



# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

*Dominion Bureau of Statistics*

OTTAWA - CANADA

Vol. 23 -- No. 36

Friday, September 16, 1955

\$2.00 a year

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Gross National Product: Canada's gross national product moved up at an accelerated rate in the second quarter this year, rising to an estimated annual average of \$26.2 billion. This represented a gain of 4% over the first quarter rate and 9% above last year's annual average of \$24.0 billion. About \$300 million of the increase over last year is due to an estimated higher crop production. In the non-farm sector, the general level of activity in the second quarter was 8% above the 1954 annual average. Compared with the first half of 1954, national income in the first six months this year was up an estimated 7.4%. (Pages 2-5)

. . .

Food: Output of creamery butter in August was 2% below last year, stocks at September 1 were 10% higher than a year earlier... Cheese output in August and stocks at September 1 were both down... Process cheese production also declined in August... The sea-fish catch in July dropped 18% in quantity and 16% in value. (Pages 6 & 7)

. . .

Manufacturing: Production of motor vehicles continued to increase in August over a year earlier... Pig iron output set a new monthly record in August with a climb of 73% over August last year, and production of steel ingots was at the second highest monthly level. (Page 8)

. . .

Transportation: Railway carloadings rose over 30% in the last ten days of August to leave the month's gain over 1954 at 20.2%. Increase this year to the end of August was 10%... Freight tonnage transported through the ten Canadian canals during June was 13.4% greater than in June 1954 and passengers were double in number. (Pages 8 & 9)

. . .

Foreign Trade: Canada's domestic exports in July were up 7.5% in value over a year earlier, substantial increases for wheat and other grains, wood pulp, pulp wood, newsprint paper, iron ore, aluminum and products and smaller increases in planks and boards, copper and asbestos being chief factors in the gain. Shipments were higher in value to the United States, United Kingdom, other Commonwealth countries and Europe, but lower to Latin America and the remaining foreign countries taken together. (Pages 9 & 10)

. . .

Merchandising: New motor vehicle sales in Canada during July set a new record for the month of 47,434 units with a retail value of \$126,738,000. Factory shipments in the month reached 48,067 units... Department store sales rose 10.7% during the week ending September 3 over the previous year. (Page 11)

. . .

Gross National Product Continued Upward  
Surge In Second Quarter Of This Year

Canada's gross national product moved upward at an accelerated rate in the second quarter of 1955, as the expansion in economic activity which began in the last half of 1954 made a sharp advance.

According to the Bureau of Statistics quarterly report on national income, released this week, the second quarter rate of gross national product was estimated at \$26.2 billion, a gain of 4% over the first quarter rate, and 9% above the annual average for 1954 of \$24.0 billion. About \$300 million of the increase over last year is attributable to an estimated higher crop production in 1955.

With the elements of farm production eliminated, the general level of activity in the non-farm sector of the economy in the second quarter was 8% above the 1954 annual average, and also 8% above the peak reached in the third quarter of 1953 just prior to the downturn in activity.

The gain in the value of non-farm production between the first and second quarters of this year amounted to 4%, compared with gains of 2% in each of the two preceding quarters. With prices relatively stable, these gains reflect a growth of similar magnitude in the volume of output.

The recent advance appears to have been more widely dispersed than that which occurred between the fourth quarter of 1954 and this year's first quarter. Almost all industrial groups have shared in the general advance in production. Related indicators suggest that, after adjustment for seasonal factors, about one-half of the production gain from the first to second quarter occurred in manufacturing.

In contrast to the first quarter, however, when the increase in manufacturing production was concentrated in durable goods (especially automobiles), the second quarter gains appear to have been quite widespread, with the major part of the advance occurring in the non-durable goods industries.

The rise in manufacturing production, both durable and non-durable, in recent quarters has brought the level of production in this industry to a point approximately 8% above the second quarter of 1954. In spite of these gains over last year, durable production had not reached the high levels of the second quarter of 1953, but non-durable production in the second quarter was running at a rate approximately 4% above the mid-1953 level.

Outside of the manufacturing field, production gains from the first to second quarter of this year were also widely diffused, with the services, construction, and most of the primary industries sharing in the advance.

Accompanying these gains in production, the total number of persons with jobs in the second quarter was about 3% higher than in the same period of 1954. In the non-agricultural sector, the number of persons with jobs rose by about 4%. At the same time, average hours worked per week in manufacturing were about 2% higher than a year ago. The number of persons without jobs and seeking work had declined by 2% below the level of last year's second quarter.

MORE



The vigorous pace of activity in the first six months this year has been accompanied by major gains in most of the important segments of income and demand. The table following shows percentage increases for a number of selected aggregates since the first half of last year when economic activity had reached the low point of the recent downturn.

Both personal and business incomes have shown striking gains since that time, and these in turn have been reflected in the growth of a number of major expenditure categories. On the income side, investment income, including corporation profits, has risen sharply; available information suggests that corporation profits may have been of the order of 15% above the first half of 1954. Wages and salaries have shown a gain of approximately 6% over a year ago; this compares with a gain of only 2% from 1953 to 1954 in the half year comparison. Personal income has been running at a rate approximately 6% above 1954 in the first half of this year, and the level of personal saving has risen.

Percentage Change, First Half 1955 Over First Half 1954

<u>Selected Income Aggregates</u>		<u>Selected Expenditure Aggregates</u>	
National income	+ .4%	Gross national expenditure	+7.2%
Personal income	+5.9%	Personal expenditure	+5.7%
Wages and salaries	+5.6%	Government expenditure	+6.1%
Investment income	+14.8%	Residential construction	+27.4%
Government transfer payments	+9.1%	Exports	+10.4%
		Imports	+8.1%

On the expenditure side, major sources of strength in the half year have been the increase in consumers' outlays, substantially higher levels of house-building activity, and a sharp rise in exports of goods and services. The rate of inventory accumulation has also been moderately higher, while some increase has occurred in government expenditure on goods and services. Imports have responded to the increases in these demand categories, and have shown a sharp rise. On the other hand, outlays for new non-residential construction and machinery and equipment have shown minor declines.

The following paragraphs contain a more detailed discussion of some of the components of gross national product and gross national expenditure.

Components Of Gross National Product

Reflecting the substantial gain in production and the accompanying rise in employment, wages and salaries seasonally adjusted reached an annual rate of \$12.7 billion in the second quarter of this year. This represents an increase of more than 3% over the first quarter (on the seasonally adjusted basis), and was about 7% over the same period a year ago. The latter advance breaks down into a 4% increase in the number of paid workers and a 3% increase in average weekly earnings.

MORE

Investment income, seasonally adjusted, rose by 11% from the first to second quarter of 1955, to a level of \$4.4 billion at annual rates. This constitutes a gain of about 20% over the second quarter of 1954. Corporation profits were the major factor in the increase and data available at present suggest a gain of the order of 20% over last year's second quarter. The advances from a year ago and from the first to second quarter again appear to have been quite general, with the majority of the industrial groups sharing in the increase.

Indirect taxes less subsidies, seasonally adjusted, rose moderately from the first to second quarter and were at an annual rate of \$3.2 billion, 6% above the level of the previous year. The gains were entirely attributable to indirect taxes, with subsidies showing little change. Featured in the increases over last year were customs import duties, which rose by 11%, associated with the sharp rise in imports; and excise duties, which rose by 15 per cent, reflecting higher consumption of tobacco and alcoholic beverages.

#### Components Of Gross National Expenditure

Outlays by consumers for goods and services, seasonally adjusted, increased substantially from the first to the second quarter of 1955, with widespread gains in the non-durable goods group, and a large increase in purchases of durable goods associated with a sharp upswing in sales of new passenger automobiles. All major groups, durables, non-durables and services, were at new peaks in the second quarter, with increases of 15%, 4%, and 2%, respectively, over the first quarter. These gains brought the total level of consumer expenditure in the second quarter to a point approximately 7% above the level of the second quarter of 1954.

Government expenditure on goods and services, seasonally adjusted, rose moderately from the first to second quarter, reflecting for the most part a pickup in federal defence outlays (largely on non-procurement items) but also to a lesser degree small gains in non-defence outlays at the three levels of government. The second quarter rate of \$4.6 billion was thus about 7% over the corresponding period for 1954. Defence expenditures, which contributed almost half of the gain over last year, were about 9% higher. The growth in expenditures at the provincial and municipal levels of government reflected in part higher investment outlays for capital facilities.

Investment in new residential construction, seasonally adjusted, rose by approximately 12% from the first to second quarter of 1955 and was at an annual rate of more than \$1.4 billion. This constitutes an increase of 33% over the second quarter of last year and is the largest single percentage gain of any major component of gross national expenditure. Non-residential construction, seasonally adjusted, showed little change from the first to the second quarter of 1955, and was down slightly compared with the second quarter of 1954; in the first six months of this year, non-residential construction dropped by approximately 3% from last year's levels. Investment in new machinery and equipment rose by 14% from the first to the second quarter of 1955, the first major increase in this component since early in 1953.

MORE



The seasonally adjusted figures of inventory change indicate some accumulation in the second quarter. However, most of this accumulation can be ascribed to stocks of grain in commercial channels. Business inventories, seasonally adjusted, showed little change in the second quarter, but the minor change obscures offsetting movements with-in industries. Among these changes, it may be noted that manufacturing inventories, seasonally adjusted, were drawn down during the second quarter, reflecting the fact that shipments of motor vehicles from the factory were substantially in excess of the high rate of factory production. However, the rate of shipments of automobiles from the factories was in excess of the high volume of car sales in the second quarter, with the result that some accumulation took place at the retail level.

Exports and imports of goods and services in the second quarter were 10% and 9%, respectively, above the same period a year earlier. After seasonal adjustment, the figures indicate that the high levels reached in the first quarter of this year were maintained; exports were running at \$5.6 billion, while imports were at \$6.0 billion.

Non-agricultural exports of goods, seasonally adjusted, rose to a new high from the first to second quarter, but declines in exports of agricultural products offset this increase. For the first half of 1955, while exports of agricultural products were approximately unchanged from the same period of 1954, all other commodities rose 12% over the first half of 1954 and were 4% above the first half of 1952, the previous peak. The strongest increases in exports in the half-year comparison were in wood products, non-ferrous metals, non-metallic minerals and chemical products.

Imports of goods rose sharply in most components in the second quarter relative to the first; this increase in goods was partly offset by a decline in services. The gain in imports of goods reflects the expansion in economic activity in Canada in the first half of this year from the low point a year ago. The upswing in manufacturing production, the cessation of inventory liquidation followed by some accumulation, and the continued growth of consumer expenditure, has been accompanied by rising import levels.

The level of personal saving has risen in the first half of 1955, as advances in personal income have been larger than the increase in consumer outlays and personal direct taxes. Thus, the rate of saving in the first six months of the year has amounted to about 9% of personal disposable income, compared with about 7% in the first half of 1954. (1)

## FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Margarine Production Higher Production of margarine in August amounted to 9,177,000 pounds, 10.6% above last year's corresponding total of 8,293,000 pounds. In the first eight months this year 81,356,000 pounds were produced, an increase of 12% over the preceding year's 72,591,000 pounds. September 1 stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and other warehouses on September 1 totalled 3,510,000 pounds down from 3,653,000 on August 1 but up from 2,632,000 on September 1 last year. (2)

MORE

Creamery Butter Stocks Up 10% On September 1

There were 118,187,000 pounds of creamery butter in store in Canada at the beginning of September, 10% above last year's corresponding total of 107,389,000 pounds. Holdings of cheese declines to 42,549,000 pounds from 45,008,000, evaporated whole milk to 56,816,000 pounds from 66,527,000, skim milk powder to 9,892,000 pounds from 18,602,000, and poultry meat to 9,104,000 pounds from 12,984,000. Stocks of eggs were up to 415,000 cases from 397,000. (3)

Production Of Butter And Cheese Declined In August

Production of creamery butter in August totalled 38,852,000 pounds, 2% below last year's 39,617,000 pounds. This brought the January-August output to 219,440,000 pounds versus 223,096,000. Domestic disappearance rose to 26,686,000 pounds in August from 25,626,000 a year earlier and to 191,834,000 pounds in the eight months from 186,826,000.

Cheddar cheese production fell to 10,059,000 pounds in August from 11,808,000 and to 52,891,000 pounds in the cumulative period from 59,613,000. The month's output of ice cream rose to 4,777,000 gallons from 3,732,000 and the eight-month total to 24,982,000 gallons from 21,248,000. Output of concentrated milk products rose to 51,249,000 pounds in August from 48,685,000 but fell in the January-August period to 326,158,000 pounds from 330,524,000. (4)

Production Of Process Cheese In August And Eight Months

Production of process cheese in August amounted to 3,639,000 pounds, a decrease of 19% from the revised total of 4,430,000 pounds in July but an increase of 2% over last year's August output of 3,583,000 pounds. Cumulative production for the January-August period rose to 30,564,000 pounds from 29,026,000 a year earlier. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of August amounted to 2,934,000 pounds versus 2,722,000 a month earlier and 1,443,000 a year ago.

Visible Supplies Of Wheat

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on August 31 totalled 372,492,000 bushels, up 6,768,000 bushels from a year earlier. Deliveries of wheat from Prairie farms during the week amounted to 3,507,000 bushels versus 150,000 and the overseas export clearances totalled 2,795,000 bushels versus 2,261,000. (5)

Handbook Of Agricultural Statistics

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released Part III of the Handbook of Agricultural Statistics entitled "Trends in Canadian Agriculture." The statistical data contained in the report have been drawn principally from the Census of Agriculture. The figures were selected to give a general picture of agricultural development in Canada.

Among the data included are tables on population, occupied dwellings, occupied farms, area, condition and value of occupied farm land, number of live stock, farm implement and equipment sales, machines on farms, farms served by central electric stations, sales of fertilizers and pesticides, farm income, physical volume of agricultural production and farm prices. (6)



Canned Meat Stocks Stocks of canned meats held by manufacturers and whole-  
Slightly Smaller salers at the end of June amounted to 19,810,586 pounds,  
 a decrease of 8.3% from the revised May total of 21,602,-  
 852 pounds, according to a special compilation.

Holdings were as follows by kinds, revised May 31 totals being in brackets:  
beef products -- ready dinners, stews, etc., 5,894,009 pounds (6,290,076);  
 roast beef, 346,579 (311,627); corned beef, 1,647,644 (1,697,332); and other  
 beef products, 1,641,563 (1,647,298).

Pork products -- spiced pork and ham, 5,040,240 pounds (5,937,136); roast  
 pork and ham, 1,651,160 (2,050,946); other pork products, 1,497,643 (1,421,-  
 704). Miscellaneous -- canned fowl, 645,148 pounds (780,863); meat paste,  
 826,765 (752,921); and all other meats, 619,835 (712,949).

Sea-Fish Catch Lower Canada's sea fisheries yielded an estimated 305,205,000  
In July & 7 Months pounds of fish in July, 18% below last year's catch of  
 371,901,000 pounds. At the same time the value dropped  
 16% to \$12,791,000 from \$15,255,000. January-July landings weighed 972,902,000  
 pounds and were valued at \$42,623,000 versus 1,024,126,000 pounds worth \$44,-  
 906,000 a year ago.

July landings on the Atlantic coast fell to 278,358,000 pounds from 326,-  
 513,000 and the value to \$7,555,000 from \$9,230,000. In the January-July  
 period the landings declined to 788,307,000 pounds from 801,565,000 and the  
 value to \$31,503,000 from \$31,907,000.

The Pacific coast catch in July dropped to 26,847,000 pounds from 45,388,-  
 000 and the value to \$5,236,000 from \$6,025,000. In the seven months there  
 was a decline in quantity to 184,595,000 pounds from 222,561,000 and in value  
 to \$11,110,000 from \$12,999,000. (7)

## MANUFACTURING

Production And Sales Canadian refineries produced 14,588,549 barrels of  
Of Petroleum Products petroleum products in March as compared with 11,932,099  
 in the corresponding month last year. Refineries  
 received 14,175,094 barrels of crude oil during the month versus 12,338,938  
 and used 14,348,224 barrels versus 12,490,886. Inventories of crude at the  
 end of the month amounted to 18,021,389 barrels (not available for 1954).  
 (8)

Net sales in April of refined petroleum products totalled 14,184,077  
 barrels versus 17,034,776 in March. Sales of some of the larger products  
 were: motor gasoline, 5,345,974 barrels (4,990,786 in March); aviation  
 gasoline, 287,363 (278,266); aviation turbo fuel, 175,628 (208,760); stove  
 oil, 713,216 (1,547,122); diesel fuel oil, 894,180 (1,071,967); light furnace  
 oil, 2,441,670 (4,579,371); and heavy fuel oil, 3,006,705 (2,953,495). (9)

Production Of Pig Iron And Steel Ingots Increased Again In August Canadian production of pig iron and steel ingots continued to climb in August. Output of pig iron reached a new monthly record of 288,688 tons, more than 73% above last year's August total of 166,688. At the same time the output of steel ingots, at 380,094 tons, was second only to the top figure of 381,367 tons for June last and was 18% above last year's August output of 235,984 tons.

The boost in August raised the output of pig iron in the first eight months of this year to 2,077,357 tons from last year's corresponding tonnage of 1,479,055 and steel ingots to 2,844,710 tons from 2,046,409. (10)

Motor Vehicle Production Up Sharply Again In August Production of motor vehicles continued to increase in August over a year earlier, according to preliminary figures released by the DBS. The month's output rose to 24,052 units from 13,526. Production of passenger cars moved up to 18,807 units from 11,837 and commercial vehicles to 5,245 units from 2,089.

In the first eight months this year combined production climbed to 353,461 units from 285,719 in the same 1954 period and was close to the high 1953 eight-month output of 355,838 units and slightly above the 1954 full-year total of 350,152 units.

Chief gain this year has been in passenger car production, which rose in the eight months to 289,303 units from 229,399 a year ago and 261,662 in the corresponding period of 1953. Commercial vehicle output was up to 64,158 units from 56,320 a year earlier but down sharply from the 1953 eight-month total of 94,176. (11)

## TRANSPORTATION

Railway Car Loadings Higher Railway car loadings in the last 10 days of August amounted to 132,003 cars, an increase of 30.3% over last year's corresponding total of 101,278. Loadings were up 20.2% in August to 381,351 cars from 317,244, and 10% in the January-August period to 2,634,067 cars from 2,393,662.

Receipts from connections rose 32.6% in the 10-day period to 45,658 cars from 34,422, by 25.8% in August to 138,766 cars from 110,287, and by 13.1% in the January-August period to 1,079,676 cars from 954,509.

The chief commodities carried in larger numbers of cars in the last 10 days of August were: coal, 7,654 cars (6,434 a year ago); iron ore, 8,128 (1,359); non-ferrous ores and concentrates, 5,602 (4,591); gasoline, 5,860 (3,872); sand, gravel and crushed stone, 10,818 (6,644), "other" mine products, 4,547 (3,100); lumber and plywood, 8,140 (6,481); miscellaneous carload commodities, 9,220 (6,872), and merchandise, L.C.L., 21,991 (19,414). (12)



Canal Traffic Increased This June Freight transported through the ten Canadian canal systems during June totalled 4,809,532 tons, an increase of 567,106 tons or 13.4% over last year's corresponding total of 4,242,426 tons. Increased traffic was reported by the St. Lawrence, the Welland Ship, the Richelieu, and the St. Peter's canals this June, while a decrease was registered at the Canadian lock at Sault Ste. Marie and three of the smaller systems.

Commodities responsible for the overall advance over the preceding June include barley, bituminous coal, fuel oil, iron ore and other freight. The number of vessel passages advanced to 3,861 from 3,469 and the registered net tonnage rose to 4,586,586 tons from 4,147,304. The number of passengers carried totalled 17,367, more than double the June, 1954 total of 8,223.

The volume of freight transported through the St. Lawrence system in June amounted to 1,654,136 tons versus 1,344,145 in June last year, a gain of 23.1%. As at the St. Lawrence, freight traffic cleared through the Welland Ship canal rose in both directions this June to a total of 2,832,351 tons, a gain of 364,128 tons or 14.8% over 2,468,223. Although the volume of freight transported through the Canadian lock at Sault Ste. Marie declined this June to 273,303 tons from 380,466, the total shipped through the combined system rose to 16,297,189 tons from 14,332,200. (13)

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Domestic Exports Up 7.5% In Value In July Substantial increases in the value of wheat and other grains, wood pulp, pulp wood, newsprint paper, iron ore, aluminum, and petroleum and products, combined with smaller increases in planks and boards, copper and asbestos were the chief factors in boosting the overall value of Canada's domestic exports 7.5% in July as compared with a year earlier. There were lower values for wheat flour, fish and fishery products, farm implements and machinery, and zinc.

Geographically there were increased values of exports to the United States, the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries, but decreased values for Latin American countries and all other foreign countries as a group. Total value of domestic exports in July was \$348,200,000 versus \$323,900,000 a year ago. In the January-July period the value was \$2,380,000,000 versus \$2,163,800,000. In July the volume of exports rose by 5.5% and prices by 2%.

Domestic exports to the United States in July rose to \$197,801,000 from \$190,845,000 in the corresponding month last year, raising the January-July value to \$1,400,929,000 from \$1,311,384,000. Large increases in wood and paper products, non-metallic minerals and chemicals and a small rise in miscellaneous commodities offset declines in the other groups in July. Exports to the United Kingdom advanced to \$63,235,000 in July from \$55,246,000 a year ago and to \$447,721,000 in the January-July period from \$339,839,000. Increases in non-ferrous metals, agricultural and vegetable products, iron and products, and chemicals more than counterbalanced decreases in the other main groups in July.

MORE

Shipments to all other Commonwealth countries rose to \$17,582,000 in July from \$17,278,000 in the corresponding month last year and to \$126,947,000 in the seven months from \$110,217,000. July values were higher for India and New Zealand but lower for the Union of South Africa, Australia and Jamaica. July exports to Latin American countries as a group fell to \$15,480,000 from \$17,979,000 a year ago, and cumulative exports dropped to \$93,270,000 from \$112,339,000. The declines in both periods were more than accounted for by a sharp drop in exports to Brazil as exports to other Latin American countries as a group were higher.

General increases to a majority of major markets raised exports to European countries to \$38,013,000 in July from \$26,748,000 a year ago and to \$208,624,000 in the seven months from \$170,984,000. Main increases in July were to Belgium and Luxembourg, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Netherlands, and Norway. Exports to all other foreign countries fell to \$14,658,000 in July from \$15,049,000 and to \$90,564,000 in the seven-month period from \$112,238,000. Exports to Japan -- principal market of the group -- were up slightly in July but down in the seven months.

July values for the nine main commodity groups were as follows, last year's totals being bracketed: agricultural and vegetable products, \$66,600,000 (\$63,000,000); animals and animal products, \$20,100,000 (\$21,000,000); fibres, textiles and products, \$2,000,000 (\$2,300,000); wood, food products and paper, \$125,700,000 (\$119,100,000); iron and products, \$32,200,000 (\$29,000,000); non-ferrous metals and products, \$67,400,000 (\$61,200,000); non-metallic minerals and products, \$15,200,000 (\$11,600,000); chemicals and allied products, \$12,500,000 (\$10,300,000); and miscellaneous commodities, \$6,600,000 (\$6,400,000). (14)

The following table shows the values of leading commodity exports in July and the first seven months of 1955, together with comparative figures for 1954, ranked according to values for 1955's seven-month period.

	1954	July	1955	1954 January-July 1955
			(In thousands)	
Newsprint paper .....	\$53,766		\$56,529	\$359,196
Planks & Boards .....	32,592		32,844	165,327
Wheat .....	32,799		35,649	199,282
Wood pulp .....	20,766		22,169	153,803
Nickel .....	13,966		17,360	105,208
Aluminum & products .....	14,166		19,188	107,908
Copper & products .....	12,660		13,448	76,137
Fish & fishery products ..	10,868		10,046	70,744
Grains, other than wheat .	10,457		13,127	66,426
Farm machinery & im-				
plements .....	8,677		5,579	62,439
Asbestos & products .....	6,326		7,201	44,312
Wheat Flour .....	7,631		4,290	55,106
Zinc & products .....	7,402		5,298	32,378
Alcoholic beverages .....	3,899		4,438	29,305
				30,907



New Motor Vehicle Sales In July Sales of new motor vehicles in Canada during  
At Record Level For Month July continued the gains of the three previous  
 months this year by setting a new record for  
 the month of 47,434 units with a retail value of \$126,738,000. Only twice  
 before have sales reached the forty thousand mark in July: in 1950 at 43,914  
 and in 1953 at 42,801; and the retail sales value reached \$100,000,000 before  
 only in July 1953, when sales amounted to \$106,789,000.

The total number of vehicles sold in July was nearly 41% above last  
 year's July total of 33,726 units, while the retail value was up slightly more  
 than 47% from \$85,919,000. With the sharp July gain, January-July sales  
 increased 14.7% to 300,600 units from 262,025 last year, while the cumulative  
 retail value rose 18% to \$795,973,000 from \$674,666,000.

Passenger car sales climbed almost 43% in July to 40,000 units from  
 28,018 a year earlier and their retail value 45% to \$103,680,000 from \$71,-  
 471,000. In the seven months sales of passenger cars were up 19.2% to 255,-  
 040 from 214,009 and the value 20.8% to \$663,944,000 from \$549,801,000. Sales  
 of new commercial vehicles, which have been lagging behind 1954, also rose  
 by 30% in July to 7,434 from 5,708 units last year and their retail value  
 57% to \$22,698,000 from \$14,448,000. For the seven months, commercial  
 vehicle sales were down 5.1% in number to 45,560 from 48,016 units, but  
 their retail value was up 5.7% to \$132,029,000 from \$124,865,000.

Financing of sales of new passenger cars rose in July to 16,967 units  
 from 12,875 a year earlier and the financed value to \$33,299,000 from \$24,-  
 023,000, while commercial vehicles financed rose in number to 2,859 from  
 2,319 units and the financed value more sharply to \$7,096,000 from \$5,167,-  
 000. In the seven months this year, the total number of new vehicles  
 financed was 7.5% higher than last year at 107,663 units against 100,129  
 and the financed value 13.5% higher at \$213,865,000 against \$188,485,000.

Financing of used vehicles showed little change in July and the seven  
 months from last year. Total number financed in July was 41,532 units and  
 the financed value \$34,187,000, both only 0.4% above July last year. In  
 the seven months the number was 1.6% higher than last year at 243,881 units,  
 while the financed value was practically unchanged at \$201,718,000. (15)

Canadian motor vehicle factories shipped 48,067 units in July, sharply  
 above the preceding year's 26,128 units. January-July shipments increased  
 to 326,188 units from 269,475. Shipments of passenger cars increased to  
 38,645 units in July from 21,183 and to 269,471 in the seven months from  
 216,474. Commercial vehicle shipments rose to 9,422 units in July from  
 4,945 and to 56,717 units in the seven months from 53,001. (16)

Department Store Sales Department store sales rose 10.7% during the week  
Increased 10.7% In Week ending September 3 as compared with a year earlier.  
 Sales gain were posted in all provinces except  
 Saskatchewan where the drop was 3.8%. The rise in the Atlantic Provinces  
 was 15.7%, Quebec 14.3%, Ontario 11.7%, Manitoba 9.9%, Alberta 9%, and  
 British Columbia 8.8%.

Number of Patients In TB Hospitals  
Decreased For First Time Last Year

The first drop ever recorded in the number of patients in tuberculosis sanatoria and TB units of general hospitals in Canada occurred last year, patients numbering 15,220 on December 31 versus 16,051 at the end of 1953, a decrease of 5.2%, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. The rate per 100,000 population fell from 109 in 1953 to 100, the lowest level in seven years.

During the 1938-1954 period total tuberculous and non-tuberculous admissions to tuberculosis institutions increased 66.2%, and of these, first admissions increased 59.2% and readmissions 88.6%. These increases in the actual numbers of admissions are partly due to the 36.4% increase in the Canadian population over the same period. However, when these numbers are converted into rates, thereby eliminating the effect of population increase, the total rate for tuberculous and non-tuberculous admissions also rises significantly from 85.8 per 100,000 population in 1938 to 113.0 in the first post-war year of 1946 and then declines to the 1954 rate of 104.6, which is the lowest figure since 194 , but still 21.9% above the rate 16 years earlier.

The institutional morbidity figure for tuberculous patients reveals an appreciably different pattern. Although the combined rates based on tuberculous and non-tuberculous admissions show a post-war decrease, they have risen rather significantly when compared with the 1938 figure as described above. The rates for tuberculous admissions alone increased more moderately from 77.2 per 100,000 population in 1938 to 89.4 in 1954. This latter figure is the lowest rate recorded since 1944, and is the fifth consecutive annual decrease.

The slower decline in the total admission rate is due to the upward pressure exerted by non-tuberculous admissions, which rose from the lowest recorded rate of 6.8 per 100,000 population in 1942 to an all-time high of 15.2 in 1954. The 2,312 patients producing this latter rate represents a 117.7% increase over the 1939 figure, and nearly 14.5% of all admissions to tuberculosis institutions in 1954, the highest proportion of non-tuberculous patients ever admitted to tuberculosis institutions.

The period 1937-1954 witnessed a phenomenal decrease in the tuberculosis death rate, which in 1954 stood at 10.3 100,000 population versus 60.4 in 1937. In the past ten years alone, deaths from tuberculosis in the Canadian population have dropped 71.8% and a corresponding trend has taken place in the number of deaths occurring in institutions which have declined 62.4% during these years. Expressed as a rate per 1,000 patients under care at December 31, the deaths of tuberculous patients in institutions has declined radically from 227.5 in 1943 to 53.0 in 1954.

The post-war declines in the first admission and readmission rates for tuberculosis and in tuberculosis mortality have been matched by corresponding increases in tuberculosis control measures. The bed complement of tuberculosis institutions has increased from 85.2 per 100,000 population in 1938 to 116.5 in 1954. Since 1946 the actual number of beds set up has increased by 4,089 or 30.1%. The percentage occupancy of these beds has varied erratically during the past seventeen years, but the 1954 figure of 92.2 is the highest since 1941.

MORE



These beds are being occupied for longer periods by tuberculous patients who are finally discharged. Between 1944 and 1954 the average stay of these patients rose by slightly more than 50 days. An even more significant increase is evident in the average stay of tuberculous patients who die in tuberculosis institutions. Since 1944 their average stay has increased by 150 days. It should be noted that the lengthening stays of tuberculous discharges and deaths, which have risen 20.3% and 43.5% respectively since 1944, have been most pronounced since 1950. Since that year the average stay of tuberculous discharges has risen 16.4% and of tuberculous deaths 30.6%.

These increases in the average stay of discharges and deaths have followed the introduction of the antibiotics streptomycin, P.A.S., and isoniazid. The use of streptomycin was first reported in 1947 when only 0.01% of patients received this treatment, whereas in 1954 this figure stood at 80.7%. In 1949 when P.A.S. was first reported 0.1% of patients received it while in 1954 this percentage has risen to 74%. Isoniazid was first reported in 1952 when it was given to 4.5% of tuberculous patients; two years later this figure had risen to 49.7%.

The developments in the pattern of tuberculosis morbidity, its treatment, and the services and facilities provided, have required increasing numbers of personnel and increasing expenditures. The past seventeen years have seen a 190.5% increase in personnel in sanatoria and personnel per 100 patients have risen from 42.2 to 78.4. Expenditure in non-federal sanatoria increased 464.9% from \$5,700,000 in 1938 to \$32,200,000 in 1953, while the cost per patient day increased by 171.7% from \$2.30 to \$6.25.

Anti-tuberculosis activities outside institutions have made significant strides since 1944. In that period there has been a 353.2% increase in the number of examinations by X-ray surveys. In terms of examinations per 1,000 population, the rate rose from 44.7 in 1944 to 145.8 in 1951, declined to 130.7 in 1953, and rose again to 134.4 in 1954. This same decade has seen a 70.4% increase in the number of cases of tuberculosis newly diagnosed by clinics and dispensaries. (17)

## MINERALS

Copper And Nickel Output Up Production of both copper and nickel increased in June and the first six months of this year as compared with a year earlier. Copper production rose to 27,465 tons in June from 26,115 and to 156,699 tons in the half year period from 144,259. Nickel output advanced to 14,833 tons in June from 13,269 and to 88,502 tons in the six months from 78,000. (18)

Production Of Zinc Up, Lead And Silver Lower Canadian production of zinc was higher in the first half of this year than a year ago but there were declines in both lead and silver. Half-year production totals follow: zinc, 210,869 tons (172,510 a year ago); lead, 105,540 tons (110,162); and silver, 13,382,035 fine ounces (14,832,453). (19)

Production Of Leading Minerals      Production of 12 of Canada's 16 leading minerals moved up in May as compared with a year earlier. Listed among the larger increases were iron ore, crude petroleum, natural gas, cement, clay products, nickel and salt. Copper, gold, lead and silver declined.

May production totals were as follows: asbestos, 107,181 tons (79,709 a year ago); cement, 2,889,185 barrels (2,303,697); clay products, \$3,274,743 (\$2,658,478); coal, 1,028,419 tons (972,539); copper, 25,718 (27,927); gold, 383,369 fine ounces (383,630); gypsum, 385,899 tons (372,045); iron ore, 1,474,369 tons (552,589); lead, 16,808 tons (19,954); lime, 110,048 tons (107,402); natural gas, 10,093,592 (8,377,666); nickel, 11,352 tons (13,458); petroleum, 9,681,670 barrels (7,161,082); salt, 93,104 tons (77,569); silver, 2,214,447 fine ounces (2,509,619); and zinc, 37,367 tons (30,140). (20)

Output Of Crude Petroleum      Canadian production of crude petroleum continued  
Increased Again In May      to climb in May, the month's output rising to 9,681,670 barrels from last year's corresponding total of 7,161,082. This brought January-May production to 45,862,104 barrels from 34,362,408.

Natural gas production in May increased to 10,093,592,000 cubic feet from 8,377,666,000 in the same month last year, boosting the five-month total to 65,105,716,000 cubic feet from 57,113,655,000 a year earlier.

Sales of natural gas rose to 7,483,849,000 cubic feet in May from 6,966,985,000 a year ago and to 53,457,692,000 cubic feet in the five months from 46,603,714,000. Manufactured gas sales fell to 1,567,814,000 cubic feet in May from 2,209,946,000 and to 8,528,715,000 cubic feet in the five months from 12,048,028,000. (21)

## PRICES

Consumer Price Indexes      Between July 2 and August 1 consumer price indexes  
For Nine Regional Cities      for nine regional cities showed advances ranging from 0.1% in Montreal to 1.2% in St. John's. The index for Toronto declined 0.2% over the month.

Food indexes were higher in all cities except Toronto, the decrease of 0.7 of a point in that city contrasting with increases ranging from 0.2 of a point in Montreal to 2.6 points in Saskatoon-Regina. Prices were generally higher for most cuts of beef and lamb, eggs, and grapefruit. Lower prices prevailed for fresh vegetables, particularly tomatoes and potatoes, and margarine. The shelter index was slightly higher in three cities and unchanged in the other seven.

The few changes in clothing prices resulted in slightly lower indexes in three cities, six were unchanged and one was slightly higher. Changes in household operation indexes were small, the slight increases resulting from higher prices for household supplies. Increased hospital service rates in St. John's and higher transit fares in Winnipeg were reflected in higher other commodities and services indexes in those two cities.

MORE



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

	Total Indexes		Group Indexes - August 1, 1955				
	July 2, 1955	Aug. 1, 1955	Food	Shelter	Cloth- ing	Household Operation	Other Commodities & Services
St. John's *	104.5	105.8	105.2	108.6	109.7	102.7	110.0
Halifax	114.7	115.1	107.6	124.5	114.5	118.9	119.1
Saint John	117.3	117.8	112.7	125.6	116.1	116.5	124.0
Montreal	116.7	116.8	114.7	136.0	107.1	114.5	116.8
Ottawa	117.0	117.3	111.4	133.9	111.0	116.3	119.6
Toronto	118.7	118.5	110.5	147.0	109.9	114.4	118.6
Winnipeg	115.5	116.1	111.6	126.0	112.4	114.1	119.0
Saskatoon-Regina	114.3	115.1	112.7	118.1	114.6	116.9	114.2
Edmonton-Calgary	114.1	114.6	110.7	121.1	112.5	115.7	117.3
Vancouver	116.5	116.8	110.1	127.4	112.2	122.5	119.6

\* Index on the base June 1951 = 100.

Security Price Indexes (1935-39=100)

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>September 8</u>	<u>September 1</u>	<u>August 11</u>
Total Common Stocks .....	256.9	251.7	241.2
Industrials .....	266.2	260.0	247.8
Utilities .....	212.8	210.6	204.6
Banks .....	264.8	262.9	260.0
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total Mining Stocks .....	131.5	129.9	127.2
Golds .....	76.7	75.5	76.3
Base Metals .....	256.9	254.5	243.6

T H E P E O P L E

Population Gain 198,000  
in First Half This Year

Canada's population increased 198,000 in the first six months this year, from 15,439,000 at January 1 to 15,637,000 at July 1, according to a special mid-year estimate by the Bureau. The estimated increase in the half year is at a rate of 2.6% on an annual basis and compares with estimated increases of 201,000 and a rate of 2.7% for the first half of 1954, 203,000 and 2.7% for the July-December period last year and 214,000 and 2.9% for the second half of 1953. The population thus rose by 401,000 or at a rate of 2.6% from July 1, 1954, to July 1, this year as compared to 415,000 or at a rate of 2.8% from July 1, 1953, to July 1, last year. These compare again with an estimated increase of 354,000 or 2.4% from July 1, 1952, to July 1, 1953, and 418,000 or 3.0% from July 1, 1951, to July 1, 1952.

Industrial Employment And Payrolls Higher At July 1

Industrial employment and payrolls continued to expand at the beginning of July according to the Bureau's monthly survey. On the 1949 base as 100 the index of employment advanced 2.9% in the month to 114.9, while the payroll figure rose 3.1% to 163.6. The latter was a new all-time high. The employment index was 2.9% higher than at July 1 last year. Per capita weekly wages averaged \$60.87 versus \$60.76 a month earlier and \$58.98 a year ago.

The upward movement in industrial employment extended to all provinces. There were also generally distributed increases in employment over June 1 in each of the industrial divisions, those in manufacturing and construction being most outstanding.

Employment in manufacturing rose 1.9%, bringing the July 1 index to 111.4 versus 109.3 a month earlier. This was 2.4% above the figure recorded 12 months earlier but was 2.9% lower than at July 1, 1953. Staffs in this group of industries were larger than at June 1 in all provinces except Prince Edward Island.

Payroll disbursements in all areas in manufacturing also exceeded those reported at the beginning of June, the Canada index rising 1.5% to a new high 161.2. It was 6.3% above July 1 last year. Weekly wages and salaries in manufacturing plants averaged \$63.28, slightly below the \$63.54 figure for June 1 but substantially above last year's \$60.99. (22)

Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings In 1954

Average hourly earnings in manufacturing generally rose by 3.7% in 1954 as compared with 1953 and average weekly wages by 1.9% but the average work-week fell 1.7% to a new low, according to the Bureau's annual review of man-hours and hourly earnings. Although the gains in hourly earnings and weekly wages were the smallest in 8 years both reached new high positions.

Since 1945 the average work-week has fallen 8.4%, partly a result of lessened amounts of overtime as compared with the war years, and partly reflecting a reduction in standard hours in many industries. Short time in some establishments also contributed to the lower average.

Higher wage rates were mainly responsible for the rise in factory earnings generally in 1954. The changes in industrial distribution tended to have a depressing effect upon the averages, employment declining to a greater extent in plants producing durable goods than in those manufacturing non-durable goods, partly because of labour-management disputes in several important heavy industries.

For the manufacturing industries as a whole, annual average of hourly earnings of hourly-rated wage earners rose in 1954 to 140.8 cents from 135.8 in the preceding year, weekly wages to \$57.16 from \$56.09, while average hours per week declined to 40.6 from 41.3. In 1945, hourly earnings in manufacturing worked out at an average of 69.4 cents, weekly wages at \$30.74 and hours per week at 44.3. (23)



Value of Cheques Cashed Higher Value of cheques cashed in clearing centres of Canada rose to \$14,222,090,000 in July, 13% above last year's July total of \$12,541,611,000. This brought the January-July figure to \$93,266,232,000, 7% larger than last year's \$87,140,131,000.

Except for a small decline in the Atlantic Provinces in the 7-month period totals were larger than last year both in the month and cumulative period. In July 39 of the 52 centres recorded advances over July last year. In the January-July period there were advances in 34 centres and declines in 18.

The July total for Ontario was \$6,381,584,000 (\$5,629,879,000 a year ago); Quebec, \$4,211,312,000 (\$3,493,468,000); Prairie Provinces, \$2,167,323,000 (\$2,057,290,000); British Columbia, \$1,078,095,000 (\$992,634,000); and the Atlantic Provinces, \$383,777,000 (\$368,341,000). (24)

## TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents In May There were 9,257 motor vehicle accidents reported to the police in all parts of Canada, excluding Quebec, in May and the toll was 140 dead, 3,854 injured and \$2,936,154 worth of property damage, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports.

There were 126 accidents involving fatalities, 2,682 causing injuries and 6,449 occasioning property damage only. The amount of property damage (excluding Manitoba and Quebec) reportable to the police varies from \$25 to \$100 in different parts of the country. The following table provides a breakdown of the figures by provinces.

Province	Number Of Accidents				Persons Property		
	Fatal	Injury	Damage Only	Total	Killed	Injured	Damage
Nfld. ....	3	28	106	137	3	38	\$ 69,580
P.E.I. ....	-	13	40	53	-	13	22,515
N.S. ....	5	160	609	774	6	195	161,074
N.B. ....	10	115	164	289	11	146	150,949
Que. ....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ont. ....	75	1,508	2,820	4,403	86	2,214	1,520,199
Man. ....	6	196	601	803	6	281	..
Sask. ....	3	117	361	481	3	150	148,657
Alta. ....	13	187	775	975	13	293	316,812
B.C. ....	11	356	954	1,321	12	522	535,333
Yukon & N.W.T. ....	-	2	19	21	-	2	11,035
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>2,682</b>	<b>6,449</b>	<b>9,257</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>3,854</b>	<b>2,936,154</b>

.. Not Available

8% More New Housing Units Started  
And 14% More Completed In July

Construction was started on 15,358 new housing units in July, 8% more than in the corresponding month last year when starts numbered 14,191, according to advance figures released this week by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. At the same time the number of units completed was up 14% to 9,606 units from 8,383.

The July increase put seven-month starts at 73,355, up 21% from 60,589. January-July completions numbered 61,831, an increase of 24% over the 49,955 completed in the first seven months last year. Under construction at the end of July were 81,363 units, 16% more than the 69,874 uncompleted on the same date last year.

Larger numbers of new dwelling units were started this July in Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Manitoba, but smaller numbers in the other provinces. In the January-July period the same provinces and Nova Scotia had larger numbers of starts than in 1954.

The number of units completed was larger this July in all provinces except Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and Alberta. January-July completions were up in all provinces except Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba.

Starts in July were as follows by provinces: Newfoundland, 164 (235 a year ago); Prince Edward Island, nil (91); Nova Scotia, 198 (314); New Brunswick, 420 (900); Quebec, 4,579 (4,234); Ontario, 5,614 (4,368); Manitoba, 922 (833); Saskatchewan, 638 (709); Alberta, 1,204 (1,466); and British Columbia, 1,619 (1,041).

Completions in July were as follows: Newfoundland, 60 (127); Prince Edward Island, 8 (46); Nova Scotia, 209 (196); New Brunswick, 221 (174); Quebec, 2,994 (1,909); Ontario, 3,682 (3,369); Manitoba, 393 (469); Saskatchewan, 263 (253); Alberta, 698 (930); and British Columbia, 1,078 (910).

Uncompleted dwellings in July were as follows: Newfoundland, 3,027 (2,941); Prince Edward Island, 127 (112); Nova Scotia, 1,615 (1,557); New Brunswick, 1,866 (1,467); Quebec, 21,715 (17,681); Ontario, 29,714 (27,216); Manitoba, 3,526 (2,784); Saskatchewan, 2,608 (3,423); Alberta, 6,333 (6,248); and British Columbia, 10,832 (6,415).

---



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

- 1 - National Accounts, Income & Expenditure, Second Quarter, 1955, 25¢
  - 2 - M: Margarine Statistics, August, 10¢
  - 3 - M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, September 1, 10¢
  - 4 - Dairy Factory Production, August, 10¢
  - 5 - M: Grain Statistics Weekly, August 31, 10¢
  - 6 - R: Handbook of Agricultural Statistics, August 1955, 25¢ -- Reference Paper  
No. 25 (Part III)
  - 7 - Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, July, 25¢
  - 8 - Refined Petroleum Products, March, 25¢
  - 9 - M: Refinery & Marketing Inventories, Domestic Demand & Net Sales of Refined  
Petroleum Products, April, 10¢
  - 10- Steel Ingots & Pig Iron, August, 10¢
  - 11- Preliminary Report on the Production of Motor Vehicles, August, 10¢
  - 12- M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, August 31, 10¢
  - 13- M: Summary of Canal Statistics, June, 10¢
  - 14- Trade of Canada: Domestic Exports (Summary), July, 20¢
  - 15- New Motor Vehicle Sales & Motor Vehicle Financing, July, 25¢
  - 16- Motor Vehicle Shipments, July, 10¢
  - 17- Tuberculosis Statistics, 1954, 75¢
  - 18- M: Copper & Nickel Production, June, 10¢
  - 19- M: Silver, Lead & Zinc Production, June, 10¢
  - 20- Production of Canada's Leading Minerals, May, 10¢
  - 21- M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, May, 15¢
  - 22- Advance Statement of Employment & Weekly Payrolls, July 1, 10¢
  - 23- Review of Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings, 1945-1954, 25¢
  - 24- Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, July, 10¢
- M: Memorandum  
R: Reference Paper
- 

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

4502-503-95

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010729365