volume were: grain products, 73,405 (75,331); coal, 138,528; pulpwood, 99,797 (103,764); and L.C.L. merchandise, 408,771 (422,502). (27)



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

- 1- Domestic Exports (Summary), June, 20¢
- 2- M: Cement & Cement Products, June, 10¢
- 3- M: Peeler Logs, Veneers & Plywoods, June, 20¢
- 4- Miscellaneous Products of Petroleum & Coal Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 5- M: Mineral Wool, June, 10¢
- 6- Dyeing & Finishing of Textile Goods Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 7- Coal & Coke Statistics, May, 25¢
- 8- Telegraphic Crop Report, Canada, 10¢ -- Released August 17
- 9- Stocks of Grain at July 31, 10¢
- 10-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, July 31, 1955, 10¢
- 11-Dairy Factory Production, July, 10¢
- 12-M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, August, 10¢
- 13-M: Margarine Statistics, July, 10¢
- 14-Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, June, 25¢
- 15-M: Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, August 1, 10¢
- 16-M: Stocks of Meat, Lard & Tallow, August 1, 10¢
- 17-New Motor Vehicle Sales & Motor Vehicle Financing, June, 20¢
- 18-Wholesale Trade, June, 10¢
- 19-Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, June, 10¢
- 20-Financial Statistics of Provincial Governments, 1953 -- Revenue & Expenditure --  
25¢
- 21-General Review of the Mining Industry, 1953, 50¢
- 22-M: Iron Ore, June, 10¢
- 23-M: Asbestos, June, 10¢
- 24-M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, April, 15¢
- 25-Cost of Electricity for Domestic Service & Monthly Bills for Domestic Service,  
Commercial Light & Small Power, 1954, 25¢
- 26-Estimates of Labour Income, May, 10¢
- 27-M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, July 31, 1955, 10¢
- Trade of Canada: Imports, May (detailed), 50¢
- M: Memorandum

---

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

August 12, 1955

Less Strawberries    The 1955 strawberry crop is estimated at 22,700,000 quarts, 5,300,000 or 19% less than last year.

22% More Apples    This year's apple crop is estimated at 17,600,000 bushels, 1,300,000 or 22% larger than the 1954 crop.

More Concrete Bricks Shipped    Factory shipments of concrete bricks rose sharply in number in the first half of this year to 49,582,560 from 29,955,514 in the first half of 1954.

Sales To Turkey Show Sharp Drop    Canadian exports to Turkey were worth only \$380,000 in the first half of this year as compared with \$4,768,000 in the first six months of 1945.

Fewer Sheep Shorn    The number of sheep shorn in Canada declined to 875,200 this year from 880,700 in 1954. With the average fleece weight unchanged at 7.4 pounds, total wool production fell to 6,446,000 pounds from 6,496,000.

Home Electricity: Ottawans Use Most    Average monthly consumption of electricity per domestic service customer last year ranged from a low of 64 kilowatt hours in Maclead, Alberta, to a high of 536 kilowatt hours in Ottawa.

Record Month For Iron Ore    More iron ore was shipped from Canadian mines this June than in any other month on record, the 2,129,963-ton total being more than three times last year's June shipments of 654,174 tons.

More Cattle    The number of cattle and calves on Canadian farms increased to 9,954,000 last year from 9,762,000 in 1953, and was the third largest number on record, being topped only by 1946's 10,759,000 and 1945's 10,346,000.

Fishing Vessels    4,056 fishing vessels departed from Canadian ports in international seaborne shipping last year, 1,452 from Nova Scotia ports, 1,030 from British Columbia ports, 975 from Newfoundland ports, 586 from New Brunswick ports and 9 from Grindstone, Quebec.

2,160 Tugs    Last year 2,160 tugs departed from Canadian ports in international seaborne shipping, 1,674 of them from British Columbia ports, 415 from Ontario ports, 44 from Nova Scotia ports, 19 from New Brunswick ports, 7 from Quebec ports and one from Cornerbrook, Newfoundland.

Cattle Worth Less    The average value per head of cattle and calves on Canadian farms fell to \$106 last year from \$125 in 1953, the lowest level since 1948. While considerably below the 1951 peak of \$191, last year's value was higher than all years prior to 1949 and compared with a low of \$22 in 1934.

Electricity Costs Highest In The Pas    The net monthly bill at metered rates for domestic electricity for lighting, small appliances, refrigeration, cooking and water heating using 500 kilowatt hours a month ranged from \$3.92 in Ottawa and \$4 in Hull to \$18.38 in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, and \$20.97 in The Pas, Manitoba.





1010729361