

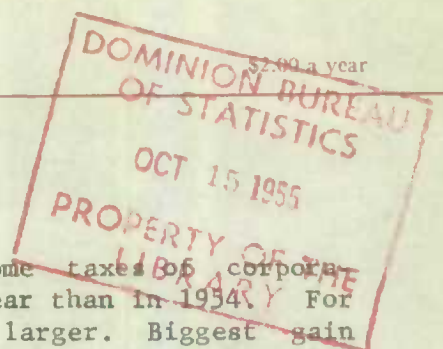
# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

**Corporation Profits:** Second quarter profits before income taxes of corporations in Canada were an estimated 22.6% larger this year than in 1954. For the half year, profits before income taxes were 15.6% larger. Biggest gain both periods was in mining, quarrying and oil wells. (Page 14)

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**Cheques Cashed:** Cheques cashed in 52 clearing centres in August were at a total 20% above that of August last year, and in the eight months ended August were 9% higher. There were increases in all five economic areas both in August and the eight months. (Page 13)

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**Merchandising:** Department store sales during August showed a 10.2% gain in dollar volume over August last year, bringing the cumulative gain for the eight months ending August to 6.5%. In the week ending October 1 department store sales were up 13.6% over the corresponding 1954 week. . . . Sales of new motor vehicles in August totalled 42,048 units, a record number for the month. (Pages 8 & 9)

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**Health Care:** Just over half of Canada's population receive health care of one kind or another during the course of a year. An estimated 432 out of every 1,000 see a doctor, 102 of every 1,000 spend some time in hospital, 37 undergo operations, 147 go to see a dentist, and 33 are examined for glasses. (Pages 5 to 7)

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**Vital Statistics:** Births registered in Canada last year were 4.4% larger than in 1953, reaching the record number of 435,142. The national birth-rate was the third highest on record at 28.7 per 1,000 population, being exceeded in 1947 and 1921 . . . . . The number of deaths in 1954 declined to 124,520 from the record high total of 127,381 in 1953, lowering the death rate to 8.2 per 1,000 population, the lowest on record. It was the eleventh consecutive annual decrease from the rate of 10.1 for 1943. Both the infant and maternal mortality rates were at new low points. (Pages 2 & 3)

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**Prices:** Nine of the ten regional consumer price indexes rose during August, the food component rising in eight, the shelter index slightly in six, household operation in four, other commodities and services in three, and the clothing index only in one. (Page 10)

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Births Reached Record A record 435,142 births were registered in Canada in  
High In 1954 1954, 18,317 or 4.4% higher than the previous record  
of 416,825 in 1953. This is the sixth consecutive  
annual increase from the 358,941 registered in 1948, or an average annual in-  
crease of 12,700 or 3.5% per year.

The national birth rate at 28.7 per 1,000 population was the third highest on record since national vital statistics have been compiled (1921); it has risen steadily for the fifth consecutive year from 27.1 in 1950 and was only slightly below the previous record rate of 28.9 in 1947 and 29.3 in 1921. In 1953 it was 28.2

The 1954 birth totals were also all-time records in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, which had record high totals in 1947. For Nova Scotia and New Brunswick 1954 births were, however, slightly higher than in 1953. For the second consecutive year more births were registered in Ontario than in Quebec which has traditionally had the greatest number.

Birth rates in Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia were their highest on record since 1921; Saskatchewan recorded its highest rate since 1922; Manitoba's rate was exceeded only in 1947, 1922 and 1921; since 1928, Quebec has had a higher rate than 1954 only in 1946 and 1947. Although the 1954 rates in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia were not as high as in the five or six years immediately following World War II, they nevertheless have been rising over the last three or four years. New Brunswick was the only province with a lower rate than in 1953.

Births in Ontario in 1954 numbered 136,261 (129,771 in 1953); Quebec, 133,178 (128,719); Alberta, 33,593 (31,376); British Columbia, 32,946 (31,746); Saskatchewan, 24,981 (23,703); Manitoba, 22,248 (21,242); Nova Scotia, 18,909 (18,276); New Brunswick, 16,649 (16,458); Newfoundland, 13,653 (12,797); and Prince Edward Island, 2,724 (2,737).

Newfoundland's 1954 birth rate at 34.3 was again the highest among the provinces, comparing with 33.4 in 1953. Alberta's was second highest at 32.3 (31.3 in 1953). New Brunswick and Quebec had identical rates of 30.4 in 1954 the former comparing with 30.7 and the latter with 30.2 in 1953. Saskatchewan's rate was next highest at 28.5 (27.5 in 1953), followed by Nova Scotia at 28.1 (27.6), Ontario 27.0 (26.5), Manitoba 26.9 (26.3), British Columbia 26.0 (25.8), and Prince Edward Island 25.9 (25.8). (1)

Death Rate Lowest Canada's death rate dropped to the lowest point on record  
On Record In 1954 in 1954. At 8.2 per 1,000 population, it compares with  
8.6 in the preceding year and represents the eleventh con-  
secutive annual decrease from the 1943 rate of 10.1, a decline of almost 20%  
in a little over a decade. The decline in 1954 resulted from a drop in deaths  
to 124,520 from the record high total of 127,381 in 1953.

There were declines in rates from 1953 in all provinces except Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island. Provincial rates varied from 7.2 in Saskatchewan and Alberta to 9.8 in British Columbia, which has the highest proportion of all provinces of aged persons in its population.



A little over 11% of all deaths were of infants under one year of age, an additional 9% were of persons between 1 and 40 years of age, 16% between 40 and 60, 44% between 60 and 80, and 20% over 80 years of age. Of deaths among men 38% were under 60 years of age as compared with 34% among women; only 17% of all male deaths were over 80, while among women of this age group the proportion was 24%. The female death rates at all ages have consistently been lower than those for males. The total female rate in 1954 was 7 per 1,000 females in the population, 26% lower than that for males at 9.4. Life expectancy for males has accordingly always been lower and stood at 66 1/3 in 1951 for males and almost 71 for females.

Deaths from several of the more frequent causes were (1953 figures in brackets): arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease -- generally associated with advanced age -- accounted for 33,810 deaths (33,274); cancer, 19,694 (19,120); vascular lesions affecting the central nervous system (such as cerebral haemorrhages, embolism, thrombosis and "strokes"), 13,732 (14,107); accidents of all kinds, 8,380 (8,642) diseases associated with early infancy, 7,120 (7,485); influenza, bronchitis and pneumonia (except of the newborn), 5,460 (6,322).

Diseases of the heart (causes with involvement of the heart) accounted for a total of 41,297 deaths -- about the same as in the previous year -- or exactly one-third of all deaths; cancer, 16%; and vascular lesions an additional 11%. These major causes in addition to accidents, accounted for over two-thirds of all deaths in 1954.

From the point of view of mortality the year 1954 was eventful in several respects; deaths from tuberculosis dropped to 1,562 from 1,810 in 1953 and were about half the total 3 years ago; the number of persons dying from all the infective diseases, including tuberculosis, amounted to 2,700, only one-quarter the number who died from these diseases a decade ago; 518 persons died from influenza during the year, as compared with double that number in 1953; there was also a drop in motor vehicle highway accident fatalities, from 3,053 to 2,781; deaths from polio dropped from 481 in the 1953 epidemic year to 157; on the whole, with the exception of cancer, arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease and a few of the less frequent causes of death, there were declines from 1953 in deaths from all recorded causes.

Despite an increase over 1953 of more than 18,000 live births, 923 fewer infants died in their first year of life than in the preceding year -- 13,841 compared with 14,764, thus establishing a record low rate of 32 per 1,000 live born infants. The national rate has been gradually reduced from 100 in 1923 but the most notable gains have been made during the last 10 to 15 years during which the rate has been cut in half.

Mortality in the first year of life has been reduced since 1921 by well over two-thirds. Of the almost 9 3/4 million children born alive since 1921, over 625,000 died before reaching their first birthday, or an average annual loss of 64 babies out of every 1,000 born alive. The tremendous reduction in infant mortality over the 33 years has meant a saving of 365,000 lives. If the 1921 risk of mortality were applied to the children born during 1954, 44,370 children would have died instead of 13,841 who actually died in that year.

Only 312 mothers died as a result of delivering the 435,142 infants born in 1954. The maternal mortality rate dropped to a new low record of 0.7 per 1000 live births. Most of the reduction in the risk of mortality from pregnancy and childbirth has occurred since the 1930's and is now only one-eighth of the 1936 rate. Had the 1936 rate been in effect in 1954 almost 2,450 mothers would have died. (1)

Fewer Marriages In 1954 Fewer marriages were registered in Canada in 1954 than in the preceding year, DBS reports. This was the first decline since 1949. The year's total was 128,385 as compared with 130,837 in 1953. The marriage rate dropped to 8.5 per 1,000 population from 8.9 in 1953. The post-war peak rate was 10.9 in 1946. Provincial rates varied from 5.8 in Prince Edward Island to 9.6 in Alberta. Alberta, Ontario and British Columbia had the highest rates in the order. (1)

Mental Hospital Admissions And Discharges Up In 1954 Admissions and discharges from Canada's mental hospitals and psychiatric wards during 1954, and their patient population at the year's end, were all at new high levels, according to the Bureau's annual report on mental health statistics covering 1954 released today. With the increases over the previous year, there was a related rise in number of reporting institutions and total accommodation for patients.

Total admissions - first admissions and readmissions - to 77 mental hospitals and 19 psychiatric wards in 1954 numbered 29,351, making an admission rate of 193.5 per 100,000 population. This compares with 23,131 admissions and a rate of 156.8 the previous year when the number of institutions reporting was 78. Last year's increase of 6,220 was the largest in any of the years since 1932 covered by the Bureau's series of annual reports and may be attributed in part to the enlarged facilities for the care of the mentally ill.

Both first admissions and readmissions rose in 1954 over 1953. First admissions increased sharply to 20,627 and a rate of 136.0 per 100,000 population from 15,925 and a rate of 107.9, while readmissions rose to 8,724 and a rate of 57.5 from 7,206 and a rate of 48.8 the previous year. Data for the 15,790 first admissions to institutions supplying detailed statistics show the largest number in the age group 30-39 with 3,260, followed by the 20-29 age group with 2,895, a continuation of the order in 1953. They show also that males outnumbered females by 8,647 to 7,143. Detailed data for 7,433 readmissions show the largest number in the 30-39 age group at 1,846, followed closely by the 40-49 group with 1,776, then the 50-59 and 20-29 groups, and that the number of males was greater than that of females.

Percentage-wise, discharges climbed more sharply than admissions in 1954 but the numerical increase was somewhat smaller. The number rose just over 33% to 23,509 from 17,658 in 1953, the rate per 100 patients on the books of institutions moving up to 34.5 from 26.8. While admissions and discharges rose, the death rate reached its lowest point in 23 years of record, dropping to 53.7 per 1,000 patients from 58.7 the previous year.



Total number of patients on the books of institutions at the end of 1954 rose to 68,157 from 65,836 a year earlier, continuing an uninterrupted yearly increase over the period from 1932. Of this total, 62,323 were in the institutions as compared to 60,574 at the end of 1953. In relation to Canada's population, this represented a small increase to 410.9 per 100,000 from 410.5, but brought the rate to the highest point yet recorded and made the fifth consecutive increase from the postwar low of 392.3 for 1949.

Bed capacity in mental hospitals and psychiatric wards increased last year to 54,346 from 51,328; all provinces except Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan had increases, the largest being in Ontario from 15,413 to 17,008 beds. Full-time personnel increased to 18,561 from 17,499, or to 31.2 from 28.9 per 100 patients, making the highest ratio yet reached.(2)

Just Over Half Of All Canadians Receive Health Care During Year Just over half of the population -- an estimated 53.1% -- receive health care of one kind or another during the course of a year, according to the latest report on the first nationwide study of illness among Canadians. As might be expected, the nation doctors (there were 14,325 physicians and surgeons in Canada at the time of the last census) handle the largest volume, seeing an estimated 432 out of every 1000 Canadians annually.

The survey findings also indicate that 102 out of every 1,000 Canadians spend some time in hospital during the year, that 37 out of every 1,000 undergo operations, and that 11 out of every 1,000 receive home nursing care. An estimated 147 out of every 1,000 go to see their dentist during the year, and 33 out of every 1,000 are examined for glasses. Some 16 out of every 1,000 receive "miscellaneous health care", which includes services performed by persons with formal qualifications as chiropodists, chiropractors, herbalists, homeopaths, naturopaths, osteopaths and physiotherapists as well as by other practitioners such as faith healers and "bone doctors".

These and other estimates of the annual volume of health care received by Canadians were published today in the eighth report on the Canadian Sickness Survey, which was conducted during a 12-month period in 1950-51 by the Department of National Health & Welfare and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with provincial health departments. The first four reports dealt with family expenditures for health services, the fifth with volume of sickness, the sixth with permanent physical disabilities, and the seventh with the incidence and prevalence of illness.

Some of the highlights of the latest report:

More women than men receive health care during a year: an estimated 57.7% of all females in Canada versus 48.6% of all the males, the proportion being appreciably higher for women than for men in each category of health care.

Persons aged 15 to 24 receive less care than those in other age groups, only 49.1% of these reporting health care during the survey year versus 52.3% of those under 15, an appreciably higher 56.3% of those aged 24 to 44 years, 52.3% of those in the 45-64 age group and 54.1% of those 65 and over.

Canadians call their doctors to their homes or visit their doctors or clinics an estimated 24,180,000 times during a year, doctors' office calls accounting for 63.3% of this total, doctors' home calls for 28.7% and clinic visits for 8%.

Doctors' calls and clinic visits average 1,786 per 1000 population, the female average of 2,124 per 1000 being well above the male average of 1,452 per 1000. Related only to those actually receiving physicians' care, calls and visits average 4,132 per 1000 persons, the average increasing steadily with age from 2,848 per 1000 in the under 15 group to 5,541 per 1000 in the 65 and over group. Except for those under 15, the count for each female age group is higher than that for the corresponding male age group.

An estimated 15.1% of all Canadians see their doctor or visit a clinic only once during the year, 8.1% do so twice, and successively smaller proportions do so more often. Some 56.8% of the populace do not see their doctor or visit a clinic during the year.

Canadians average 122 hospital stays per 1000 population in a year, the average for women (145 per 1000) far surpassing the average for men (100 per 1000). By age groups, the lowest averages are for males of 15 to 24 (55 per 1000) and males of 25 to 44 (66 per 1000) and the highest for females of 25 to 44 -- the main child-bearing ages -- (185 per 1000) and females of 15 to 24 (142 per 1000).

The average number of days spent in hospital in a year increases with age from 1,099 per 1000 population under 15 (excluding newborn the figure is only 644 per 1000) to 3,737 per 1000 population 65 and over. Females average 1,849 days per 1000 versus 1,609 per 1000 for males. Related only to those actually hospitalized, the average number of days is 16,916 per 1000 or about 17 days per person. Many more females than males are hospitalized, but the average number of days per 1000 males hospitalized (19,541) is substantially more than the average per 1000 females (15,123).

About 510,000 Canadians or one in every 27 undergo operations during a year. These include 4% of the women and 3.5% of the men. By age group, the highest proportion undergoing operations is among those under 15 (4.3%) and the lowest among those 15 to 24 (2.9%).

Operations number about 540,000 a year or 40 per 1000 population and 1,055 per 1000 undergoing operations. Females average 43 per 1000 population and males 37 per 1000. By age groups, the largest averages are for women of 25 to 44 (48 per 1000), women of 45 to 64 (47 per 1000) and boys under 15 (47 per 1000), which are in sharp contrast to the average of only 29 operations per 1000 Canadians of 15 to 24 years old.

Some 150,000 Canadians receive home nursing care during a year, and of these 110,000 are females, most of them in the 25-44 child-bearing age group. About 110,000 receive graduate nursing care, which averages 9 visits per person, and the other 40,000 non-graduate nursing care, which averages about 21 days per person receiving care.

An estimated 2,000,000 Canadians or one in every seven receive dental care during the course of a year, not counting treatments given at school clinics. Included are 16.5% of the females and 13% of the males. The 15-24 year age group has the highest proportion receiving dental care (20.9%), the proportion being successively lower for older age groups and only 4% for those 65 and over.



About 450,000 (4% of the females, 2.6% of the males) or one in every 30 Canadians are examined for glasses (other than by physicians). The proportion examined is highest in the 45-64 year age group (5.4%) and lowest in the under 15 group (2%).

Examinations for glasses number 540,000 -- 40 per 1000 population or 1,188 per 1000 persons examined. Multiple examinations are most frequent in the 15-24 year age group (1,268 per 1000 persons examined) and the under 15 group (1,244 per 1000).

An estimated 130,000 Canadians receive about 960,000 chiropractic treatments (seven to eight treatments per person) yearly, and another 90,000 receive about 860,000 other miscellaneous health treatments (about 10 treatments per person). Women take more chiropractic treatments (84 per 1000 population) than men (58 per 1000), but men take more other miscellaneous health treatments (68 per 1000) than women (60 per 1000). (3)

## MINING

Production Of Nickel And Zinc Up In August Canadian production of nickel and zinc was larger in August than in the corresponding month last year but the month's output of copper, lead and silver was smaller. In the January-August period production of copper, nickel and zinc was larger but output of lead and silver was smaller.

August production totals were; copper 26,481 tons (26,591 a year ago); nickel, 14,530 tons (12,901); lead, 16,668 tons (18,583); zinc, 33,468 tons (32,361); and silver, 2,376,505 fine ounces (2,717,859).

January-August totals were: copper, 183,180 tons (170,858); nickel, 103,032 tons (90,901); lead, 122,208 tons (128,770); zinc, 244,337 tons (206,240); and silver, 15,758,540 fine ounces (17,822,812). (4 & 5)

Shipments Of Salt Lower Shipments of dry common salt by Canadian producers in July dropped to 36,703 tons from 49,439 in the preceding month and 41,730 in the corresponding month last year. In the January-August period shipments rose to 292,711 tons from 272,240 a year earlier. Producers' stocks at the end of July were down to 19,263 from 22,848. (6)

Production of Peat Moss Producers of peat moss shipped 99,272 tons valued at \$3,018,622 in 1954 as compared with 81,654 tons valued at \$2,643,019 in the preceding year. Shipments of peat fuel amounted to 6 tons valued at \$60 in 1954. Exports of peat moss, Irish moss, etc., amounted to 87,333 tons valued at \$4,499,952 compared with 73,509 tons valued at \$3,289,755 in 1953. There were 40 bogs or plants operated in 1954, four more than in the preceding year. (7)

Sales of Chain Stores Sharply Higher in August With increases in 10 of 11 trades, chain store sales in August rose 9.2% to an aggregate of \$175,966,000 as compared to \$161,150,000 in August last year, DBS reports. The August gain raised this year's cumulative total 5.5% to \$1,419,111,000 from \$1,345,737,000 for the first eight months of 1954. August 1 stocks, at cost, were 2.6% higher in value than a year earlier at \$252,737,000 against \$246,314,000.

Grocery and combination chain stores accounted for nearly half of the aggregate gain in August with a rise of 10.8% to \$72,677,000 from \$65,570,000 last year. In the eight months ending August grocery and combination store sales were up 9.5% to \$615,412,000 against \$562,079,000. Percentagewise, furniture, radio and appliance stores had the biggest increase in August with a rise of 24.2% to \$8,040,000 from \$6,473,000 and were followed by jewellery stores with a gain of 20.1% to \$2,932,000 from \$2,442,000. Other gains ranged down from 13.1% for men's clothing to 1.4% for lumber and building materials. Family clothing stores were the single exception to the upward trend with a decrease of 1.2%.

August dollar sales for trades not already given were: variety, \$14,893,000 (\$13,861,000 last year); men's clothing, \$1,104,000 (\$974,000); family clothing, \$2,621,000 (\$2,653,000); women's clothing, \$3,486,000 (\$3,182,000); shoe, \$3,043,000 (\$2,859,000); hardware, \$1,194,000 (\$1,099,000); lumber and building materials, \$10,475,000 (\$10,327,000); drug, \$2,750,000 (\$2,633,000). (8)

August Motor Vehicle Sales Set Another Record for Month Sales of new motor vehicles in Canada during August totalled 42,048 units, up 53% from 27,480 in August last year and a new record number for the month of August. Retail value of the month's sales rose just over 59% to \$111,249,000 from \$69,868,000 last year.

During the eight months ended August the number of new vehicles sold rose to 342,648 units from 289,505 in the same 1954 period, while their retail value increased to \$907,222,000 from \$744,534,000.

Passenger car sales in August climbed 55% to 33,453 units from 21,568 a year earlier, and the retail value 57.5% to \$86,673,000 from \$55,040,000. Sales in the eight months were up to 288,493 from 235,577 units. Sales of new commercial vehicles in the month rose over 45% to 8,595 from 5,912 units, overcoming the lag of earlier months to bring the total for the eight months above last year at 54,155 against 53,928 units. Retail value of commercial vehicle sales was nearly 66% higher in August than last year at \$24,576,000 compared to \$14,828,000.

Financing of sales of new motor vehicles in August was up slightly in number of vehicles and amount of financing from the previous month and sharply higher than in August last year. The number of new passenger cars financed increased 53.8% to 16,567 from 10,772 last year and the amount of financing 61.6% to \$32,745,000 from \$20,257,000. Commercial vehicles financed rose nearly 47% in number to 3,266 from 2,265 and the financed value 68% to \$8,346,000 from \$4,964,000.

Financing of used vehicles, which was about the same level as in 1954 in the first seven months, rose 15% in August to 41,520 from 36,094 and 15.5% in financed value to \$34,173,000 from \$29,599,000. Most of the increase was in passenger cars. (9)



Department Store Sales Up 10.2%  
In August And 6.5% In 8 Months

Department store sales for August were valued at an estimated \$81,201,000, 10.2% above the preceding year's corresponding total of \$73,695,000. Cumulative sales for the January-August period were valued at \$643,235,000, 6.5% larger than a year earlier. End-of-July stocks were valued at \$251,389,000, little changed from last year's \$249,891,000.

All regions registered increases in sales in August as compared with a year ago. The Atlantic Provinces with an increase of 14.1% had the largest gain. The increases in the other provinces ranged from 13.4% in Ontario to 0.7% in Saskatchewan.

Departments having large increases were: jewellery (36.4%); major appliances (36%); photographic equipment and supplies (25.9%); radio and music (20%); aprons, housedresses and uniforms (17.7%); and hardware and housewares (14.4%). (10)

Department Store Sales  
Rose 13.6% In Week

Department store sales across Canada rose 13.6% in the week ending October 1 as compared to the corresponding week last year. All regions showed increases with the largest gains in the Prairie Provinces. Sales were up 32.6% in Alberta, 23.0% in Saskatchewan and 16.7% in Manitoba. Next in rate of increase were: Atlantic Provinces 14.5%; Ontario, 12.1%; British Columbia, 11.6%; and Quebec, 3.0%.

## E M P L O Y M E N T

Industrial Employment, Payrolls  
Again Advanced During July

Industrial employment rose moderately during July, while payrolls showed a somewhat larger gain, according to advance figures on the Bureau's monthly survey.

The general index of employment (on the base 1949 equals 100) rose 0.6% to 116.0 at August 1 from 115.3 at July 1, putting it 3.3% above the figure of 112.3 at August 1 last year. The latest figure is a new maximum for August 1. The general payroll index rose 1.0% to 165.8 from 164.1 at July 1, bringing it to a new high and 6.7% above last year's August 1 level of 155.4. Per capita weekly wages and salaries also moved up to \$61.09 from \$60.87 a month earlier and \$59.17 last year.

There were gains in employment between the first of July and the first of August in all provinces except Nova Scotia and Ontario, the increases ranging from 0.5% in Quebec to 3.3% in Alberta and 3.7% in Newfoundland. The index for Nova Scotia showed no change while for Ontario there was a minor decline resulting from a slackening in manufacturing. Factory employment showed little change, the index falling slightly to 111.5 from 111.6. In forestry and trade there was a seasonally downward trend. The most noteworthy advance was in construction, the remaining non-manufacturing industries showing a moderate upward movement.

Payroll disbursements were larger in the August 1 week than a month earlier in all provinces except Ontario. Average weekly earnings, however, were slightly lower in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Ontario, and per capita weekly earnings in manufacturing were off for all Canada to \$63.20 from \$63.29 but up from \$61.07 a year earlier. (11)

Consumer Price Indexes      Nine of the ten regional consumer price indexes moved  
For Nine Regional Cities      higher between August 1 and September 1, while the  
    index for St. John's declined 0.7%; the increases  
 ranged from 0.1% in Halifax to 1.1% in Vancouver.

The food component increased in eight of the nine cities in which total indexes were up, and was unchanged in one. Changes ranged from 0.6 of a point in both Montreal and Ottawa to 3.4 points in Vancouver. The food index declined 2.4 points in St. John's. Higher prices were reported in most cities for coffee, eggs and most cuts of beef and pork, while most fresh and canned fruits and vegetables recorded lower prices.

The shelter index was up slightly in six cities, unchanged in four. Few changes in clothing prices occurred between August 1 and September 1, with the result that clothing indexes were unchanged in seven cities, slightly lower in two and up slightly in one city.

Higher coal and wood fuel prices in Vancouver were mainly responsible for the upward movement of the household operation index in that city. Indexes were up slightly in three other cities and unchanged in six. There were minor increases in household supply prices.

The other commodities and services indexes registered mixed changes with three increases, three decreases and four indexes unchanged. Automobile transportation indexes were down in six of ten cities as decreases in automobile prices more than offset increases in tire prices and body repair charges.

Total indexes for September and August, and September 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 September 1955 (base 1949=100)

	Total Indexes		Group Indexes - September 1, 1955				
	Aug. 1, 1955	Sept. 1, 1955	Food	Shelter	Cloth- ing	Household Operation	Other Commodities & Services
St. John's*	105.8	105.1	102.8	109.7	100.6	102.7	110.1
Halifax	115.1	115.2	107.6	124.6	114.5	118.9	119.1
Saint John	117.8	118.1	113.7	125.6	116.1	116.5	124.0
Montreal	116.8	117.1	115.3	136.0	107.1	114.6	116.8
Ottawa	117.3	117.5	112.0	134.0	111.0	116.3	119.5
Toronto	118.5	119.2	112.8	147.7	109.9	114.4	118.3
Winnipeg	116.1	116.5	112.7	126.3	112.4	114.2	119.1
Saskatoon-Regina	115.1	115.4	113.6	118.1	114.4	116.9	114.3
Edmonton-Calgary	114.6	115.2	112.5	121.1	112.5	115.8	117.1
Vancouver	116.8	118.1	113.5	127.6	112.3	123.7	119.6

\*Index on the base June 1951 = 100



Weekly Security Price Indexes

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>October 6</u>	<u>September 29</u> 1935-39=100	<u>September 8</u>
Total Common Stocks.....	244.4	252.8	256.9
Industrials.....	254.0	263.3	266.2
Utilities.....	204.1	208.5	212.8
Banks.....	241.2	249.8	264.8

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks.....	120.0	124.7	131.5
Golds.....	72.9	73.2	76.7
Base Metals.....	227.8	242.7	256.9

M A N U F A C T U R I N GProduction Of Pig Iron And Steel Ingots Up Sharply Again In September

Canadian production of pig iron and steel ingots rose sharply again in September as compared with a year earlier, DBS reports.

The month's output of pig iron amounted to 276,533 tons versus 156,373, bringing the January-September total to 2,353,772 tons versus 1,635,428. Production of steel ingots amounted to 367,347 tons in September versus 241,553 and to 3,211,347 tons in the nine months versus 2,287,962. (12)

Production Of Iron Castings Up

Production of iron castings of all kinds was sharply higher in July and the first seven

months of this year than last. The month's output amounted to 28,000 tons versus 22,400, bringing the cumulative total to 501,098 tons versus 430,348.

Consumption of pig iron rose to 21,800 tons in July from 15,000 a year ago and to 174,300 tons in the seven months from 152,100. Consumption of scrap iron and steel increased to 48,100 tons from 36,200, and to 433,000 tons in the seven months from 369,400. (13)

More Radios, TV Sets Sold In First Half

Canadian manufacturers sold more radios and more television sets in the first six months this year than in the first half of 1954, DBS reports. June sales of radios in-

creased to 50,404 this year from 40,020 last year, bringing the half-year total to 261,837 versus 226,014. Sales of TV sets increased to 26,928 from 22,447 in June last year and to 243,468 from 180,562 in the first half. Radio and television receiving tubes shipped numbered 1,126,300 in June versus 803,492 a year earlier, bringing the half-year total to 7,569,272 versus 5,049,084. (14)

Battery Sales Higher In Value In August

Sales of electric storage batteries and parts by principal producers were valued at \$2,396,688 in August as compared with \$1,847,610 in the corresponding month last year,

bringing January-August sales to \$15,758,467 versus \$14,171,622. A large part of the increase both in the month and cumulative period occurred in batteries for starting or ignition of internal combustion engines. (15)

Shipments of Primary Steel Shapes Up in June, Half-Year Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, rose to 336,718 net tons in June from 230,240 in the corresponding month last year and to 1,694,924 tons in the half-year period from 1,337,403. Producers interchanged 147,313 tons in June versus 132,720, and 806,381 tons in the six months versus 635,223. (16)

Production Of Mineral Wool Production of mineral wool in August comprised 23,026,289 square feet of batts (23,245,907 a year ago), and 1,120,562 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool (964,525). In the January-August period production comprised 133,569,588 square feet of batts (115,281,598 last year), and 7,151,210 cubic feet of bulk or loose wool (5,278,314). (17)

Miscellaneous Paper Goods Industry Value of factory shipments of the miscellaneous paper goods industry reached another new high of \$147,270,934 in 1953, an increase of 6.5% over the \$138,296,515 in 1952, and the value added by manufacture rose to \$63,773,278 from \$61,926,359. The amount distributed in salaries and wages (\$27,809,907) was 6.3% greater than in the preceding year, while cost of materials used (\$82,195,084) was 9.3% higher.

Among the most important products of the industry were: waxed paper valued at \$15,595,443; packaged toilet paper at \$11,840,196; envelopes at \$10,499,127; paper and cellophane bags at \$7,794,505; gummed sealing tape at \$3,331,309; paper towels at \$3,007,025; paper napkins at \$2,893,853; scribblers, note books and exercise books at \$2,753,133; and printed wrappers at \$2,217,149. (18)

Canada's Brewing Industry Factory selling value of the production of Canada's brewing industry in 1954 amounted to \$321,467,470, down slightly from the preceding year's all-time peak value of \$327,981,578, according to the annual report on the industry by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Taxes and duties paid to the Federal and provincial governments totalled \$123,077,301 as against \$127,095,922 in 1953, leaving a net value of production of \$198,390,169 versus \$200,885,656.

Beer, ale stout and porter were the main items of production with a total of 200,459,309 gallons valued at \$317,725,745 compared with 206,908,214 gallons valued at \$324,203,939 in 1953. Other products manufactured were: aerated beverages, \$1,519,192 (\$1,709,094 in 1953); wet and dried grains, \$1,367,738 (\$1,297,166); and yeast, \$157,874 (\$150,497).

Canada's 62 breweries (1 more than in 1953) employed 8,541 persons in 1954 and paid them \$33,422,844 in salaries and wages versus 8,383 persons paid \$31,737,897 in the preceding year. Materials cost the industry \$47,590,063 versus \$51,482,008. (19)



Travel Between Canada And The United States Heavier In August

Highway traffic crossing the border between Canada and the United States was 12% heavier in August than in the corresponding month last year when border crossings totalled 2,212,500 versus 1,977,400. The number of foreign vehicles increased 7% to 1,345,511 from 1,258,463 and returning Canadian vehicles increased more than 20% to 867,020 from 718,938.

Traffic between Canada and the United States by rail, through bus, boat and plane was between 4 and 5% heavier in July than in the corresponding month of 1954. The number of Canadians re-entering Canada by these means of transportation was between 2 and 3%. (20)

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

Railway Freight Traffic Up

A total of 15,646,114 tons of freight moved on Canadian railways in June, an increase of 25.5% from last year's corresponding tonnage of 12,471,357. Freight loaded in Canada rose to 12,566,205 tons from 9,643,097, receipts from foreign connections destined to Canadian points to 1,647,804 tons from 1,509,744, and intransit freight to 1,432,105 tons from 1,318,516. (21)

11.2% More Freight Shipped Through Canals This July

During July 4,455,977 tons of freight were cleared through Canada's ten canals, 450,404 tons or 11.2% more than in July last year. Increased traffic was reported for the St. Lawrence, Welland, St. Peter's and St. Andrews canals, and decreased traffic for the Canadian lock at Sault Ste. Marie and four of the smaller canals.

Among commodities the main increases this July were in iron ore and fuel oil. The number of vessels travelling through the ten canals rose to 4,043 from 3,986 and the registered net tonnage advanced to 4,174,917 tons from 3,931,722. Passengers transported increased to 70,858 from 40,846 last year, and the number of pleasure craft to 23,936 from 20,285. (22)

## B U S I N E S S

Cheques Cashed In Clearing Centres Rose 20% In August

Cheques cashed in 52 clearing centres in August stood at \$13,935,000,000, more than 20% above the preceding year's corresponding total of \$11,568,000,000. For the January-August period the total was up nearly 9% to \$107,201,484,000 from \$98,708,146,000. Increases were recorded both in August and the eight months in all five economic areas.

August totals were as follows by areas: Atlantic Provinces, \$381,295,000 (\$350,760,000 a year ago); Quebec, \$4,089,281,000 (\$3,428,294,000); Ontario, \$6,057,838,000 (\$4,984,312,000); Prairie Provinces, \$2,242,826,000 (\$1,885,913,000); and British Columbia, \$1,164,012,000 (\$918,736,000).

January-August totals: Atlantic Provinces, \$2,903,966,000 (\$2,893,031,000); Quebec, \$31,576,347,000 (\$28,473,541,000); Ontario, \$48,355,840,000 (\$44,090,094,000); Prairie Provinces, \$16,167,224,000 (\$15,483,096,000); and British Columbia, \$8,198,107,000 (\$7,768,385,000). (23)

<u>Corporation</u>	<u>Profits</u>	Profits before income taxes of corporations in Canada
<u>Rose in Second Quarter</u>		in the second quarter this year amounted to an estimated \$814,000,000, up \$150,000,000 or 22.6% over the revised estimate of \$664,000,000 for the second quarter last year, the Bureau reports on the basis of its quarterly survey.

The second-quarter gain followed an increase to an estimated \$570,000,000 in the first three months from a revised \$533,000,000 a year earlier, bringing profits before taxes for the six months ending June to \$1,384,000,000, up \$187,000,000 or 15.6% above the 1954 half-year total of \$1,197,000,000.

The Bureau estimates income tax liabilities for the second quarter this year at \$380,000,000 or 46.7% of profits as compared to \$323,000,000 or 48.6% last year. For the January-June period they are estimated at \$640,000,000 against \$585,000,000, an increase of 9.4%.

After allowance for taxes, corporation profits for the second quarter this year rose an estimated \$93,000,000 or 27.3% to \$434,000,000 from \$341,000,000 in the 1954 period, and in the first half of the year were up \$132,000,000 to \$744,000,000 from \$612,000,000.

Estimated profits before taxes in the manufacturing sector increased 21.3% in the second quarter to \$416,000,000 from \$343,000,000 last year. This reversed a decline in the first quarter to an estimated \$283,000,000 from \$293,000,000, making a half-year rise of \$63,000,000 to \$699,000,000 from \$636,000,000. All manufacturing groups showed gains in the second quarter, except electrical apparatus and supplies and products of petroleum and coal, both of which were unchanged. The largest increase was in the iron and steel group, estimated profits of which rose to \$113,000,000 from \$86,000,000 a year earlier. Wood and paper products advanced to \$104,000,000 from \$86,000,000, non-metallic mineral products to \$31,000,000 from \$22,000,000, chemical products to \$27,000,000 from \$21,000,000, foods and beverages to \$49,000,000 from \$46,000,000, non-ferrous metal products to \$17,000,000 from \$16,000,000, textiles products to \$11,000,000 from \$7,000,000, and other manufacturing industries to \$24,000,000 from \$19,000,000.

The largest increase in any group in the second quarter - as in the first quarter - was in mining quarrying and oil wells with a rise to \$93,000,000 from \$62,000,000. Profits before taxes in transportation, storage and communication advanced to \$62,000,000 from \$45,000,000, in finance, insurance and real estate to \$85,000,000 from \$75,000,000, in wholesale trade to \$57,000,000 from \$48,000,000, in retail trade to \$51,000,000 from \$42,000,000, and in public utility operation to \$16,000,000 from \$15,000,000. Only decline was in the service group to \$11,000,000 from \$12,000,000. (24)

## AGRICULTURE

<u>Farm Prices Of Agricultural Products</u>	Canada's index number of farm prices of agricultural products for August stood at 225.9, about 3.1 points below the revised figure of 229.0 for July. Payments to western producers at time of delivery for oats and barley were reduced by 7¢ and 10¢, respectively, at the first of August. This together with lower prices for live stock and potatoes more than offset higher prices for dairy products and poultry and eggs. (25)
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Smaller Pack Of Raspberries The commercial pack of canned raspberries was smaller this year than last, according to a special compilation. The pack amounted to 240,511 dozen containers versus 356,223 and the net weight of contents was 2,889,668 pounds versus 4,601,138. Raspberries processed other than by canning rose to 9,373,029 pounds from 7,735,811 a year earlier.

Estimates Of Fruit Crops Except for strawberries, raspberries and grapes, fruit crops are larger this year than last, according to the Bureau's third estimate of production. The apple crop is now placed at 18,585,000 bushels (14,500,000 a year ago); pears, 1,464,000 (1,261,000); plums and prunes, 854,000 (716,000); peaches, 2,734,000 (2,425,000); apricots, 178,000 (118,000); cherries, 513,000 (500,000); strawberries, 22,479,000 quarts (27,971,000); raspberries, 12,265,000 quarts (12,839,000); loganberries, 1,463,000 pounds (1,056,000); and grapes, 86,793,000 pounds (92,774,000).

# RELEASED THIS WEEK

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

- 1 -Vital Statistics -Preliminary Annual Report-- 1954, 25¢
- 2 -Mental Health Statistics, 1954, 75¢
- 3 -R: Sickness Survey, 1950-51, No. 51, Part 8 -- Volume of Health Care, 25¢
- 4 -M: Copper & Nickel Production, July, 10¢. 5-M: Silver Lead & Zinc Production, July, 10¢
- 6 -M: Salt, July, 10¢ 7-The Peat Industry, 1954, 25¢
- 8 -Chain Store Sales & Stocks, August, 10¢
- 9 -New Motor Vehicle Sales & Motor Vehicle Financing, August, 25¢
- 10-Department Store Sales & Stocks, August, 10¢
- 11-Advance Statement of Employment and Weekly Earnings, August 1, 10¢
- 12-Steel Ingots & Pig Iron, September, 10¢
- 13-M:Iron Castings & Cast Iron Pipes & Fittings, July, 10¢
- 14-Radios & Television Receiving Sets, June, 10¢
- 15-M: Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, August, 25¢
- 16-Primary Iron & Steel, June 25¢. 17-M: Mineral Wool, August, 10¢
- 18-Miscellaneous Paper Goods Industry, 1953, 25¢. 19-The Brewing Industry, 1954, 25¢
- 20-Travel Between Canada & The United States, August, 20¢
- 21-M: Railway Freight Traffic, June, 10¢. 22-M:Summary of Canal Statistics, July, 10¢
- 23-Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, August, 10¢
- 24-Corporation Profits, Second Quarter, 1955, 25¢
- 25-M: Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agriculture Products, August, 10¢
- Canadian Statistical Review, September, 35¢
- 1-Memorandum - R: Reference Paper

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