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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

National Accounts: Canada's gross national product (seasonally adjusted) rose to $26.9 billion in this year's third quarter, making the fourth successive quarterly advance. The advances in output since a year ago have amounted to about $2.9 billion at annual rates. Prospects are that gross national product for 1955 will be about 9% above the 1954 figure of $24.0 billion. (Pages 2 & 4)

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Foreign Trade: Commodity imports in October were 37.3% higher in value than a year earlier, topping all records for import values in any month. Exports also showed a sizeable rise of 19% over last year. For the ten months, both imports and exports were at new record levels. (Pages 5 & 6)

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International Payments: Canada's transactions in goods and services with other countries resulted in a current account deficit of $39 million in the third quarter this year as against a surplus of $20 million last year. Deficit for the nine months was $406 million compared to $345 million last year. (Pages 6 & 7)

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Manufacturing: Canadian plants turned out 29,590 motor vehicles in November, making an 11-month output of 425,986 vehicles ... Portland cement output and shipments rose again in October ... Sawn lumber output advanced in September ... Leather footwear production was up in September and the nine months. (Pages 8 & 9)

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Merchandising: Retail sales rose an estimated 10.3% in October to $1,120,-580,000, bringing aggregate sales for the 10 months to $10,379,143,000, up 6.5% over the 1954 period. Sales were higher in all areas in October, and in all but Saskatchewan in the 10 months. Motor vehicle dealers had the biggest gain, both in the month and 10 months, with passenger car sales setting new records in both periods. (Pages 11 & 12)

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Food: Creamery butter output rose 10% in November to bring the make for 11 months slightly above last year's. Stocks on December 1 were about 11,000,-000 pounds larger than a year earlier ... Meat stocks in cold storage on December 1 were 12% larger than last year ... Output of wheat flour declined again in October ... October catch of sea-fish was down in quantity and value from last year. (Pages 14 & 16)

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Transportation: Railway car loadings were down 0.6% in the last nine days of November, the first decline since mid-April. Over the 11 months ending November, loadings were up 10.7%. (Page 17)

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Gross National Product Continued Record Pace In Third Quarter Canada's gross national product, seasonally adjusted, rose to $26.9 billion in the third quarter of 1955, marking the fourth successive advance in output since the mild contraction from mid-1953 to mid-1954, states the D.B.S. quarterly report. The gain in output in the third quarter was more moderate than that which occurred between the first and second quarters of this year, amounting to about 2% compared with an increase of more than 4% in the preceding quarter. The successive advances in output since a year ago have amounted to $2.9 billion at annual rates, and have brought the general level of economic activity to a point about 12% above the 1954 third quarter rate of $23.9 billion.

A number of expansionary factors have contributed to this $2.9 billion growth in output over the course of the past year. The larger grain crop in 1955 is reflected in the increase, accounting for about $300 million of the gain in total gross national product. Personal expenditure on consumer goods and services has led the advance in final purchases, with a gain of $1.2 billion, while exports, gross domestic investment in durable assets, and government expenditures have together absorbed an additional $1.7 billion of output. Finally, the swing in business inventories from liquidation a year ago to net accumulation in the third quarter of 1954 has amounted to $0.5 billion. Under these stimuli, Canadian production has pushed rapidly forward, although a considerable part of both final and inventory demand has been channelled into imports, which have risen by more than $0.9 billion (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) over the past year.

With the crop out-turn now known and data covering three quarters of the year's activity in the non-farm sector available, it is possible to suggest some order of magnitude for the year 1955 as a whole. On the basis of present evidence, it seems likely that gross national product in 1955 will be about 9% higher than last year's figure of $24.0 billion. With final product prices relatively stable in the first nine months of this year, this gain of 9% would reflect, for the most part, an increase in the physical volume of output. It will be recalled that in 1954 the volume of output declined by 3% while some increases in the labour force and productive capacity were taking place. This made possible the very sharp increase in the volume of output which is indicated for 1955. The increase over 1953 is of the order of 5%.

The expansion in non-farm output between the second and third quarters appears to have occurred mainly in non-manufacturing activity, in contrast to preceding quarters where manufacturing accounted for about half of the total rise in output; durable goods production was responsible for most of the relatively modest gain in manufacturing activity in the third quarter. Outside the manufacturing field, industrial gains were widespread, with all major groups showing gains over the second quarter. Rising export demand for mine and metal products was accompanied by a sharp increase in the output of the mining industry; forestry production also rose as exports of wood and wood products were sustained at a high level. The recent up-turn in non-residential construction together with a continuation of the high level of activity in the residential field contributed to a further gain in output in the construction

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industry. Gains were also registered in transportation and in most of the other service sectors. It may be noted that since mid-1954, substantial increases have occurred in almost all of the manufacturing sub-groups which were affected by the earlier contraction in activity, including iron and steel products, electrical apparatus and supplies, transportation equipment, and textiles.

Accompanying these developments on the production side, the total number of persons with jobs in the third quarter was about 4% higher than in the same period of 1954. In the non-agricultural sector, the number of persons with jobs rose by 6%. At the same time, average hours worked per week in manufacturing were somewhat higher than a year ago. The number of persons without jobs and seeking work in Canada in the third quarter was almost 20% below the level of last year's third quarter.

Prices on the average have been relatively stable over the course of the past year. Prices of non-agricultural primary materials have begun to edge upward, while agricultural prices have continued to decline. In particular, prices of non-grain export products and construction materials have shown some increases. The wholesale price index in the third quarter was about 1 1/2% above the same period of a year ago, while the consumer price index was relatively unchanged.

Summary Of Developments In Income And Expenditure

Both personal and business incomes continued to expand in the second and third quarters, reflecting for the most part further gains in wages and salaries and in investment income including corporation profits. The successive quarter-to-quarter gains in these two important income categories have accounted for the greater part of the enlarged flow of income over the course of the past year. Thus, the most recent gains have brought wages and salaries to a point approximately 8% above last year's third quarter, while investment income is running at a rate approximately 25% above a year ago. At the same time, account must be taken of the important increase in net income of farm operators in 1955 resulting from the substantially higher level of crop production compared with last year. The table below shows percentage increases for a number of selected income aggregates in the first nine months of 1955.

Percentage Change, Nine Months 1955 over Nine Months 1954

(percentage changes based on seasonally adjusted data)

National Income	+10 %	Wages and Salaries	+ 7 %
Personal Income	+ 8 %	Investment Income	+19 %
		Accrued Net Income of Farm Operators	+27 %

Accompanying these income gains, impressive increases have occurred in almost all segments of gross national expenditure in the first nine months of this year relative to the same period of 1954.

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Especially noteworthy in the last two quarters have been the firming of business investment outlays for new construction, and machinery and equipment, which had been relatively stable since the declines of late 1953 and early 1954. In the third quarter of this year, these investment categories accounted for about $0.3 billion of the $1.1 billion increase in final purchases over the second quarter; the growth in consumer outlays and in exports accounted for almost all of the remaining increase, as shown in the table below. These developments between the second and third quarter were accompanied by one of the sharpest advances in imports of goods and services since the period immediately following the out-break of the Korean war.

The following table provides a summary review of changes in the categories of gross national expenditure from the second to the third quarter, and in the first nine months of 1955 relative to a year ago.

Changes in Gross National Expenditure

	Change 2nd Q. 1955 to 3rd Q. 1955	Change 9 Months 1954 to 9 Months 1955	
	Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates $ billions	Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates $ billions	Percentage Change
Personal Expenditure	+ 0.3	+ 1.0	+ [illegible].1 %
Government Expenditure	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 6.5 %
Residential Construction	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 25.6 %
Non-Residential Construction	+ 0.2	-	+ 0.6 %
Machinery and Equipment	+ 0.1	-	+ 2.7 %
Exports	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 11.7 %
TOTAL FINAL PURCHASES (ex. inventories)	+ 1.1	+ 2.2	+ 7.4 %
Change in Inventories	- 0.2	+ 0.7	N.A.
(Business only)	(-)	(+ 0.3)	(N.A.)
Imports	- 0.5	- 0.7	+ 11.9 %
Error	-	-	-
GROSS NATIONAL EXPENDITURE	+ 0.5	+ 2.2	+ 9.3 %
Gross Available Supply (1)	+ 1.0	+ 2.9	9.8

Figures will not add by +.1 or -.1 due to rounding.

(1) Gross National Expenditure (production) plus imports. (1)

Commodity Exports And Imports At Record Values For Ten Months

Boosted by sharp increases in October, the value of Canada's commodity exports and imports reached all-time high record levels in the first ten months of this year, preliminary figures released by the DBS reveal.

Commodity imports topped all previous records in the month at an estimated \$457,500,000, rising 37.3% over last year's October total of \$333,100,000 and exceeding the previous peak of \$434,000,000 in May this year by more than 5%. This brought imports in the January-October period to \$3,883,600,000 versus \$3,384,400,000 a year earlier.

Total exports climbed more than 19% in October to \$381,100,000 from last year's corresponding total of \$320,100,000, bringing the January-October total to \$3,578,200,000 as compared with \$3,184,600,000.

With a greater rise in import than in export values, there was an import surplus of \$76,400,000 in October as against \$13,000,000 last year. The result was a rise in the import surplus in the ten-month period to \$305,400,000 from \$199,800,000 a year ago.

Both import and export trade with the United States were substantially larger in October but imports continued to show the greater rise. Imports increased in October to an estimated \$332,300,000 from \$234,900,000 and to \$2,860,000,000 in the January-October period from \$2,444,900,000. Total exports in the month advanced to \$237,500,000 from \$194,900,000 and amounted in the ten months to \$2,142,000,000 against \$1,934,500,000. Net result of October trade with the United States was a rise in the import surplus to \$94,800,000 from \$40,000,000. For the ten months the import surplus was \$718,000,000 versus \$510,400,000.

Exports to the United Kingdom continued to rise. The October total amounted to \$61,500,000 versus \$47,000,000 and that for the ten months aggregated \$647,400,000 versus \$509,400,000. Commodity imports rose to an estimated \$38,500,000 in October from \$[illegible],500,000 a year ago but the ten-month total was virtually unchanged at \$332,000,000 versus \$332,100,000. The export surplus with the United Kingdom rose to \$23,000,000 in October from \$15,500,000 and to \$315,400,000 in the ten months from \$177,300,000.

Commodity exports to the other Commonwealth countries were slightly lower in October at \$18,800,000 versus \$19,200,000 a year earlier but sharply higher in the nine months at \$203,200,000 versus \$162,500,000. Imports from these countries were up to \$21,200,000 in October from \$19,000,000 and to \$174,700,000 in the ten months from \$152,600,000.

Exports to all other foreign countries were up in value in October to \$63,300,000 from \$59,200,000 and to \$585,600,000 in the ten months from \$578,200,000. Commodity imports from these countries rose to an estimated \$65,500,000 in October from \$47,700,000 and to \$516,900,000 in the ten months from \$454,800,000.

The preliminary figures for October and the ten months are summarized in the table following. The import figures are estimates and subject to revision. Those for exports are final figures which will be released in detail shortly.

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	October		January-October	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
	Millions of Dollars			
Exports: (domestic & foreign)				
United Kingdom	47.0	61.5	509.4	647.4
Other Commonwealth countries.	19.2	18.8	162.5	203.2
United States	194.9	237.5	1,934.5	2,142.0
Other foreign countries	59.2	63.3	578.2	585.6
Totals	320.1	381.1	3,184.6	3,578.2
Imports:				
United Kingdom	31.5	38.5	332.1	332.0
Other Commonwealth countries.	19.0	21.2	152.6	174.7
United States	234.9	332.3	2,444.9	2,860.0
Other foreign countries	47.7	65.5	454.8	516.9
Totals	333.1	457.5x	3,384.4	3,883.6x

x Estimate only. Subject to revision.

Current Account Deficit Of $89,000,000 In Third Quarter

Canada's transactions in goods and services with other countries in the third quarter this year resulted in a current account deficit of $89,000,000 - the largest ever recorded for the period - as compared to a current account surplus of $20,000,000 for the third quarter last year. In the first three quarters this year there was a deficit of $406,000,000 as against $345,000,000 in the same 1954 period.

Both total current receipts and total current expenditures in the third quarter this year were at a new record levels for any quarter, the Bureau reports, as Canada's current account reflected the effects of the coincidence of unusually heavy United States and overseas demands for Canadian products and new high levels of Canadian economic activity.

Contributing to the change to a current account deficit in the third quarter this year from a surplus last year were an import balance on commodity account of $33,000,000 in contrast to an export balance of $61,000,000 a year ago, and an enlarged deficit from all other current transactions and official contributions of $56,000,000 against last year's $41,000,000. The change in the balance on commodity account this year from the second quarter - when a deficit is customary - to the third quarter was less pronounced than usual; it amounted only to $12,000,000 as against $136,000,000 last year. Consequently, the reduction in the current account deficit in this year's third quarter from the levels of the two earlier quarters was appreciably less; the deficit of $89,000,000 being down from $162,000,000 in the second quarter and $155,000,000 in the first quarter, while last year's third-quarter surplus of $20,000,000 compared with deficits of $189,000,000 and $176,000,000 in the second and first quarters respectively.

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The deficit of current account "invisibles" of \$56,000,000 in the third quarter was again larger, comparing with \$41,000,000 for the corresponding quarter last year. The deficit was considerably less than in either of the first two quarters (\$117,000,000 in the second and \$161,000,000 in the first) because of a customary seasonal pattern mainly associated with the international tourist trade in the summer months. In the period of the first nine months the cumulative deficit of \$334,000,000 this year compares with \$280,000,000 last year and is at a new high level for this period of the year.

A variety of offsetting trends occurred in the quarter compared with the previous year in the various exchanges of services and there was a predominant growth in both receipts from non-residents for services furnished by Canadians and in expenditures by Canadians on services supplied by non-residents. The trend in international travel expenditures compared with the previous year was one leading factor in the changes. Even though receipts from non-resident visitors in Canada in the third quarter were higher than ever before, amounting to \$179,000,000 against \$170,000,000 a year ago, the balance of receipts on travel account in that period was less than in the previous year because of the larger rise to \$153,000,000 from \$131,000,000 in Canadian travel expenditures both in the United States and in overseas countries.

Capital Movements   Although it was the largest ever recorded for the period, there was no serious problem involved in financing the third-quarter current account deficit, the Bureau's quarterly report states. Net capital inflows for long-term direct investment in foreign-owned enterprises in Canada and in Canadian-owned enterprises abroad amounted to \$65,000,000 - down moderately from \$75,000,000 for the second quarter, while the outflow from transactions in all portfolio securities amounted only to \$5,000,000 in contrast to \$68,000,000 in the second quarter. With the addition to these transactions of principal repayments on Canada's loans to overseas governments, net capital inflows of a generally long term character amounted to \$69,000,000 in the third and \$25,000,000 in the second quarters. Thus these capital transactions left only \$20,000,000 of the current account deficit in the third quarter to be financed by other movements as compared to \$137,000,000 in the second quarter.

The net inflow during the quarter of foreign capital for direct investment in Canadian enterprises is placed at \$80,000,000. More than half this total went to the petroleum industry, and about one-third to manufacturing. All but one-eighth of the net movement was from the United States. For the first nine months of 1955 the net inflow amounted to \$240,000,000, 80% of it going into petroleum and mining. Manufacturing accounted for ten per cent, and real estate and merchandising firms for the remainder. Over the nine-month period three quarters of the net inflow was from the United States; three-quarters of the balance came from the United Kingdom. (2)

M A N U F A C T U R I N G

Paint Sales Sharply Higher This October   Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers normally accounting for 96% of the total Canadian production were valued at \$9,576,177 in October, up sharply from \$8,421,886 in the same month last year. This put ten-month sales at \$100,066,800 versus \$89,293,549 a year earlier. (3)

Motor Vehicle Production Up Sharply In November, 11 Months Canadian motor vehicle plants produced 29,590 passenger cars and commercial vehicles in November, sharply above last year's corresponding total of 17,256, DBS reports. In the January-November period the combined output jumped to 425,986 units from 324,003 a year ago. Production was larger for both passenger and commercial vehicles in November and the 11 months.

Output of passenger cars rose to 26,316 units in November from 14,349 and to 351,011 units in the January-November period versus 259,465. Commercial vehicle production increased to 3,274 units in November from 2,907 and to 74,975 units in the 11 months from 64,538. (4)

Production, Shipments Of Portland Cement Canadian manufacturers produced and shipped larger quantities of Portland cement in October and the first ten months of this year than last, DBS reports. Production amounted to 2,428,603 barrels in October versus 2,040,937 and to 21,377,671 barrels in the January-October period versus 18,993,873. The month's shipments totalled 2,484,616 barrels versus 1,946,363, bringing the ten-month total to 22,208,1 6 barrels versus 19,400,000. Month-end plant and warehouse stocks were down to 261,263 barrels from 457,561. (5)

Production Of Wire Nails Up Production of iron and steel wire nails increased to 9,385 tons in October from last year's corresponding total of 9,067 and to 72,243 tons in the January-October period from 67,078. Shipments were up to 9,295 tons in October from 7,713 and to 80,559 tons in the ten months from 67,223. (6)

Lumber Production Increased Canadian production of sawn lumber increased in September and the first three quarters of this year as compared with a year earlier, DBS reports. Production in British Columbia rose to 472,446,000 feet board measure in September from 451,484,000 and to 3,728,836,000 feet in the nine months from 3,327,437,000. East of the Rockies output rose to 284,680,000 board feet in September from 242,324,000 and to 2,617,977,000 board feet in the nine months from 2,410,765,000.

There were production gains in all provinces except Alberta in September. Output in Prince Edward Island amounted to 890,000 board feet (649,000 a year ago); Nova Scotia, 34,356,000 (29,810,000); New Brunswick, 22,248,000 (15,978,000); Quebec, 104,100,000 (86,866,000); Ontario, 109,159,000 (95,929,-000); Manitoba, 5,387,000 (5,010,000); Saskatchewan, 4,000,000 (3,033,000); and Alberta, 4,540,000 (5,049,000).

January-September production totals: Prince Edward Island, 7,668,000 board feet (6,621,00 a year ago); Nova Scotia, 341,134,000 (252,198,000); New Brunswick, 234,221,000 (218,948,000); Quebec, 883,188,000 (865,115,000); Ontario, 676,701,000 (644,642,000); Manitoba, 45,030,000 (40,295,000); Saskatchewan, 81,232,000 (88,961,000); Alberta, 348,803,000 (293,985,000). (7 & 8)

Leather Footwear Production Increased Production of leather footwear increased in September and the first three-quarters of this year as compared with a year earlier. DBS places the output at 3,613,-246 pairs in September versus 3,376,531 a year ago and at 28,861,454 pairs in the nine months versus 28,523,740.

Production by size groups was as follows for the January-September period: women and growing girls, 13,988,202 pairs (13,907,772 a year earlier); men, 6,425,194 (6,121,572); misses, 2,840,870 (2,942,659); children and little gents, 2,286,147 (2,272,898); babies and infants, 2,112,086 (2,066,233); boys, 961,988 (971,701); and youths, 246,967 (240,905). (9)

Button, Buckle And Fastener Industry Factory selling value of products shipped by Canada's button, buckle and fastener industry in 1954 amounted to $10,760,000 a decline of 6.1% from the preceding year's $11,454,000, DBS reports in its annual industry report. There were 44 establishments in operation during the year, one less than in 1953. Employees numbered 1,592 versus 1,741 and salary and wage payments grossed $4,138,000 versus $4,460,154.

Zipper fasteners continued to be the industry's most important commodity with shipments valued at $6,390,000 in 1954 versus $6,379,000 in 1953. Shipments of other main commodities in order of value were: moulded buttons, $1, $1,329,000 ($1,607,000); plastic buttons, $928,000 (983,000); metal buttons, $225,000 (446,000); celluloid buttons, $223,000 ($327,000); buckles, $172,000 ($144,000); and clips and other ornaments, $160,000 ($278,000). (10)

Coke Supplies Larger Supplies of coke available for consumption were larger in September and the first three-quarters of this year than last, DBS reports. September supplies amounted to 373,006 tons versus 275,902 a year ago, bringing the January-September total to 3,159,922 tons versus 2,640,946.

Production amounted to 344,395 tons in September versus 267,740 a year ago and to 2,966,369 tons in the nine months versus 2,526,391. Landed imports were 35,489 tons in September versus 16,732, bringing the nine-month total to 268,068 tons versus 192,844. Exports amounted to 6,878 tons in September versus 8,570 and to 74,515 tons in the nine months versus 78,289. (11)

Consumption of Scrap Iron And Steel In Industry Consumption of scrap iron and steel in Canadian industry in 1954 totalled 2,385,000 tons, about one-fifth below the preceding year's 2,934,000 tons, DBS reports. Consumption in steel furnaces amounted to 1,630,000 tons (2,201,000 in 1953), in iron foundries, 556,000 (552,000); in iron blast furnaces, 82,400 (85,800); in rolling mills, 76,000 (84,000); in ferro-alloy furnaces, 16,700 (28,700); and in artificial abrasives furnaces, 16,200 (24,500). Imports of scrap iron and steel in 1954 dropped to 65,100 tons from 100,200 but the exports jumped to 559,000 tons from 410,000 (12)

More Synthetic Detergents Less Soap Made Last Year

Canadian production of synthetic detergents increased to 121,936,000 pounds valued at $32,380,000 last year from 114,624,000 pounds worth $28,704,000 in 1953, according to the annual report by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on the soaps, washing compounds and cleaning preparations industry. At the same time, output of soaps of all kinds dropped to 165,094,000 pounds valued at $35,932,000 from 181,688,000 pounds worth $36,629,000 in the preceding year.

Among soaps, the value of chips and flakes in household packages decreased to $2,356,000 from $2,744,000 and in bulk to $1,183,000 from $1,200,000. Soap powders in household packages fell to $10,629,000 from $11,782,000 but in bulk increased slightly to $1,309,000 from $1,307,000. Bar laundry and household hard soaps declined to $3,010,000 from $3,130,000. Toilet soaps increased to $12,192,000 from $11,227,000 and liquid soaps to $1,474,000 from $1,403,000, while soft soaps were unchanged at $474,000. Lather-type shaving cream rose to $1,678,000 from $1,500,000, but brushless and other types of shaving creams and soaps fell to $723,000 from $829,000.

Among other cleaning products, production of javelle water increased in value to $6,577,000 from $5,851,000 in 1953, cleaning or scouring powders, pastes and cakes to $4,692,000 from $4,425,000, and lye and other cleaning preparations to $3,732,000 from $3,583,000. Output value of crude glycerine dropped to $482,000 from $801,000 and of refined glycerine to $3,444,000 from $4,202,000. The bulk of the output was produced by the 141 firms in the soaps, washing compounds and cleaning preparations industry which last year shipped $92,526,204 worth of products versus $89,248,823 worth in 1953. (13)

Cotton And Jute Bag Industry

Factory value of products shipped by Canada's cotton and jute bag industry in 1954 grossed $26,517,000, an increase of 4.7% over the preceding year's $25,322,000. There were 37 plants in operation during the year, 3 more than in 1953. Their employees numbered 1,136 versus 1,196 and salary and wages aggregated $2,630,000 versus $2,678,000. Cost of materials used was $22,114,000 versus $21,611,000. Shipments of jute bags increased to 6,040,600 dozen from 5,658,500 dozen but deliveries of cotton bags were down slightly to 3,620,400 dozen from 3,770,900. In 1954 the industry consumed 92,513,000 yards of jute cloth compared with 88,036,000 in 1953 and 40,317,000 yards of cotton fabric compared with 42,168,000. (14)

Cigarette, Cigar & Tobacco Withdrawals: Correction

The news item dealing with tax-paid withdrawals of cigarettes and cigars which appeared on page 4 of DBS Weekly Bulletin dated December 9 inadvertently compared withdrawals in the January-October period this year with the January-September period last year. Corrected withdrawal figures for the periods follow; cigarettes, 20,210,344,000 (18,172,464,000 in the ten months last year); cigars, 202,987,000 (197,422,000); cut tobacco, 20,022,000 pounds (20,237,000); plug tobacco, 1,316,000 (1,253,000); snuff, 663,000 pounds (694,000); and raw leaf tobacco, 929,000 pounds (945,000).

Retail Sales Increased 6.5% In January-October Period

Another larger-than-average gain of 10.3% in October, which followed increases of 11% in September and 11.9% in August boosted the value of Canada's retail sales 6.5% in the first 10 months of this year to $10,379,-143,000 from $9,744,770,000 in the like 1954 period. The rise in the first half of the year averaged 4.5%. October sales were valued at $1,120,580,000 versus $1,016,382,000.

All regions of the country except Saskatchewan shared in the rise in sales in the ten months, while October sales were larger in all areas. In the ten-month period the rise in the Atlantic Provinces was 7.1%, Quebec 5.4%, Ontario 7.7%, Manitoba 4.3%, Alberta 6.4%, and British Columbia 10.3%. The decline in Saskatchewan was 1.7%.

October sales gains were as follows by provinces: Atlantic Provinces, 11.3%; Quebec, 10.6%; Ontario, 10.8%; Manitoba, 7.3%; Saskatchewan, 7.2%; Alberta, 12.2%; and British Columbia, 8.6%.

In the January-October period motor vehicle dealers had the largest increase in sales of 15.4%, followed by lumber and building material dealers (9.8%), department stores (8%), variety stores (6.2%), grocery and combination stores (5.8%), appliance and radio (5.7%). Sales gains for other trades ranged from 0.1% for women's clothing to 3.6% for garages and filling stations. Restaurant sales were down a slight 0.3%.

Motor vehicle dealers also led the sales advances in October, rising 34.5%. Lumber and building materials followed with a rise of 16.6%, department stores next with 11.3%, furniture, appliances and radio 11.2%, variety stores 8.8%, hardware 7.2%, men's clothing 6.4%, shoe stores 5.5%, family clothing stores 5.2%, and grocery and combination stores 5.1%. Sales increases for the remaining groups ranged downward from 4.2% for garages and filling stations to 0.8% for jewellery stores. (15)

Depatment Store Sales Up 11.3% In October, And 8% in 10 Months

Department store sales jumped 11.3% to an estimated $107,273,000 in October from last year's corresponding total of $96,340,000, while cumulative sales for the January-October period rose 8% to $852,488,000. Sales for the 9-month period beginning February 1 -- the fiscal period of most department stores -- were up 7.9% to $783,514,000 from $726,482,000.

All regions had greater sales in October than a year earlier. Alberta with the largest gain of 15.7% was followed closely by Ontario with 15.4%. Other increases, ranked by percentage size, were: Quebec, 13.6%; Saskatchewan, 12%; Atlantic Provinces, 10.7%; British Columbia, 4.3%; and Manitoba, 1.7%. For the cumulative period, February to October, Alberta had the largest percentage gain of 9.4%, followed by the Atlantic Provinces and Ontario with the increases of 8.8% each, Quebec 8.6%, British Columbia 6.6%, Manitoba 5.9%, and Saskatchewan 2.3%.

There were general sales increases among the individual departments in October with only 2 of the 29 departments reporting decreases. The largest gains were in the durable goods categories with increases of 31.8% in major appliances, 23.6% in hardware and housewares, 21.9% in furniture and 21.5% in homefurnishings. (16)

Department Store Sales Increased 7.7% In Week

Department store sales rose 7.7% during the week ending December 3 as compared with a year earlier. Except for a small decline of 0.8% in Saskatchewan, sales were larger in all provinces, as follows: Atlantic Provinces, 3.9%; Quebec, 8.7%; Ontario, 6.5%; Manitoba, 17.7%; Alberta, 10.9%; and British Columbia, 5.9%.

November Department Store Sales Up In All Regions

Department store sales were up in November in all regions, the over-all rise being 12.5% over November last year. Alberta led with an increase of 18.5%, while Manitoba had the least gain with 6.4%. Other increases were: Saskatchewan, 16.4%; British Columbia, 13.9%; Ontario, 12.9%; Quebec, 10.6%; and the Atlantic Provinces, 9.5%

Sales Of Passenger Cars Hit New Peak In Ten Months

October was another brisk month for sales of new cars and trucks, particularly passenger cars. The latter rose to a new high for the month to send passenger car sales to a new peak for the ten months and to bring total sales of cars and trucks in the ten months close to the 1953 record for the period.

The total number of passenger cars and commercial vehicles sold in the January-October period was up 20.4% to 407,873 from 338,672 last year but slightly under the 1953 peak of 409,311 units. The retail value, however, was at an all-time high for the period of $1,087,000,000, up 25% from $869,804,000 last year and comparing with $1,026,800,000 in 1953.

Passenger cars sold in the January-October period this year topped last year by 23.6% at 339,534 versus 274,787 and exceeded by 6.6% the previous record of 318,438 two years ago. Retail value for the ten months was up 26.2% over last year at $887,623,000 against $703,324,000, and also well above the 1953 total of $797,478,000. October dollar sales were at a new peak for the month--$72,630,000, a steep 82.1% above last year's October value of $39,874,000 and well above the previous high of $61,284,000 in 1953. The number of new cars sold in the month was 26,135, some 63.4% above last year's October total of 15,-994 and just under the peak for the month of 26,262 in October 1950.

Commercial vehicles have not shown as sharp an increase over last year as passenger cars and are substantially below 1953 levels. In October the number sold was up 51.2% to 7,283 from 4,818 and retail value 58% to $21,356,000 from $13,515,000. January-October sales were up 7% in number to 68,339 from 63,885 and 19.8% in value to $199,377,000 from $166,480,000 last year. These figures compare with 90,823 units and a sales value of $229,282,000 for the 1953 period.

Sales financing of new motor vehicles also set an all-time October record this year, when 14,580 vehicle sales were financed for $30,079,000. This was 34.3% more vehicles and 46.2% more dollars than in October last year when 10,857 were financed for $20,573,000, and brought the number financed in the first ten months to 159,109, up 16.5% from 136,603 last year, and the amount of financing to $320,-104,000, up 23.9% from $258,411,000.

Financing of sales of used motor vehicles showed much smaller gains. The number was up 11.3% in October to 31,414 from 28,212 last year, and 5.1% in the ten months to 352,756 from 335,596. The amount of financing was up 10.7% in the month to $25,153,000 from $22,727,000 and 3.7% in the January-October period to $289,902,000 from $279,538,000. (17)

Chain Store Sales Up 7.7% In October, 6.4% In 10 Months Chain store sales increased 7.7% in October to $207,745,000 from last year's corresponding total of $192,839,000 and 6.4% in the January-October period to $1,823,589,000 from $1,713,128,000 a year ago, DBS reports. All trades shared in the rise in sales in October. Stocks (at cost) were valued at $269,-203,000 at the beginning of October, 4.6% above last year's $257,397,000.

Grocery and combination chain sales rose 9.1% in October to $84,577,000 from $77,540,000 a year ago and 10% in the January-October period to $779,471,000 from $708,410,000.

October sales for other types of chains were as follows: variety, $17,-897,000 ($16,568,000 a year ago); lumber and building materials, $10,424,000 ($8,714,000); furniture, radio and appliance, $9,760,000 ($8,484,000); women's clothing, $4,575,000 ($4,288,000); jewellery, $4,035,000 ($3,945,000); shoe, $3,835,000 ($3,597,000); family clothing, $3,399,000 ($3,364,000); drug, $3,-140,000 ($2,981,000); men's clothing, $2,513,000 ($2,436,000); and hardware, $1,-308,000 ($1,130,000). (18)

M I N E R A L S

Production Of Crude Petroleum One-Third Larger In 9 Months Production of crude petroleum in Canada in the first nine months of this year reached a record 92,005,157 barrels, one-third larger than last year's 69,423,647 barrels. September's output rose to 10,889,191 barrels from 8,864,351.

Nine-Month production of natural gas increased to 101,673,455 M cubic feet from 85,533,860 M a year earlier. September production rose to 10,417,948 M cubic feet from 7,475,150 M.

Sales of natural gas increased to 79,841,995 M cubic feet in the January-September period from 67,955,905 M a year earlier and the September output rose to 6,493,210 M cubic feet from 4,702,464 M.

Nine-month sales of manufactured gas fell to 13,920,336 M cubic feet from 19,618,238 M and September sales dropped to 1,352,021 M cubic feet from 1,850,-134 M. (19)

More Than Twice As Much Salt Produced, Shipped In October Production of dry common salt in Canada jumped to 115,934 tons in October, more than double the 45,-560 tons produced in the same month last year, DBS reports. This brought total output in the first ten months of 1955 to 564,994 tons versus 411,049 in the January-October period of 1954.

October shipments showed an almost similar rise to 115,749 tons from 49,787 last year, and ten-month deliveries totalled 562,612 tons versus 412,834 a year earlier. Producers' stocks at the end of October amounted to 15,644 tons, down from the 18,042 tons in store on the same date last year. (20)

MORE

<u>More Gold Last Year</u> Canadian production of gold increased to 4,366,440 fine ounces valued at $148,764,611 last year from 4,055,723 fine ounces worth $139,597,-98[illegible] in 1953, according to the annual report on the gold mining industry by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The 1954 output was exceeded only in the years 1938-42 and 1950-52. It brought total production since 1858 to 130,-278,248 troy ounces valued at $4,034,219,165.

Output rose last year in all producing areas except Newfoundland, where the drop was to 6,528 troy ounces from 7,654. In Nova Scotia production increased to 3,754 troy ounces from 3,248, in Quebec to 1,098,570 from 1,021,698, in Ontario to 2,361,385 from 2,182,437, in Manitoba to 134,944 from 131,309, in Saskatchewan to 101,785 from 88,327, in Alberta to 195 from 65, in British Columbia to 268,588 from 264,976, in the Northwest Territories to 308,563 from 289,929, and in the Yukon to 82,206 from 66,080. Production from base-metal mines rose to 537,914 troy ounces from 468,691, and from auriferous quartz mines and placer deposits to 3,828,526 troy ounces from 3,587,032.

The average value per ounce of fine gold was down to $34.07 last year from $34.42 in 1953, $34.27 in 1952, $36.85 in 1951, $38.05 in 1950, $36.00 in 1949, $35.00 in 1947-48, $36.75 in 1946, $38.50 in 1940-45 and $36.14 in 1939. (21)

F O O D

<u>Stocks Of Butter, Cheese</u> Stocks of creamery butter were larger on December 1, amounting to 114,073,000 pounds versus 103,027,000 a year ago, DBS reports. At the same time holdings of cheddar cheese were smaller at 40,175,000 pounds versus 46,357,000. Stocks of evaporated whole milk rose to 49,550,000 pounds from 49,108,000, but skim milk powder fell to 13,351,000 pounds from 13,814,000. Stocks of poultry meat were larger at 28,412,000 pounds versus 28,148,000 but the stocks of eggs were smaller at 214,000 cases versus 289,000. (22)

<u>Production Of Butter, Cheese Up In November</u> Production of creamery butter in November totalled 18,-631,000 pounds, 10% larger than last year's corresponding total of 16,898,000 pounds. This brought the January-November make to 303,829,000 pounds, 1% above last year's 299,882,000 pounds. Domestic disappearance fell 5% to 26,036,000 pounds in November from 27,379,000, but rose 2% in the January-November period to 274,016,000 pounds from 267,945,000.

Cheddar cheese production in November rose 2% to 4,411,000 pounds from 4,-314,000 a year ago, but fell 7% in the January-November period to 76,011,000 pounds from 81,839,000. Output of ice cream fell 3% in November to 1,633,000 gallons from 1,687,000 but rose 14% in the 11 months to 30,995,000 pounds from 27,102,000. Production of concentrated milk rose to 24,976,000 pounds in November from 24,045,000 and to 446,854,000 pounds in the 11 months from 429,126,000. (23)

<u>Production And Stocks Of Process Cheese Up</u> Production of process cheese in November rose to 4,210,000 pounds from the revised figure of 3,826,000 in October and last year's corresponding total of 3,830,000 pounds. This brought cumulative production for the first 11 months of the year to 41,310,000 pounds, about 2% above last year's 40,616,000. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of November were 1,780,000 pounds versus 1,210,000 a month earlier and 1,128,000 a year ago.

MORE

Margarine Production Increased Canadian production of margarine was moderately higher in November and the first 11 months of this year than last. DBS places the month's output at 11,577,000 pounds versus 10,921,000 a year ago and the cumulative output at 113,718,000 pounds versus 105,-984,000. December 1 stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and other warehouses fell to 2,910,000 pounds from 2,996,000 a month earlier and 3,658,000 a year ago. (24)

Cannned Meat Stocks Smaller Stocks of canned meat held by manufacturers and wholesalers at the end of October amounted to 13,-467,818 pounds, a decrease of 5% from the preceding month's 14,185,656 pounds , according to a special statement. Holdings were as follows by kind: ready dinners, beef stews, etc., 4,037,494 pounds (3,609,399 a month earlier); roast beef, 278,373 (306,608); corned beef, 2,457,431 (2,597,051); other beef products, 1,629,967 (1,223,043); spiced pork and ham, 1,989,574 (2,363,906); roast pork and ham, 356,621 (551,122); other pork products, 1,110,774 (1,124,026); canned fowl, 425,990 (503,206); meat paste, 772,997 (924,042); and all other canned meats, 408,597 (483,253).

Cold Storage Stocks Of Meat 12% Larger Cold storage stocks of meat on December 1 amounted to 75,-965,000 pounds, 12% larger than last year's corresponding total of 68,384,000 pounds. Holdings of frozen meat increased to 40.091,000 pounds from 31,951,000, but stocks of fresh meat fell to 20,570,000 pounds from 21,034,000 and cured meat to 15,304,000 pounds from 15,-399,000.(25)

Packs of Plums Larger Commercial packs of canned plums was substantially larger this year than last, a special compilation by DBS reveals. The year's pack amounted to 992,412 dozen containers versus 518,430 and the contents weighed 16,098,228 pounds versus 8,450,637. Plums processed other than by canning increased to 3,201,583 pounds from 2,127,746.

Visible Supplies Of Wheat Larger Visible supplies of Canadian wheat at the end of November totalled 363,372,000 bushels, about 8% larger than last year's 337,740,000 bushels. Deliveries of wheat from Prairie farms during the week dropped to 4,959,000 bushels from 8,240,000 and overseas clearances fell to 4,842,000 bushels from 6,211,000. (26)

Less Wheat Flour Milled In October Canadian mills produced 1,771,223 barrels of wheat flour in October, considerably less than the 1,942,689 barrels milled in October last year. This brought total output in the August-October period of the current crop year to 5,244,785 barrels versus 5,687,156 barrels in the same period of the 1954-55 crop year.

Wheat milled for flour in October amounted to 7,964,143 bushels versus 8,579,388 bushels in the same month last year. Total wheat used for flour in the August-October period was 23,583,783 bushels as against 25,234,156 a year earlier. (27)

Sea-Fish Catch Smaller Catch of sea-fish was smaller and less valuable in October and the first ten months of this year than a year earlier. DBS figures place the month's catch at 96,419,000 pounds valued at $4,205,000 versus 182,723,000 pounds worth $6,779,000 a year ago. The January-October catch was 1,492,091,000 pounds worth $69,533,000 versus 1,666,404,000 pounds valued at $77,795,000.

October's catch on the Atlantic was up to 82,119,000 pounds valued at $2,533,000 from 69,409,000 pounds worth $2,265,000 a year ago. In the January-October period there was a decrease in landings to 1,190,767,000 pounds from 1,221,165,000 and in value to $44,373,000 from $45,330,000.

Mainly due to sharp declines in the landings of salmon and herring, the catch of sea-fish on the Pacific dropped sharply in October to 14,300,000 pounds from 113,314,000 a year ago and the value fell to $1,672,000 from $4,-514,000. The January-October catch of all species was down to 301,324,000 pounds from 445,239,000 and the value dropped to $25,160,000 from $32,465,000. (28)

L A B O U R

Fewer Claims For Unemployment Insurance Benefit In October Fewer initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance benefit were filed in local offices of the UIC in October than a year ago, DBS reports. The number was 94,744 versus 127,609. Claimants having an unemployment register in the "live file" at the end of October numbered 163,100, down from last year's 236,365. There were 54,981 new beneficiaries in October versus 84,051.

Benefit payments amounted to $7,535,340 in October, paid in respect of 944,-389 days of unemployment prior to October 2 and 280,834 weeks occurring after October 1. In October last year payments amounted to $11,779,296 in compensation for 3,780,046 days. An estimated 111,100 beneficiaries received weekly benefit payments in October as against 109,200 in September and an estimated 173,000 in the week ended October 29 last year.

Number of initial and renewal claims filed in local offices in each province in October was as follows: Newfoundland, 1,876 (1,518 a year ago); Prince Edward Island, 351 (346); Nova Scotia, 4,998 (5,619); New Brunswick, 4,375 (4,348); Quebec, 29,862 (38,083); Ontario, 31,402 (50,635); Manitoba, 4,463 (5,165); Saskatchewan, 2,507 (2,313); Alberta, 3,739 (4,697); and British Columbia, 11,171 (14,885). (29)

Labour Income Up In September, 9 Months Wages, salaries and supplementary labour income received by Canadian paid workers in September was estimated at $1,125,-000,000, up $17,000,000 from the preceding month and $87,000,-000 or nearly 8.5% from September, 1954. Increases in labour income from the component industries in September ranged from $12,000,000 for the finance and services group to $2,000,000 for manufacturing. In the former the return of school teachers to classrooms after summer vacation contributed to the gain. Labour income in the distributive group increased $3,000,000, while the totals for the construction and the primary industries did not change over the month.

A comparison of the cumulative totals for the first 9 months of 1955 of $9,463,-000,000 and $8,876,000,000 for the corresponding period of 1954 showed a rise of $587,000,000, or over 6.5%. Total wages and salaries in the primary industries, manufacturing and the distributive group advanced between 4 and 5%, while the totals for the finance and services group and construction registered larger gains of 10 and 12%, respectively. (30)

Industrial Employment, Payrolls And Weekly Wages At New Peaks At October 1

Industrial employment was maintained at record high levels at the beginning of October, the Bureau's advance index standing at 118.3, unchanged from a month earlier but 4.3% above last year's 113.4. Improvement in a number of industrial groups was offset by curtailment in other classes, notably by the serious losses occasioned by labour-management disputes in automotive plants.

The high level of employment was accompanied by advances to new peaks in both the payroll index and average weekly earnings. The payroll index rose to 170.0 from 169.0 at September 1 and 157.1 a year ago, and weekly earnings to $61.46 from $61.11 a month earlier and $59.25 a year ago.

The general trend in industrial employment was upward as compared with September in forestry and trade, in both of which the improvement was seasonal. Reductions in staffs were reported in other industrial divisions. Factory employment fell 0.7% as a result of strikes. Weekly wages and salaries disbursed in manufacturing, however, rose 0.5% and the payroll index was the highest in the record. (31)

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

Railway Car Loadings Slightly Lower In Last 9 Days of November, Up In Month, Year-To-Date

Showing the first decline since mid-April, railway car loadings eased 0.6% in the last nine days of November to 107,892 cars from 108,505 in the corresponding period in 1954. Loadings for the month of November were up 4.9% to 359,332 cars from 342,660 and cumulative loadings for the eleven months ending November climbed 10.7% to 3,754,343 cars from 3,392,414.

Receipts from connections were higher, rising 13.3% in the last nine days of November to 40,747 cars from 35,972, 17.8% in November to 139,524 cars from 118,471, and 15.6% in the January-November period to 1,504,153 cars from 1,301,645.

Significant increases in volume of loadings in the nine-day period were reported in coal, up 1,797 cars to 10,307; fuel oil, up 1,031 cars to 4,217; "other" mine products, up 1,161 cars to 4,121; and automobiles, trucks and parts up 755 cars to 2,171. Loadings of grain fell to 9,283 cars from 14,654, iron ore to 923 cars from 1,702, and sand, gravel and crushed stone to 4,519 cars from 5,689.

The following were among the increases in the January-November period: coal, 238,269 cars (234,925 a year ago); iron ore, 170,131 (40,727); non-ferrous ores and concentrates, 151,874 (143,229); gasoline, 132,941 (127,465); fuel oil, 98,865 (88,-274); sand, gravel and crushed stone, 204,810 (153,380); "other" mine products, 115,-382 (89,802); lumber, timber and plywood, 219,629 (186,836); and newsprint, 132,897 (128,834). Grain loadings fell to 306,426 cars from 327,010. (32)

Railway Freight Movement Heavier

Freight originated on Canadian railways in August totalled 16,146,831 tons, more than one-quarter larger than last year's corresponding total of 12,845,970 tons. During the January-August period 106,287,109 tons were loaded, up 14,444,155 tons or 15.7% from 91,842,-954 a year earlier. (33)

Mental Institutions Had First Recorded Financial Deficit In 1954

Canada's mental institutions in 1954, as nearly as can be calculated, took in $62,-984,248 of operating revenue and laid out $64,086,874 for operating expense, DBS reports. Both figures represented increases over the year before -- revenue by 9.2% and expenditure by 12%. The greater rise on the expenditure side produced a $1,102,626 deficit. This deficit was the first recorded on operating account and follows a declining surplus in previous years.

Provincial governments continued to be the principal source of mental hospitals' operating funds, although the percentage they contributed declined slightly in 1954 (from 77.6 to 77.1). Municipal governments and paying patients provided slightly reduced proportions. The federal government, on the other hand, supplied a doubled share -- up to 4.4% from 2.2%.

The purposes for which the hospitals' funds were spent were only slightly altered in 1954. Salaries and wages took 58.1% in 1954, down by one-tenth of a percentage point from 1953. Provisions eased off by one-half per cent from 18.0 to 17.5, and utilities (fuel, power, light, water) also were fractionally lower at 4.9% instead of 1953's 5.4%.

Cost per patient day continued to rise, reaching a new high of $2.92, a 22¢ jump from 1953 and the 15th straight annual increase. All provinces reported increases. (34)

B A N K I N G

Value Of Cheques Cashed Slightly Lower In October

Value of cheques cashed in clearing centres in October stood at $14,361,000,000, slightly below last year's corresponding total of $14,452,047,000, DBS reports. This was the first decline from a year earlier in many months and was mainly due to the abnormally high value of payments recorded in October last year in Charlottetown and Toronto. The aggregate value of cheques cashed in the January-October period was $135,197,914,000, 8% above last year's $124,905,220,000.

Value of cheques cashed in October was as follows by provinces: Atlantic Provinces, $393,422,000 ($574,526,000 a year ago); Quebec, $4,205,927,000 ($3,-991,192,000); Ontario, $6,475,567,000 ($6,607,178,000); Prairie Provinces, $2,-179,608,000 ($2,224,015,000); and British Columbia, $1,106,224,000 ($1,055,136,-000).

January-October totals were Atlantic Provinces, $3,681,910,000 ($3,800,469,-000 last year); Quebec, $39,799,222,000 ($35,904,487,000); Ontario, $60,957,589,-000 ($55,851,556,000); Prairies Provinces, $20,374,857,000 ($19,614,703,000); and British Columbia, $10,384,336,000 ($9,734,006,000). (35)

E N T E R T A I N M E N T

Per Capita Expenditure On Movies Dropped Last Year For First Time

Canadians spent $7.80 per capita on motion picture entertainment last year, 6% less than the record $8.30 per capita spent in 1953 and the first drop on record, according to the annual report on motion picture theatres, exhibitors and distributors by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In all, Canadians spent $118,490,819 on movies in 1954 as compared with $122,655,068 in the preceding year.

MORE

The drop in per capita expenditure was the result of decreases in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia and the Territories, which more than outweighed increases in the other provinces. Albertans spent the most, averaging $10.39 each versus $9.73 in 1953, and Newfoundlanders the least, $4.43 as against $4.03 in the preceding year.

Per capita expenditure in British Columbia (and Yukon and Northwest Territories) was higher than anywhere else in 1953 at $10.56 but declined last year to $10.13. In Ontario the per capita figure decreased to $8.85 from $9.67, in Quebec to $6.04 from $7.00, and in New Brunswick to $5.86 from $7.02. In Saskatchewan there was an increase to $7.63 from $7.07, in Manitoba to $7.81 from $7.74, in Nova Scotia to $7.52 from $7.35, and in Prince Edward Island to $4.82 from $4.06.

Besides a decrease in per capita expenditure on movies last year, there was also an increase in the average admission price to regular motion picture theatres. Including taxes, the average price was 50¢ last year versus 47¢ in 1953. The price hike was common to all provinces with the sharpest boost in Newfoundland, where the average rose to 6¢ to 43¢. Prices were highest in the Yukon and Northwest Territories (72¢) and Quebec (55¢) last year, and lowest in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Manitoba (each with an average of 4[illegible]¢).

Excluding taxes, the average admission price in Canada was 44¢ last year, the range among cities being from 38¢ in Sydney, Nova Scotia, to 57¢ in Sherbrooke, Quebec. Sydney also had the highest capacity utilized with paid admissions equal to 37% of the potential number of admissions; Brantford, Ontario trailed in this comparison with admissions equal to only 17% of 1954 capacity.

All told, the 1,938 regular motion picture theatres in Canada had 984,907 seats and a potential number of admissions of 814,499,074 last year. Paid admissions numbered 218,508,653, yielding an average of 27% for capacity utilized. On a provincial basis, average capacity utilized ranged from 23% in Quebec to 33% in Alberta and 55% in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Comparison of figures for Canada's two largest cities show Toronto ahead of Montreal in all but average admission price -- 52¢ in Montreal versus 51¢ in Toronto. The 106 theatres in Toronto had 91,653 seats, a potential number of admissions of 90,914,811, paid admissions numbering 22,972,208 and an average capacity utilized of 25%. Montreal's 73 theatres had 71,953 seats, a potential of 96,636,481 admissions, 19,701,790 paid admissions, and an average capacity utilized of 20%.

In the province of Quebec, Montreal's average admission price was second to Sherbrooke's, while its average capacity utilized was higher only than that of Verdun and Hull (both 19%). Three Rivers had the highest average capacity utilized (29%) and the lowest average price (44¢).

In Ontario, Toronto's average admission price was the same as in London and was topped only by Sudbury's 52¢. The price was lowest in St. Catherines at 41¢. For average capacity utilized, Toronto's figure was about midway between Brantford's low of 17% and Owen Sound's high of 33%. (36)

Consumer Price Indexes For Regional Cities Consumer price indexes for ten regional cities registered only slight changes between October and November, as four moved lower, four were higher, and two remained unchanged. The maximum change recorded in any city was 0.3%, the Toronto index recording a decrease of that amount and the Winnipeg index a corresponding increase.

Changes at group index levels were mixed, foods being the only group to show a relatively consistent movement from city to city. Food indexes decreased in eight of the ten cities, declines ranging from 0.1% in Vancouver to 1.5% in Toronto. Beef prices were fractionally lower in all cities except Edmonton and lower prices for pork were reported from all centres. Coffee prices were up in all ten cities.

Shelter indexes advanced slightly in five cities and were unchanged in the other five. Clothing indexes were practically unchanged, moving no more than 0.1% in any city, with four indexes up, two down, and four remaining the same. Household operation increased in Montreal and Toronto, largely as a result of higher coal prices, and in Vancouver following increases in homefurnishings.

The decline in the Winnipeg index of "other" commodities and services followed a decrease in the price of gasoline, while the higher indexes recorded for Ottawa, Toronto and Saskatoon-Regina were largely due to higher theatre admissions in these cities, except Regina, and sharply higher prices for men's haircuts in Saskatoon.

The total indexes for November 1 and October 1, and November 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 November 1955 (base 1949=100)

	Total Indexes		Group Indexes - November 1, 1955				
	Oct. 1 1955	Nov. 1 1955	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities & Services
St. John's x	104.8	104.6	100.7	109.7	100.3	103.3	110.9
Halifax	114.9	114.9	106.3	124.9	114.5	119.6	119.1
Saint John	117.8	117.6	110.8	127.2	116.1	117.0	124.1
Montreal	117.0	117.1	115.3	136.1	107.1	114.9	116.6
Ottawa	117.7	117.7	110.9	135.7	111.2	116.0	120.8
Toronto	119.4	119.0	111.1	147.7	110.1	115.1	118.8
Winnipeg	116.6	116.9	113.7	126.9	112.3	114.1	119.0
Saskatoon-Regina	115.5	115.6	113.9	118.1	114.4	116.9	115.2
Edmonton-Calgary	115.2	115.1	111.9	121.1	112.5	115.8	117.6
Vancouver	118.5	118.6	114.7	127.8	112.6	124.2	119.6

x Index on the base June 1951 = 100

Weekly Security Price Indexes

Investors' Price Index	December 8	December 1	November 10
		1935-39=100	
Total Common Stocks	250.0	246.3	245.5
Industrials	260.2	255.5	254.8
Utilities	204.4	203.4	202.5
Banks	253.4	252.6	251.4
Mining Stock Price Index			
Total Mining Stocks	121.2	119.0	120.6
Golds	71.8	71.6	71.3
Base Metals	234.2	227.4	233.5

R E L E A S E D T H I S W E E K

1-National Accounts, Income & Expenditure, Third Quarter, 1955, 25¢
2-Quarterly Estimates of the Canadian Balance of International Payments, Third Quarter, 1955, 25¢
3-M: Sales of Paints, Varnishes & Lacquers, October, 10¢
4-M: Preliminary Report on the Production of Motor Vehicles, November, 10¢
5-M: Cement & Cement Products, October, 10¢
6-M: Steel Wire & Specified Wire Products, October, 10¢
7-Production, Shipments & Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, September, 25¢
8-Production, Shipments & Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, September, 25¢
9-M: Production of Leather Footwear, September, 10¢
10-Button, Buckle & Fastener Industry, 1954, 25¢
11-Coal & Coke Statistics, September, 25¢ -- 12-M: Scrap Iron & Steel, 1954, 15¢
13-Soaps, Washing Compounds & Cleaning Preparations Industry, 1954, 25¢
14-Cotton & Jute Bag Industry, 1954, 25¢ -- 15-Retail Trade, October, 25¢
16-Department Store Sales & Stocks, October, 10¢
17-New Motor-Vehicle Sales & Motor Vehicle Financing, October, 25¢
18-Chain Store Sales & Stocks, October, 10¢
19-Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, September, 15¢
20-M: Salt, October, 10¢ -- 21-Gold Mining Industry, 1954, 50¢
22-M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, December 1, 10¢
23-Dairy Factory Production, November, 10¢ -- 24-M: Margarine Statistics, November, 10¢
25-M: Cold Storage Holdings of Meat & Lard, December 1, 10¢
26-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, November 30, 10¢
27-Grain Milling Statistics, October, 10¢
28-Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, October, 25¢
29-Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, October, 25¢
30-Estimates of Labour Income, September, 10¢
31-Advance Statement on Employment & Weekly Earnings, October, 10¢
32-M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, November 30, 10¢
33-M: Railway Freight Traffic, August, 10¢
34-Mental Health Statistics, 1954 -- Financial Supplement, 25¢
35-Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, October, 10¢
36-Motion Picture Theatres, Exhibitors & Distributors, 1954, 25¢
-- Canadian Statistical Review, November, 35¢

M: Memorandum

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Spend Less On Movies Canadians spent $7.80 per capita on motion picture entertainment last year, 50¢ or 6% per capita less than in 1953 -- the first drop on record.

Movie Prices Up Last Year Average admission price to regular motion picture theatres in Canada was 50¢ (taxes included) last year, 3¢ more than in 1953.

Peaches Commercial canners used 71,246,505 raw pounds of peaches this year, of which 378,436 pounds were imported.

19 Cheese Factories The number of establishments in Canada's process cheese industry continued to decrease last year, numbering 19 at the end of 1954 versus 20 a year earlier, 22 at the end of 1952 and 24 at the close of 1951.

Canned Corn Commercial canners packed 6,899,760 dozen containers of corn this year, of which 4,442,382 dozen were cream style, 2,120,240 dozen were vacuum pack whole kernel, 200,356 dozen were whole kernel in brine and 136,775 dozen were corn on the cob.

Larger Proportion Of Labour Force Female 225 of every 1,000 persons employed in industry in Canada last year were women, the highest proportion since 1946 when the figure was 234 per 1,000. At the wartime peak of employment for women (Oct. 1, 1944) they filled 271 of every 1,000 positions in industry.

Fewer Biscuits 188,342,663 pounds of plain and fancy biscuits were shipped by the biscuit industry last year, a drop from the 1953 sales of 191,600,407 pounds.

Sugar Beet Prices Off The average farm price per ton of sugar beets dropped to $13.40 this fall, down from $15.15 last year and the lowest average since the fall of 1947.

Canadians Earn More Labour income reached an estimated $9,463,000,000 in the first three quarters of this year, $587,000,000 or over 6.5% more than in the same period of 1954.

Plums Commercial canners packed 992,412 dozen containers of plums with a net weight of 16,098,228 pounds this year. Another 544,716 pounds were quick frozen and 2,656,867 pounds were processed in SO_2. The canners used 13,368,834 raw pounds of plums, of which 357,058 pounds were imported.

Railway Salaries At the end of last year average annual salaries and wages in the transportation division of Canadian railways were highest for road passenger engineers and motormen at $6,813, road passenger conductors at $5,926, yard engineers and motormen at $5,675, road freight conductors at $5,617, road passenger firemen and helpers at $5,533, train despatchers and traffic supervisors at 5,477, road freight engineers and motormen at $5,282, yard conductors and yard foremen at $5,040 and yardmasters and assistants at $5,004.