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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

The People: Canada's population had reached an estimated 15,439,000 by the start of the year, a gain of 29,000 over a month earlier and 404,000 since January 1, 1954... 5,800 divorces were granted last year, 5% fewer than in 1953, when the downward trend from the 1947 peak of 8,199 was reversed by an 8.4% increase. (Page 2)

Foreign Trade: A 17% boost in exports and a 9.5% increase in imports over the 1954 levels left Canada with an export balance of \$3,600,000 in January in contrast with an import balance of \$14,800,000 in January last year. Sales to the U.S. and U.S. accounted for most of the export gain, and purchases from the U.S. for most of the import rise. (Page 4)

Production: Canadian industry produced more than in 1953 in the last three months of 1954 but reduced activity in earlier months put last year's total output 1.4% below the preceding year. Mineral production rose 13% and electricity and gas output 5%, but these gains were outweighed by a 4.3% cut in manufacturing production, mainly in durable goods. (Page 5)

Manufacturing: More asphalt floor tiles, hard board and asphalt shingles were produced in January than in the same month last year but less smooth and mineral surfaced roll roofing... More plywood but less veneers was shipped last year than in 1953, and sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers showed a moderate decline. (Pages 8-10)

Food: Wheat flour production was 3.5% above the preceding year's level in the first half (August-January) of the current crop year, but exports were down over 11%... 3% more milk and 1% more sugar were produced in January than in the same month last year. (Pages 10-14)

Merchandising: Sales of department stores across Canada were 5.4% above the 1954 level in the week ending February 19. Preliminary figures place 1954 sales at \$1,065,408,000, about 4% higher than in 1953. (Pages 15 & 16)

Transportation: Railway carloadings dipped 2.2% below last year's level in the second week of February, but receipts from connections rose 2.8%... Boosted by a record monthly movement in December, the flow of oil through Canadian pipe lines increased 17% last year. (Page 7)

Population 15,439,000
At Start of This Year

Canada started 1955 with a population of 15,439,000, up 29,000 from December 1 last year, according to an estimate by the Bureau to provide a first-of-the year figure in addition to the quarterly estimates from the June 1 census date.

This total compares with an estimated 15,035,000 at January 1 last year, making a gain of 404,000 or 2.7% for 1954. Numerically, this was a larger gain than in the two previous years, the increase for 1953 being estimated at 386,000 or 2.6% and that for 1952 at 388,000 or 2.7%. Calendar year estimates are not available for earlier years.

The half-year estimates for last year indicate closely equal increases in the two periods, the January-June gain being put at 201,000 and that for July-December at 203,000. In contrast, the estimates for 1953 showed a rise of 172,000 for the first half of the year and 214,000 for the second, while for 1952 the first half had the larger increase with 206,000 against 182,000 for the July-December period.

Several Vital Statistics
Records Established In 1953

The Bureau has released its final annual report on vital statistics for the year 1953, for which preliminary figures were issued in mid-1954.

The 33rd in a series issued since 1921 on data obtained under arrangement with provincial registration offices, the 134-page report contains, in addition to comprehensive and detailed statistics on births, deaths, marriages, divorces and stillbirths, comparisons of Canadian vital statistics rates with those of other countries, several historical series and detailed statistics for the Yukon and Northwest Territories not previously released.

Several vital statistics records were established in 1953. The year saw the highest number of births ever recorded in Canadian history at 416,825, and the birth rate of 28.2 was the second highest in the last 30 years and 7th highest among the major countries of the world. Ontario for the first time had more births than the traditionally highest province of Quebec.

Despite an ageing population the 1953 death rate of 8.6 was the lowest recorded, only the Netherlands (7.7) and Norway (8.3) among major world countries having a lower rate. Record low infant, neo-natal and maternal mortality rates were also recorded in 1953.

High fertility and low mortality during 1953 gave Canada the 6th highest rate of natural increase (excess of births over deaths) in the world, with one-quarter million persons being added to the population during the year. (1)

5% Fewer Divorces
Granted Last Year

There were 5% fewer divorces granted in Canada in last year than in 1953 according to preliminary figures. This decline followed an 8.4% increase in 1953 over 1952 and successive annual declines in earlier years from 1947's all-time peak number.

MORE

The Bureau places the preliminary total of divorces in 1954 at 5,800 as compared with 6,110 in 1953, 5,634 in 1952, 5,263 in 1951, 5,373 in 1950, and 5,934 in 1949, and the higher postwar figures of 6,881 in 1948, 8,199 in 1947 and 7,683 in 1946.

The all-Canada divorce rate per 100,000 of the population fell to 38.2 from 41.4 in the preceding year, and compares with 39.1 in 1952, the postwar low of 37.6 in 1951, 39.3 in 1950, 44.2 in 1949, 53.8 in 1948, and the high rates of 65.5 in 1947 and 62.6 in 1946.

The trend was lower in 1954 than in 1953 in six of the 10 provinces, increases being recorded for Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec and Nova Scotia. Ontario's total of 2,346 -- largest among the provinces -- fell from 2,774. British Columbia had the second highest total, dropping slightly to 1,471 from 1,478. Alberta, third in total number, had an increase to 610 from 603.

Divorces in Manitoba fell in number to 371 from 374, New Brunswick to 117 from 181, Prince Edward Island to 8 from 15 and Newfoundland to 8 from 9. In Quebec there was an increase to 370 from 273, in Saskatchewan to 250 from 218, and in Nova Scotia to 249 from 185.

British Columbia had the highest divorce rate among the provinces with a figure of 116.2 per 100,000 population versus 120.2 in 1953. Alberta was next with a rate of 58.7 (60.2 in 1953); Ontario, 46.5 (56.6); Manitoba, 44.8 (46.2); Nova Scotia, 37.0 (27.9); Saskatchewan, 28.5 (25.3); New Brunswick, 21.4 (33.8); Quebec, 8.4 (6.4); Prince Edward Island, 7.6 (14.2); and Newfoundland, 2.0 (2.3).

The table following shows all-Canada and provincial totals of the number of divorces granted in the years 1946, 1947, 1948, 1952, 1953 and 1954.

	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Newfoundland *	-	-	-	3	9	8
Prince Edward Island	4	18	49	9	15	8
Nova Scotia	260	207	78 **	188	185	249
New Brunswick	382	236	211	200	181	117
Quebec *	290	348	292	309	273	370
Ontario	2,639	3,509	3,107	2,202	2,774	2,346
Manitoba	636	665	477	338	374	371
Saskatchewan	505	509	333	223	218	250
Alberta	962	881	651	630	603	610
British Columbia	2,005	1,826	1,683	1,532	1,478	1,471
Canada	7,683	8,199	6,881	5,634	6,110	5,800 ***

* Granted by Parliament of Canada.

** A new rule was adopted in August 1948 by the Divorce Court granting a Decree Nisi to become absolute at the end of three months. As a result a number of divorces were not effective until 1949.

*** Preliminary figures.

Foreign Trade In January
Continues Upward Movement

Canada's foreign commodity trade in January continued the advance over a year earlier shown in the last two months of 1954, with increases both in exports and imports over January last year and a small export balance as against an import balance, according to preliminary figures. Most of the export gain was in sales to the U.K. and U.S., and most of the import rise in purchases from the U.S.

Total exports in the month were up \$45,000,000 or nearly 17% in value to \$310,400,000 from \$265,400,000 in January last year, while commodity imports rose \$26,600,000 or 9.5% to an estimated \$306,800,000 from \$280,200,000. The greater rise in exports than imports resulted in an export balance of \$3,600,000 as against an import balance of \$14,800,000 last year.

Shipments to the United States moved up to \$183,100,000 as compared to \$160,100,000 to bring the month's value close below the high levels of the three years 1951 to 1953. Purchases from the United States, however, increased slightly more to \$228,400,000 against \$202,700,000, bringing an increase in the import surplus with the United States to \$45,300,000 from \$42,600,000.

Exports to the United Kingdom climbed sharply, as in the two previous months, to \$63,000,000 from last year's low January figure of \$38,100,000, but imports from the United Kingdom were slightly lower at \$27,500,000 against \$28,300,000. The result was a sharp rise in the export surplus to \$35,500,000 compared to \$9,800,000.

Sales to other Commonwealth countries, generally lower last year, also increased to \$16,700,000 from \$12,100,000, while purchases continued the 1954 trend with an increase to \$11,400,000 from \$9,000,000. Exports to the remaining countries, in contrast with the other gains, fell off in January to \$47,600,000 from \$55,100,000, and imports from these countries - up moderately through 1954 - declined slightly to \$39,500,000 from \$40,200,000.

The preliminary figures for January are summarized below. The import figures are estimates and subject to revision.

	<u>January Exports</u>		<u>January Imports</u>	
	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
	-Millions of Dollars-			
United Kingdom	38.1	63.0	28.3	27.5
Other Commonwealth countries	12.1	16.7	9.0	11.4
United States	160.1	183.1	202.7	228.4
Other foreign countries	55.1	47.6	40.2	39.5
Totals	<u>265.4</u>	<u>310.4</u>	<u>280.2</u>	<u>306.8</u>

LABOUR

Federal Government Employment
Decreased Slightly in October

Classified civil servants on the payroll of the Federal Government in October numbered 140,110, down slightly from September's 140,142 but up from last year's October total of 132,714. Their earnings aggregated \$36,084,397, up from \$35,866,683 in September and \$31,836,865 in October, 1953. Prevailing rate employees, casual employees and ships' crews numbered 41,588, down from September's 43,669 but up from 1953's October total of 39,405. Their earnings totalled \$8,019,211, down from \$8,789,735 in the preceding month but up from \$7,872,250 a year earlier. (2)

Industrial Production Index Up 2%
Last December From Year Earlier

Canada's composite index of industrial production for December stood at 240.0, up about 2% from 235.5 for December, 1953, according to preliminary calculations, making the third successive rise in the index over a year earlier. Over the twelve months of 1954, the index averaged 244.8, down 1.4% from the average for 1953.

Compared with a year earlier, the manufacturing component of the index dropped nearly 2% in December to 243.2. The index of mineral output, on the other hand, advanced by over 17%, and the index of electricity and gas production rose nearly 14% to 282.2.

The index of non-durable manufactures for December stood at 212.7, slightly above the year earlier figure of 210.8. Among the industries of this group, textile production was 17% above December, 1953, but output in all other lines changed relatively little. Tobacco products, rubber products, and printing and publishing showed small gains, production of foods and beverages and paper products was almost unchanged, and clothing, petroleum and coal, and chemical products recorded small declines.

The index of durable manufactures was down 4.5% last December to 290.9 compared to 304.6 in the previous December. The transportation equipment index dropped 20% in this comparison, and the index for iron and steel products 13%. In contrast, non-ferrous metals advanced 15%, and wood products, electrical apparatus and non-metallic minerals showed smaller gains.

For the year 1954, manufacturing production averages 4.3% below 1953, outweighing increases of 13% in mineral production and of 5% in output of electricity and gas to bring the composite index down 1.4% as already noted. The volume of non-durable manufactures was only 1% lower, but durable goods dropped more than 8%. In the non-durables group, textiles and clothing production showed the largest declines. Lower output was also recorded in rubber and leather products, but gains were registered in all other non-durable industries.

Large declines in the iron and steel products and transportation equipment industries accounted for most of the drop in the durables group. Wood products and electrical apparatus and supplies showed smaller declines, while output of non-ferrous metals and non-metallic mineral products was moderately higher.

PRICES

Security Price Indexes

	<u>February 24</u>	<u>February 17</u> (1935-39 = 100)	<u>January 27</u>
<u>Investors' Price Index</u>			
Total Common Stocks	216.2	216.5	209.6
Industrials	220.9	221.0	213.8
Utilities	185.0	185.4	181.6
Banks	241.9	243.8	232.6
<u>Mining Stock Price Index</u>			
Total Mining Stocks	106.7	107.4	104.6
Gold	70.5	69.2	68.0
Base Metals	189.6	194.7	188.4

Production & Imports Of Coal Lower In January Both domestic production and landed imports of coal declined in January as compared with the corresponding month last year. The month's output amounted to 1,440,000 tons versus 1,627,000 and the landed imports totalled 589,000 tons versus 598,000.

Production in Nova Scotia in January amounted to 485,000 tons (478,000 a year earlier); Alberta, 480,000 tons (651,000); Saskatchewan, 291,000 (335,000); British Columbia and Yukon, 115,000 (97,000); and New Brunswick, 69,000 (67,000).

Landed imports were as follows by provinces: Ontario, 429,000 tons (430,000 in January, 1954); Quebec, 140,000 (154,000); Newfoundland, 8,700 (600); British Columbia and Yukon, 3,500 (3,600); and New Brunswick, 100 (55). (3)

Salt Production Up 12% In 1954 Production of dry common salt in 1954 amounted to 513,599 tons, 12% above the preceding year's 458,149 tons. During the year 520,006 tons were shipped versus 495,086 and year-end producer stocks were 13,419 tons versus 19,826. (4)

Lead & Zinc Production Up In 1954; Lead Lower Canadian production of both primary lead and silver moved up in the year 1954 from the preceding year but zinc output declined. The year's output of lead amounted to 219,280 tons versus 193,706, silver totalled 30,674,952 fine ounces versus 28,424,795, and zinc amounted to 373,448 tons versus 401,762. (5)

Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas Canadian production of crude petroleum rose 9% in November and nearly 19% in the January-November period as compared with a year earlier. The month's output amounted to 8,292,000 barrels versus 7,596,000, bringing the January-November total to 86,426,000 barrels versus 72,821,000.

Natural gas production in November rose to 11,395,000 M cubic feet from 10,254,000 M and the 11-month total advanced to 107,303,000 M cubic feet from 88,696,000 M.

Natural gas sales in November were up to 7,663,000 M cubic feet from 6,657,000 and in the 11 months to 78,069,000 M cubic feet from 62,502,000 M. November sales of manufactured gas climbed to 2,225,000 M cubic feet from 2,199,000 and in the 11 months to 23,940,000 M cubic feet from 23,574,000. (6)

Shipments Of Feldspar Up Slightly In 1953 Producers' shipments of crude and ground feldspar in 1953 totalled 21,246 tons valued at \$347,164 compared with 20,267 tons valued at \$330,635 in the preceding year, according to the Bureau's annual industry report. Quebec's output amounted to 18,591 tons versus 16,645 and Ontario's totalled 2,655 tons versus 3,622. (7)

Railway Carloadings Down 2.2% In 2nd Week Of February; Receipts From Connections Rose 2.8%

Railway carloadings in the second week of February declined 2.2% to 67,039 cars from 68,575 in the corresponding week last year but receipts from connections rose 2.8% to 30,373 cars from 29,538. Cumulative loadings from the start of the year to February 14 rose 3.9% to 419,688 cars from 404,089 and receipts from connections were up 8.7% to 191,514 cars from 176,160.

Commodities carried in fewer cars in the second week of February were: grain, 4,009 (5,854 in 1954); automobiles, trucks and parts, 1,035 (2,028); and L.C.L. merchandise, 13,012 (13,769). Carried in larger volume were: fuel oil, 3,103 cars (2,649); lumber, timber and plywood, 3,872 (3,326); agricultural implements and tractors, 1,068 (479); and miscellaneous carloads, 4,529 (4,070). (8)

Operating Revenues & Income Of Railways Higher In November

A larger decline in operating expenses than in operating revenues resulted in increased net operating revenues and income of the larger railways in Canada in November than in the corresponding month of 1953, according to the Bureau's monthly summary.

Operating revenues of 17 railways amounted to \$92,205,000 in November, down 1.9% from \$94,011,000 for the 16 railways which reported in November, 1953. Expenses dropped 4.9% to \$82,295,000 from \$86,528,000. (On the basis of 16 railways reporting for both 1954 and 1953, revenues dropped 2.7% and expenses declined 5.8%). The result was a higher net operating revenue of \$9,911,000 versus \$7,453,000. Operating income climbed to \$7,040,000 from \$4,200,000.

Revenue freight carried rose 4.4% to 14,725,000 tons from 14,108,000 and freight ton miles increased 2.3% to 5,374,311,000 from 5,252,015,000. Passengers carried dropped 1.1% to 2,160,000 from 2,184,000 and passenger miles fell 11.7% to 178,446,000 from 201,992,000. Employees numbered 183,000 as against 194,000 and total payroll amounted to \$51,723,000 versus \$53,966,000. (9)

Large Flow Of Oil Through Pipe Lines

Boosted by a record monthly movement in December, deliveries of oil through Canadian pipe lines in 1954 soared to 172,495,935 barrels from the preceding year's 147,303,771 barrels. December deliveries amounted to 15,925,138 barrels, 10.5% above last year's 14,399,552.

Provincial totals for the year were as follows, 1953 data being in brackets: British Columbia, 14,566,334 barrels (1,540,011); Alberta, 16,452,608 (16,984,749); Saskatchewan, 14,191,691 (14,189,654); Manitoba, 41,519,892 (36,682,639); Ontario, 32,441,988 (24,868,257); and Quebec, 53,323,422 (53,038,461).

Manitoba deliveries included 34,776,583 barrels (30,524,131 in 1953) transferred to the Lakehead Pipe Line Company for transport through the United States, principally to Sarnia refineries, and 6,743,309 (6,158,508) delivered within the province. Of Interprovincial's deliveries to the Lakehead line during the past year, 31,323,630 barrels had re-entered Canada at Sarnia by the end of the year. (10).

Larger Quantities Of Asphalt Floor Tiles Produced, Shipped In January

Larger quantities of asphalt floor tiles were produced and shipped in January than in the corresponding month last year. The former amounted to 1,747,000 square feet versus 1,313,000 and the latter totalled 1,433,000 square feet versus 1,123,000. (11)

Production, Shipments Of Hard Board Up In January

Production, domestic shipments and export shipments of hard board moved up in January as compared with a year earlier. The month's output amounted to 13,992,182 square feet versus 9,508,827, domestic shipments totalled 7,284,690 square feet versus 6,778,237, and export shipments were 7,174,735 square feet versus 1,746,143. (12)

Paint Sales Lower In Value In 1954

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by manufacturers which normally account for the bulk of the all-Canada total were moderately lower in value in 1954, aggregating \$102,077,000 versus \$109,644,000 in the preceding year.

Lower values were recorded for all types except latex emulsion paints which rose to \$8,096,000 from \$7,202,000. Trade sales fell to \$51,497,000 from \$54,886,000, industrial sales to \$37,958,000 from \$40,292,000, water paints to \$2,061,000 from \$2,081,000, and all other types to \$2,465,000 from \$5,185,000. (13)

Production, Shipments Of Plywood Increased In 1954, Veneer Lower

Both production and shipments of plywood were larger in 1954 than in the preceding year but there were less veneers made and sold. The year's output of plywood amounted to 910,134,000 square feet versus 830,731,000 in 1953 and veneers totalled 742,247,000 square feet versus 855,238,000. Shipments of plywood were 908,793,000 square feet versus 803,910,000 and veneers totalled 758,632,000 square feet versus 850,466,000. Year-end stocks of plywood rose to 48,837,000 square feet from 47,859,000 but veneers fell to 26,924,000 square feet from 45,130,000. (14)

Aluminum Products Industry In 1953

There were 96 plants in Canada in 1953, 8 more than in 1952, occupied chiefly in casting, rolling or fabricating aluminum to make bars, rods, sheets, wire, cable, foil, cooking utensils and other aluminum products. The factory value of their shipments aggregated \$92,724,000 versus \$89,648,000 in 1952, according to the Bureau's annual industry report.

Output of aluminum cooking utensils in the industry was valued at \$7,639,000 versus \$7,466,000 the year before. With the addition of output by concerns in other industrial groups making them as minor products, total Canadian production of aluminum cooking utensils was valued at \$8,187,000 versus \$8,142,000 in 1952. Shipments of all other products of the industry were worth \$85,085,000 versus \$82,182,000.

The industry had an average of 7,738 employees against 7,295 in 1952 and paid \$25,593,000 in salaries and wages against \$23,658,000. Cost of materials at the works was up to \$49,084,000 from \$44,015,000. (15)

Leather Footwear Production Declined Again In November

Production of leather footwear in November declined to 2,996,336 pairs from 3,041,502 in the preceding month and 3,004,487 in the corresponding month of 1953. There were production declines as compared with a year earlier in all months except September and the cumulative output for the January-November period fell to 34,561,578 pairs from 36,600,776. (16)

1953 Was A Banner Year For Leather Footwear Industry

Canada's leather footwear industry shipped a record \$131,307,119 worth of products in 1953, a 2.4% increase over the 1952 output value of \$128,265,771. Footwear shipments climbed to 38,866,990 pairs from 37,430,938 pairs in 1952. The average price per pair fell for the second year in a row to \$3.37 from \$3.41 in 1952. The peak price was the 1951 average of \$3.59.

More footwear for women and growing girls, misses and children were made in 1953 than in 1952, but less for men, youths, boys and babies. Shipments of men's footwear totalled 8,709,370 pairs as against 8,757,128 pairs in 1952, boys' footwear 1,321,162 pairs as against 1,331,791 pairs, youths' footwear 341,144 pairs as against 342,501 pairs, footwear for women and growing girls 18,720,578 pairs as against 17,763,623 pairs, footwear for misses 3,675,280 pairs as against 3,336,843 pairs, children's footwear 3,153,336 pairs as against 2,830,375 pairs and babies' footwear 2,946,120 pairs as against 3,068,677 pairs.

The industry included 286 establishments in 1953, four more than in 1952. Employees numbered 21,497 as against 20,697, and the payroll rose to \$44,036,122 from \$41,092,001. Material costs were slightly lower at \$65,210,564 versus \$65,391,217, but the cost of fuel and electricity increased to \$629,656 from \$593,940. Gross value of products shipped by the leather boot and shoe findings industry increased to \$5,417,064 in 1953 from \$5,079,631 in 1952. Among the main products, increases were recorded for heels, insoles, box toes and shoe ornaments, but decreases for counters, tap soles, top lifts and outsoles. (17)

Ontario's Lumber Industry In 1953

Gross value of all sawn and other products of the Ontario lumber industry in 1953 was \$79,573,208, down 4.3% from \$83,158,216 the previous year, according to a special Bureau compilation. The number of active mills reporting declined to 1,207 from 1,284 in 1952, the total salary and wage-earning employees to 8,664 from 9,309, and the total amount of salaries and wages paid to \$18,492,607 from \$18,938,314.

Output of sawn lumber in 1953 declined to 823,721 M. ft. b.m. valued at \$63,275,565 from 840,484 M. ft. b.m. at \$65,325,145 in 1952. White pine accounted for \$19,827,470 of the 1953 gross production value, followed by spruce at \$11,945,154, Jack pine at \$8,473,640, maple at \$6,018,922, yellow birch at \$4,119,355, red pine at \$4,005,761, and hemlock at \$3,095,440. Values for other species ranged down from \$1,254,668 for basswood to \$199,302 for ash. Among other products, the output of sawn ties fell off in number to 2,948,441 from 3,279,359 and in value to \$5,944,135 from \$6,853,037 and pulpwood production declined to 96,795 from 113,195 cords and its value to \$3,490,090 from \$4,166,126. Output values, on the other hand, were higher for flatted mine timbers and hardwood squares.

Artificial Abrasives Industry Factory value of products shipped by Canada's artificial abrasives industry rose 26% in 1953 to \$46,254,000 from \$36,717,000 in 1952. There were 18 plants in operation in 1953, 2 less than in the preceding year. They employed 2,742 persons versus 2,607 and paid them \$9,901,000 versus \$9,249,000. Material costs were valued at \$16,870,000 versus \$13,968,000.

Chief products of the industry included crude fused alumina valued at \$25,500,000 (\$16,644,000 in 1952); crude silicon carbide, \$7,438,000 (\$8,275,000); abrasive wheels and segments, \$5,694,000 (\$5,501,000); ferrosilicon, \$939,000 (\$597,000); and sharpening stones and files, \$416,000 (\$382,000). (18)

Asphalt Roofing Production of asphalt shingles increased in January over a year earlier but the month's output of smooth and mineral surfaced roll roofing declined. Production of asphalt shingles amounted to 169,552 squares versus 140,395, smooth surfaced roll roofing totalled 44,551 squares versus 53,216, and mineral surfaced amounted to 27,661 squares versus 35,851. (19)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Sugar Production Production of refined beet and cane sugar by Canadian manufacturers increased in January to 76,888,000 pounds from 75,956,000 in January last year, but lower January 1 stocks --
Upped In January 281,241,000 pounds versus 294,032,000 a year earlier -- reduced total supply to 358,129,000 pounds from 369,989,000. January sales increased to 101,065,000 pounds from 85,322,000 last year, putting January 31 stocks at 256,340,000 pounds versus 283,768,000 a year earlier.

Manufacturers started the month with raw cane sugar stocks of 173,436,000 pounds versus 157,194,000 at the beginning of January last year, and receipts during the month amounted to 26,661,000 pounds versus 32,442,000, making a total supply of 200,097,000 pounds as against 189,636,000. January meltings and sales took 72,827,000 pounds as against 75,772,000 a year earlier, leaving stocks of 127,270,000 pounds at January 31 as compared with 113,864,000 at the end of January last year. (20)

Wheat Flour Output Up 3.5% Wheat flour production in the first half of the
In First Half Of Crop Year current crop year amounted to 10,789,407 barrels, 3.5% above the preceding year's first-half total of 10,423,752 barrels. Substantial increases in August and September combined with smaller increases in October and November more than offset decreases in December and January. Wheat flour exports in the half year totalled 4,544,426 barrels, down from 5,107,773 a year earlier.

Monthly wheat flour production totals in the half-year period were as follows: January, 1,552,247 barrels (1,664,950 a year earlier); December, 1,676,067 (1,885,284); November, 1,885,284 (1,865,132); October, 1,934,482 (1,929,031); September, 1,929,031 (1,739,366); and August, 1,812,296 (1,423,562). (21)

Production Of Majority Of Processed Food Commodities Higher In Year 1954

Production of a majority of principal food commodities was larger in the year 1954 than in 1953, according to the

Bureau's report on processed foods for the final 1954 quarter.

Output of most fruit and vegetable preparations increased and there was a small overall rise in output of canned meats. Increases and decreases were about equal among biscuit and confectionery items.

Among fruit and vegetable preparations there were increases in glace cherries to 3,254,718 pounds from 3,123,319, maraschino cherries to 3,373,032 pounds from 3,238,053, crystallized and glace fruits to 1,494,625 pounds from 1,376,085, jams to 81,428,467 pounds from 80,383,888, jellies to 6,335,485 pounds from 5,835,469, marmalades to 21,068,748 pounds from 19,371,600, fruit peel to 3,659,646 pounds from 2,981,020, baked beans to 95,865,588 pounds from 75,117,574, horseradish to 444,533 pounds from 367,907, bottled olives to 567,707 gallons from 490,135, relishes to 824,217 gallons from 775,701, meat sauces to 251,066 gallons from 155,453, canned soups to 25,049,014 dozen tins from 22,014,620 dozen, tomato ketchup to 32,024,038 pounds from 25,515,638, cider vinegar to 592,737 gallons from 567,773, malt vinegar to 260,114 gallons from 230,737, infant cereal foods to 7,347,308 pounds from 6,859,604, infant and junior canned foods to 52,852,632 pounds from 47,839,644. There were decreases in fountain fruits to 847,402 pounds from 894,296, canned mushrooms to 1,350,585 pounds from 1,385,667, pickles to 5,220,567 pounds from 5,737,615, and spirit vinegar to 8,143,903 gallons from 8,266,187.

Among biscuit and confectionery items there were increases in chewing gum to 14,539,548 boxes from 13,194,128, cocoa butter for sale to 752,404 from 490,939, cocoa powder for sale to 8,316,647 pounds from 7,182,476, chocolate moulded novelties to 2,252,457 pounds from 2,252,457 pounds from 2,112,026, sugar confectionery to 77,075,326 pounds from 72,626,197, penny goods to 3,541,495 gross from 3,508,169, and marshmallows to 5,401,054 pounds from 5,193,239. Production of plain and fancy biscuits declined to 188,601,382 pounds from 198,729,525, soda biscuits to 45,552,809 pounds from 47,085,918, chocolate coatings for sale to 13,133,674 pounds from 14,552,225, chocolate bars to 48,197,994 dozen from 48,638,389, chocolate confectionery in bulk to 14,304,574 pounds from 16,976,007, boxed and packaged chocolates to 20,049,792 pounds from 21,996,993, and ice cream cones to 379,235 M from 461,070.

Total output of canned meats was up slightly to 57,450,465 pounds from 56,248,995 in 1953. Output of ready dinners rose to 17,599,563 pounds from 16,863,873, corn beef to 309,322 pounds from 197,772, roast beef to 559,915 pounds from 353,742, spiced beef to 944,030 pounds from 520,116, roast pork and ham to 13,549,709 pounds from 13,299,657, chicken and turkey to 1,884,752 pounds from 1,635,761, bologna to 1,084,862 pounds from 875,257, lunch tongue to 638,898 pounds from 607,453, meat paste to 5,109,907 pounds from 4,874,375, and meat lunch to 698,969 pounds from 571,282. The decreases included spiced pork and ham to 10,669,371 pounds from 11,567,046, pork sausage to 831,583 pounds from 987,265, weiners to 816,427 pounds from 928,062, and weiners and beans to 1,613,189 pounds from 1,630,485.

MORE

Production increases were shown for baking powder to 9,139,157 pounds from 8,192,609, dry macaroni to 77,180,380 pounds from 73,553,242, canned macaroni to 31,340,089 pounds from 29,520,575, mincemeat to 7,095,485 pounds from 5,798,619, prepared mustard to 1,220,273 gallons from 1,213,433, salted and roasted peanuts to 19,380,737 pounds from 16,994,893, peanut butter to 25,256,630 pounds from 23,991,185, ice cream powder to 1,699,014 pounds from 1,657,812, pudding powders to 16,123,562 pounds from 11,646,989, prepared candy and icing mixes to 1,091,407 pounds from 989,066, prepared cake mixes to 45,358,703 pounds from 39,918,000, salad dressing and mayonnaise to 23,341,380 pounds from 22,894,213, table syrups to 337,676 gallons from 284,640, fountain and fruit syrups to 402,211 gallons from 347,982, blended and packed tea to 44,787,444 pounds from 44,142,232, ice cream toppings to 556,288 gallons from 470,824, dried yeast to 1,231,015 pounds from 1,186,446, and fresh yeast to 25,533,397 pounds from 24,825,864.

There were decreases in ready-to-serve cereals to 73,515,658 pounds from 74,786,239, roasted coffee to 68,732,478 pounds from 80,680,399, custard powders to 763,616 pounds from 791,438, jelly powders to 14,117,888 pounds from 15,056,205, pie filling powders to 5,965,402 pounds from 7,048,018, process cheese to 44,440,296 pounds from 44,767,758, sandwich spreads to 3,461,396 pounds from 3,585,549, and beverage syrups to 494,523 gallons from 509,960. (22)

Small Drop In Value Of Products Of Fruit
& Vegetable Preparations Industry In 1953

Output of Canada's fruit and vegetable preparations industry in 1953 was valued at \$205,119,000, a small

decrease from the all-time peak of \$211,788,000 in 1952, according to the Bureau's annual industry report. There was an overall decrease of 4% in the volume of production in 1953. Plants in Ontario accounted for almost two-thirds of the national total with a production value of \$132,534,000 in 1953 versus \$139,549,000 in the preceding year. Quebec plants accounted for \$31,539,000 (\$32,012,000 in 1952) and British Columbia plants for \$28,946,000 (\$28,480,000).

The volume of production increased 30% in canned fruits, 10.3% in jams, jellies and marmalades, and 5.5% in pickles, while production of canned vegetables fell 16%, canned soups 4.3% and catsup 27.6%. Production totals of canned fruits and vegetables follow: canned fruits, 7,577,310 dozen tins (6,279,000 in 1952); canned vegetables, 29,817,000 dozen tins (33,527,000); jams, jellies and marmalades, 99,827,000 pounds (92,532,000); canned soups, 21,706,000 dozen tins (23,140,000); catsup, 25,393,000 pounds (32,929,000); and pickles, relishes and sauces, 5,583,000 gallons (5,319,000).

Factory selling value of the principal products were: canned fruits, \$19,016,000 (\$14,676,000 in 1952); canned vegetables, \$50,467,000 (\$60,110,000); jams, jellies and marmalades, \$18,119,000 (\$16,432,000); canned soups, \$33,185,000 (\$34,673,000); catsups, \$5,865,000 (\$8,104,000); and pickles, relishes and sauces, \$11,280,000 (\$10,690,000). In 1953 the industry comprised 454 establishments, 8 less than in the preceding year. Their employees fell to 15,385 from 16,020 but salary and wage payments rose to \$32,839,000 from \$31,993,000. (23)

Fruit And Ornamental Nursery Stock Sales In the 12 months ending June 30, 1953, 152 Canadian producers of ornamental nursery stock sold 472,770 domestic rose bushes, 3,039,661 ornamental deciduous shrubs, 412,847 ornamental deciduous trees, 589,524 ornamental evergreen shrubs and trees, 83,391 vines and creepers, 840,982 bulbs and tubers and 655,176 herbaceous perennials, according to advance figures.

In the same period they sold 234,566 domestic apple trees, 389,827 tender tree fruit species, 2,772,975 small fruit species, 5,154 nut trees and 897,062 other species.

In addition to the domestic varieties Canadian producers sold the following imported kinds: 275,254 rose bushes, 580,209 ornamental deciduous shrubs, 28,501 ornamental deciduous trees, 231,322 ornamental evergreen shrubs and trees, 20,168 vines and creepers, 993,371 bulbs and tubers, 21,321 herbaceous perennials, 816 apple trees, and 4,248 tender tree fruit species.

	<u>Ontario</u>		<u>Quebec</u>		<u>Manitoba</u>	
	<u>Number</u> <u>Domestic</u>	<u>Sold</u> <u>Imp.*</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Domestic</u>	<u>Sold</u> <u>Imp.*</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Domestic</u>	<u>Sold</u> <u>Imp.*</u>
Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Plants						
Rose bushes.....	393,936	183,424	3,313	39,810	697	35,300
Other deciduous-ornamental shrubs	2,331,470	494,116	187,236	67,550	181,515	4,000
Ornamental trees deciduous	161,734	17,354	52,859	8,379	36,161	-
Ornamental evergreens-shrubs, trees ..	435,886	194,227	101,335	25,712	4,075	1,500
Vines and creepers	54,738	16,584	2,536	3,428	1,245	-
Bulbs and tubers	698,306	310,996	42,660	635,450	37,862	39,975
Herbaceous perennials	454,528	21,191	71,970	-	28,197	-
<u>Fruit - species</u>						
Apple species	130,226	-	29,608	-	8,653	-
Tender tree fruit specials	275,226	-	1,441	-	4,681	-
Small fruit species	1,458,761	-	977,237	-	156,241	4,550
Others	883,483	-	8,000	-	4,550	-
Nut trees	3,795	-	-	-	390	-
	<u>Saskatchewan</u>		<u>Alberta</u>		<u>British Columbia</u>	
	<u>Number</u> <u>Domestic</u>	<u>Sold</u> <u>Imp.*</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Domestic</u>	<u>Sold</u> <u>Imp.*</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Domestic</u>	<u>Sold</u> <u>Imp.*</u>
Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Plants						
Rose bushes	4,224	-	-	-	70,600	16,720
Other deciduous-ornamental shrubs	172,168	3,271	105,800	-	61,472	11,272
Ornamental trees deciduous	87,937	-	68,447	-	5,709	2,768
Ornamental evergreens-shrubs, trees ..	3,846	-	6,190	-	38,192	9,883
Vines and creepers	992	-	19,315	-	4,565	156
Bulbs and tubers	6,682	1,840	-	-	55,472	5,110
Herbaceous perennials	11,474	-	34,031	-	54,976	130
<u>Fruit - species</u>						
Apple species	2,816	816	2,063	-	61,202	-
Tender tree fruit specials	2,923	-	1,150	-	104,026	4,248
Small fruit species	116,697	-	43,575	-	20,464	-
Others	379	-	-	-	650	-
Nut trees	-	-	-	-	969	-

* Imported.

Canada's Milk Production
Rose Nearly 3% Last Year

Canadian cows gave an estimated 16,884,000,000 pounds of milk last year, an increase of nearly 3% over the revised 1953 output total of 16,449,000,000 pounds, according to the January issue of the Bureau's Dairy Review. Preliminary figures place January production at 945,000,000 pounds, 28,000,000 or 3% more than in January last year.

Sales of fluid milk and cream increased last year — milk by 124,000,000 pounds to 4,259,000,000, and cream (measured in milk equivalent) by 9,000,000 pounds to 841,000,000. The amount of milk and cream used in farm homes rose by 13,000,000 pounds to 1,048,000,000, but the amount fed to livestock fell by 15,000,000 to 595,000,000. Dairy factories used nearly 4% more than in 1953 — 9,683,711,000 pounds versus 9,341,202,000.

In 1954 more milk and cream was used in the manufacture of all dairy products except ice-cream, which showed a slight 0.6% decrease to 486,914,000 pounds from 489,753,000 in 1953. The amount used in creamery butter increased by over 3% to 7,320,784,000 pounds from 7,085,122,000, in cheddar cheese by 10% to 928,796,000 from 844,184,000, in factory cheese by 13.5% to 83,567,000 from 73,600,000, and in concentrated milk products by nearly 2% to 863,710,000 from 848,543,000.

Farm cash income from the sale of dairy products increased to \$426,000,000 last year, some \$10,000,000 more than in 1953. The larger quantity of cream sold for creamery butter manufacture added more than \$3,250,000 to the total, while the increase in cheese milk sales added about \$2,500,000. Prices were generally lower in 1954 than in 1953, the average of \$2.87 per hundred pounds (in terms of milk) for all products comparing with an average of \$2.90 in 1953. The price of fluid milk averaged \$4.36 per hundred pounds as against \$4.39 in the preceding year, but the average for cheese milk advanced to \$2.20 per hundred pounds from \$2.14. Creamery butter fat averaged 60.5 cents a pound as against 61.2 cents in 1953. (24)

Fluid Milk And Cream
Sales Up 3% In 1954

Combined sales of fluid milk and cream last year amounted to 5,100,292,000 pounds, up 3% from the preceding year. December sales rose 4% to 446,809,000. Sales in 1954 were unchanged from 1953 in Quebec at 1,918,934,000 pounds, but rose 4% in Ontario to 1,721,583,000, 3% in British Columbia to 370,842,000, 5% in Alberta to 271,206,000, 6% in Saskatchewan to 247,985,000, 3% in Manitoba to 219,347,000, 7% in Nova Scotia to 174,669,000, 3% in New Brunswick to 148,039,000, and 1% in Prince Edward Island to 27,687,000. (25)

Gross Value Of Principal
Field Crops Lower In 1954

Revised data on average prices received by farmers indicate that the gross value of production of Canada's principal field crops in 1953 amounted to almost \$1,800,000,000, some \$100,000,000 above the 1953 preliminary estimate. This total is below the record-breaking levels of \$2,300,000,000 in 1952 and \$2,100,000,000 in 1951 but compares favourably with total values prior to those two years.

MORE

Preliminary estimates, based on average prices received by farmers during the August, 1954 - January, 1955 period and including initial payments only on western wheat, oats and barley, place the gross value of principal field crops produced on Canadian farms in 1954 at \$1,138,000,000, indicating that the 1954 total will be well below that of 1953. However, additional payments on the 1954 western wheat, oats and barley crops will increase the value over the current estimate.

Crops contributing the largest amounts to the 1953 totals were: wheat, \$783,000,000; tame hay, \$269,000,000; oats, \$254,000,000; and barley, \$225,000,000. The gross value of both the 1953 wheat crop and of the all-Canada total will be further increased by final payments to be made on that part of the wheat crop marketed through the Canadian Wheat Board.

On a provincial basis, the value of Saskatchewan's field crop production in 1953 was estimated at \$642,900,000, representing 36% of the all-Canada total. The gross value of field crop production in other provinces in 1953 was estimated as follows: Alberta, \$411,000,000; Ontario, \$309,000,000; Manitoba, \$175,000,000; Quebec, \$147,000,000; British Columbia, \$30,700,000; New Brunswick, \$22,500,000; Nova Scotia, \$17,000,000; and Prince Edward Island, \$16,700,000.

It is emphasized that a direct comparison between the 1954 preliminary total of \$1,138,000,000 and the 1953 revised total of \$1,771,000,000 is unrealistic since only initial payments for western wheat, oats and barley have been taken into consideration in arriving at the 1954 preliminary total, whereas, with the exception of wheat, total payments on these grains are included in the 1953 revised total. (26)

MERCHANDISING

Department Store Sales Increased 4% Last Year

Cash registers in department stores in all areas except Manitoba and Saskatchewan rang up more dollars last year than in 1953 to push total Canadian sales over the billion-dollar mark for the second year in a row. Preliminary figures published by D. B. S. place 1954 sales at \$1,065,408,000, some 4% above the revised 1953 total of \$1,024,746,000. Led by a 41% boost in radio and music departments -- which include television sets -- 23 of the 29 leading departments registered dollar gains over the preceding year.

The 1954 total was strengthened by an increase of nearly 8% in December sales to an estimated \$152,322,000 from \$141,556,000 in the last month of 1953. Except for a decrease of 2.5% in Saskatchewan, there were gains over December 1953 in all areas, percentage increases ranging from 3% in Quebec to 14% in British Columbia. Of the 29 leading departments, December sales were higher last year in 25, the largest percentage increase being in major appliances (41%) and hardware and housewares (27%).

In dollar terms, the leading department last year was hardware and housewares with a national sales total of \$67,177,000 versus \$62,381,000 in 1953. Next in order were furniture (\$64,504,000 versus \$65,145,000), home furnishings (\$64,118,000 versus \$63,750,000) and girls' and infants' wear (\$54,905,000 versus \$52,720,000). Sales of the 10 departments handling ladies'

MORE

apparel and accessories totalled \$302,460,000 as against \$298,118,000 in 1953.

British Columbia stores chalked up the largest percentage increase in sales, the \$181,015,000 total being nearly 16% higher than 1953's \$156,391,000. Sales in Quebec rose more than 4% to \$192,043,000 from \$183,959,000, in Ontario over 3% to \$353,320,000 from \$342,571,000, in the Atlantic Provinces more than 1% to \$82,827,000 from \$81,693,000, and in Alberta 0.4% to \$102,978,000 from \$102,584,000. The sharpest decline in 1954 sales was in Saskatchewan, where the total fell 7% to \$55,919,000 from \$60,100,000 in 1953. In Manitoba the decrease was a slight 0.1% to \$97,306,000 from \$97,448,000. (27)

Department Store Sales
Increased 5.4% In Week

Department store sales were 5.4% over the 1954 level in the week ending February 19. There were sales increases of 16.2% in British Columbia, 8% in Quebec, 5.3% in Alberta, 3.4% in Ontario and 0.3% in Manitoba. Sales were down 2.9% in Saskatchewan and 0.9% in the Atlantic Provinces.

RELEASED THIS WEEK

(Publications numbered similarly to reviews to indicate source of latter)

- 1 - Vital Statistics, 1953, \$1.00
- 2 - M: Federal Government Employment, October, 10¢
- 3 - M: Preliminary Report on Coal Production, January, 10¢
- 4 - M: Salt, December, 10¢
- 5 - M: Silver, Lead & Zinc Production, December, 10¢
- 6 - M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, November, 15¢
- 7 - Feldspar & Quartz Mining Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 8 - M: Railway Carloadings, week ending February 14, 10¢
- 9 - M: Railway Operating Statistics, November, 10¢
- 10 - M: Pipe Lines (Oil) Statistics, December, 10¢
- 11 - M: Asphalt & Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tiles, January, 10¢
- 12 - M: Hard Board, January, 10¢
- 13 - M: Sales of Paints, Varnishes & Lacquers, December, 10¢
- 14 - M: Peeler Logs, Veneers & Plywoods, December, 20¢
- 15 - Aluminum Products Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 16 - M: Production of Leather Footwear, November, 10¢
- 17 - Leather Footwear & Leather Boot & Shoe Findings Industries, 1953, 25¢
- 18 - Artificial Abrasives Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 19 - M: Asphalt Roofing, January, 10¢
- 20 - M: Sugar Situation, January, 10¢
- 21 - M: Grain Milling Statistics, January, 10¢
- 22 - Quarterly Report on Processed Foods, December, 25¢
- 23 - Fruit & Vegetable Preparations Industry, 1953, 25¢
- 24 - The Dairy Review, January, 25¢
- 25 - M: Fluid Milk Sales, December, 10¢
- 26 - Revised Estimate of Value of 1953 Field Crops and Preliminary Estimate of Value of 1954 Field Crops, 10¢
- 27 - Department Store Sales & Stocks, December, 10¢
- Quarterly Stocks of Canned Fruits & Vegetables on Hand, December 31, 1954
- Summarized in Bulletin of February 18.
- Miscellaneous Non-Ferrous Metal Products Industry, 1953, 25¢
- Trade of Canada: Articles Exported to Each Country, 12 Months, 1954, 50¢
- Labour Force, January -- Summarized in Bulletin of February 25, 25¢

M - Memorandum

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

4502-503

Twice As Many As Before War There were about 24 telephones for every 100 persons in Canada at the end of 1953, twice as many as in 1939.

More Beeves Slaughtered Canada's slaughtering and meat packing industry slaughtered 1,469,346 beeves in 1953 as compared with 1,251,892 in 1952, but the cost of the animals was lower at \$229,-361,419 versus \$258,892,737.

21% More Horseradish Canadian manufacturers in 1954 produced 444,533 pounds of horseradish, 76,626 pounds more than in the preceding year.

Fewer Flat Cars Only 276 railway flat cars worth \$1,789,803 were made in 1953 versus 1,030 worth \$6,695,735 in 1952.

748,024 Rose Bushes Canadian producers of ornamental nursery stock sold 472,770 domestic rose bushes and 275,254 imported rose bushes in the 12 months ended June 30, 1953.

38% More Pudding Powders Produced Last year Canadian manufacturers made 16,123,562 pounds of pudding powders, 4,476,573 pounds more than in 1953.

Saskatchewan Accounts For 36% Of Crop Value The value of field crops in Saskatchewan in 1953 is estimated at some \$642,900,000 or about 36% of the all-Canada production value of \$1,-771,000,000.

Divorce Rate Drops Canada's divorce rate dropped from 41.4 per hundred thousand population in 1953 to 38.2 last year, the second-lowest rate since the war --the low was the 1951 rate of 37.6. The all-time peak was the 1947 rate of 65.5 per hundred thousand.

More Tea, Less Coffee In 1954 44,787,444 pounds of blended and packed tea were produced in Canada last year, 645,212 pounds more than in 1953. In contrast, output of roasted coffee fell by 11,947,921 pounds to 68,632,478.

235,382 Apple Trees In the 12 months ended June 30, 1953, Canadian nurseries sold 234,566 domestic apple trees and 816 imported apple trees.

Ladies' Apparel Apparel and accessories for ladies accounted for more than 28% of the \$1,065,408,000 sales of Canadian department stores last year.

Miners' Earnings Up 78% Since War Weekly wages and salaries in mining in 1953 averaged \$68.70, nearly 78% more than the 1945 average of \$38.61 and almost 2½ times the 1939 average of \$28.69.

Nurseries At last count there were 152 Canadian firms producing ornamental nursery stock.

Feldspar & Quartz There were some 29 mines in Canada shipping feldspar and quartz in 1953, five less than in 1952, but the gross value of shipments was higher at \$3,994,052 as compared with \$3,696,085.

Price Of Bacon Has Tripled Since 1939 In 1953 the average price of bacon and sides at meat packing plants reached a record 59.1 cents per pound, more than three times the average price of 18.8 cents in 1939. The bulk of the increase has occurred since the war, the 1945 price averaging 23.5 cents per pound.

