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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

DOMINION BUREAU  
OF STATISTICS

JUL 3 1956

Gross National Product: Canada's gross national product rose during the first quarter of 1956 to a level equal to an annual rate of \$28.3 billion, about 6% above the annual average for last year and nearly 11.7% above last year's first-quarter level. The quarter's rise reflected mainly a further rise in the physical volume of production. The output gain was concentrated in mining, forestry, construction, transportation and other service groups; manufacturing was little changed from the last 1955 quarter.

(Pages 2 & 3)

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Corporation Profits: Corporation profits hit a new first-quarter peak this year, rising to an estimated \$728,000,000 before taxes or 28% higher than last year. Income tax liabilities showed a smaller rise of 23% with the result that profits after taxes climbed an estimated 31%.

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Housing: Construction of more new dwelling units was started and completed in the first four months this year than in 1955, both starts and completions in April adding to earlier gains. Number under construction at the end of April remained substantially above last year.

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Labour Income: Estimated labour income in Canada during April was \$1,121,000,000, up \$110,000,000 over April last year, and the total for the first four months at \$4,381,000,000 was over \$400,000,000 greater than in the corresponding 1955 period. Both in April and the four months estimated income was higher for all major industrial divisions.

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Manufacturing: Shipments by manufacturers were nearly 13% higher in value in April, close to 12% higher in the first four months, than last year. New orders in the month reached a higher value than shipments, increasing the value of unfilled orders.

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Transportation: Railway car loadings rose again by 11% in the second week of June, grain continuing to contribute strongly to the increase ... Urban transit systems in April had another drop in number of passengers but larger revenues.

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Mining: Crude petroleum output for all Canada was 44% greater in this year's first quarter than in 1955 and sales of natural gas 35% greater. (Page 10)

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Gross National Product At Rate Of  
28.3 Billion In The First Quarter

1956, with the increase in the value of production from the fourth quarter amounting to close to 3% after allowing for seasonal factors. This increase raised the level of gross national product to an annual rate of \$28.3 billion or about 6% above the annual average for the year 1955 as a whole, and 11.7% above the first quarter one year ago.

The continued advance in the first three months of this year was mainly a reflection of a further rise in the physical volume of production, with prices on average showing only a small increase. The gain in output was concentrated in mining, forestry, construction, transportation and other service groups, with total production in manufacturing remaining relatively unchanged from the fourth quarter. Within manufacturing, the durable goods group declined moderately, reflecting a fall-off in nonferrous metals and electrical apparatus and supplies. On the other hand, output rose in wood products, transportation equipment and iron and steel products, but these gains were not sufficient to offset the decline in other categories. The iron and steel group was producing at a rate approximately 25% above the level of last year's first quarter. The non-durable goods manufacturing group continued to advance as gains occurred in most major components.

On the demand side, a further strong stimulus from business investment in new non-residential construction, new machinery and equipment and business inventory accumulation was added to the continued advance in total consumer expenditures and in exports in the first quarter. Within the consumer sector, however, outlays for durable goods declined, reflecting a fall-off in purchases of new automobiles and television sets. Outlays for new housing were also lower by about 10%. Taken together, however, the sum of all final and inventory demands rose by \$1.1 billion from the fourth to the first quarter. Of this increase, about one-third was met out of the sharp rise in imports, and the remainder out of the increase in Canadian production.

The recent change in the expenditure pattern from a situation in which consumer expenditures, exports and housing outlays were contributing the major demand stimulus to one in which business investment outlays have begun to provide the most important impetus, has shown up in a number of related developments - price increases in investment type goods, a change in the composition of imports, and inventory stockpiling in hard goods and industrial equipment items. While consumer prices have, on the whole, remained relatively stable from a year ago, prices of investment goods have shown marked increases, with the price factor in new non-residential construction and in machinery and equipment increasing by about 7% or 8% from the first quarter of a year ago.

The composition of imports has been substantially altered, with the major portion of recent gains concentrated in iron and steel products and non-ferrous metal products. Imports have continued to supply a very important part of the machinery and equipment investment program and it is estimated that the greater part of the rise in this component between the fourth and the first quarter was met out of imports.

MORE



An important part of the stockpiling of business inventories in the last two quarters has occurred in the metal-using industries, particularly in the iron and steel and transportation equipment groups. Some increase was also apparent in the wholesale machinery group. This inventory build-up has undoubtedly contributed to the continued upward movement in merchandise imports.

Even with the high rates of imports and domestic production, and the consequent sharp rise in the rate of business inventory accumulation, stock-sales ratios in manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade have in general remained below the corresponding levels of the past two years. It may be noted that in the post-war period, there frequently has been a very close correspondence between the movement of imports and inventory stockpiling in Canada.

Percentage changes in the expenditure components from the fourth quarter, and in relation to the 1955 annual average, are shown in the table below.

	4th Q. 1955*	1st Q. 1956*	Change* 4th Q. 55 to 1st Q. 56	4th Q. 55 to 1st Q. 56	1st Q. 56 over Annual 55 Average
			\$ Billions	Percentage	Change
Personal Expenditure	17.3	17.6	+0.3	2.0	4.2
Government Expenditure	4.8	4.9	+0.1	1.4	3.4
Residential Construction	1.6	1.4	-0.2	-9.8	-3.3
Non-Residential Construction	1.9	2.1	+0.2	12.0	19.7
Machinery and Equipment	2.3	2.4	+0.1	5.5	17.6
Exports	5.8	6.2	+0.3	5.6	7.1
Total Final Purchases (ex. inventories)	33.7	34.6	1.0	2.8	5.9
Change in Inventories (Business only)	0.8 (0.5)	1.1 (1.2)	+0.3 (+0.7)	n.a.	n.a.
Imports	-6.9	-7.3	+(-0.4)	6.1	+13.9
Error	+0.1	-0.1	-0.2	n.a.	n.a.
Gross National Expenditure	27.6	28.3	+0.7	2.5	5.8
Gross Available Supply (G.N.E. plus imports)	34.5	35.6	+1.1	3.2	7.4

Note: Figures will not add by +.1 or -.1 due to rounding.  
n.a. - not applicable.

\* Seasonally adjusted at annual rates.

Accompanying these developments, national income continued to advance in the first quarter, with wages and salaries showing a further gain of about 2%. Corporation profits, which were rising sharply in 1955, have been levelling off in recent months and showed no change from the fourth to the first quarters of 1956, seasonally adjusted. However, the level of corporation profits was approximately 25% above that of the first quarter one year ago and about 10% above the level of the year 1955 as a whole. Other elements of investment income, including interest and net rental income of persons rose further in the first quarter. (1)

Corporation Profits In First Quarter

Corporation profits before taxes were estimated at \$728,000,000 for the first quarter of this year, an increase of \$158,000,000 or 28% over the preceding year's corresponding total of \$570,000,000, DBS reports. Income tax liabilities were estimated at \$321,000,000 for the first quarter, an increase of \$61,000,000 or 23% over last year's \$260,000,000 representing 44% of profits before taxes as compared with 46% a year earlier. Profits after taxes increased 31% to an estimated \$407,000,000 from \$310,000,000 a year earlier.

An overall increase in profits before taxes of \$90,000,000, or 32%, was shown for the manufacturing sector as a whole to \$373,000,000 from \$283,000,000 a year earlier. At the same time the non-manufacturing sector increased \$68,000,000 or 24% to \$355,000,000 from \$287,000,000.

In the manufacturing sector, first-quarter corporation profits were as follows by industries, in millions: foods and beverages, \$25 (\$23 in 1955); rubber products, \$6 (\$6); textile products, \$18 (\$13); wood and paper products, \$92 (\$77); iron and steel products, \$105 (\$63); non-ferrous metal products, \$19 (\$12); electrical apparatus and supplies, \$17 (\$15); non-metallic mineral products, \$11 (\$8); products of petroleum and coal, \$42 (\$32); chemical products, \$25 (\$22); and other manufacturing industries, \$13 (\$12).

In the non-manufacturing sector first-quarter corporation profits were as follows by groups, in millions: mining, quarrying and oil wells, \$108 (\$82 a year earlier); transportation, storage and communication, \$57 (\$45); public utility operation, \$26 (\$22); wholesale trade, \$44 (\$29); retail trade, \$23 (\$22); finance, insurance and real estate, \$70 (\$68); service, \$8 (\$7); and other non-manufacturing, including agriculture, forestry, fishing and construction, \$19 (\$12). (2)

## T R A V E L

Fewer Foreign Vehicles Entered Canada In May And Five Months

Fewer foreign vehicles entered Canada on travellers' vehicle permits in May and the first five months of this year than last. The number of entries was 162,388 in May versus 200,671 a year earlier and 455,094 in the January-May period versus 496,311. Cool, wet weather in many parts of Canada may have been a factor in reducing the number of travellers entering Canada in May.

Entries in May declined from a year ago in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba but were higher in the others. Totals were as follows: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia -- by ship -- 377 (71 a year ago); New Brunswick, 10,193 (11,819); Quebec, 27,062 (31,007); Ontario, 97,620 (127,378); Manitoba, 3,012 (4,046); Saskatchewan, 1,630 (1,411); Alberta, 2,040 (1,947); British Columbia, 19,925 (22,497); and Yukon Territory, 529 (495).

Five-month entries were: Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, 1,030 (282 a year ago); New Brunswick, 31,515 (32,601); Quebec, 83,335 (84,012); Ontario, 254,606 (288,533); Manitoba, 8,794 (11,060); Saskatchewan, 3,257 (3,184); Alberta, 5,384 (5,415); British Columbia, 65,833 (69,860); and Yukon Territory, 1,340 (1,364). (3)



Starts And Completions Of New Dwelling  
Units In The First Four Months Of 1956

Both starts and completions of new dwelling units rose in the January-April period of this year as compared

with the corresponding period last year, according to an advance statement by DBS. Number of units in various stages of construction at the end of April also increased over the corresponding date a year ago. Starts in the January-April period rose to 23,477 units from 21,933, completions to 34,784 units from 32,907 and number of units under construction at month-end were 66,674 units as compared with 58,862.

The following table shows the number of starts and completions in the period and the number of units under construction at April 30, for 1955 and 1956, by provinces.

	<u>Started - Jan. - April</u>		<u>Completed - Jan. - April</u>		<u>Under Construction At April 30</u>	
	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Canada	21,933	23,477	32,907	34,784	58,862	66,674
Nfld.....	176	184	188	370	2,874	2,828
P.E.I....	1	-	13	27	75	101
N.S.....	393	395	822	577	1,066	1,407
N.B.....	219	142	382	245	1,178	1,525
Que.....	5,578	7,087	7,796	10,761	14,968	17,728
Ont.....	9,721	9,799	15,005	14,286	22,602	24,707
Man.....	533	527	1,082	1,215	2,165	2,877
Sask....	479	240	1,160	924	1,589	1,488
Alta....	1,272	1,788	3,343	2,787	4,293	5,227
B.C.....	3,561	3,315	3,116	3,592	8,052	8,786

Note: On the basis of data obtained from the June survey in each year, the number of starts shown above are subject to upward revision. The revised 1955 figure for Canada is 23,307. This would necessitate a revision in the "under construction" figure as at April 30, 1955 to 60,236.

## P R I C E S

Security Price Indexes

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>June 21</u>	<u>June 14</u> 1935-39 = 100	<u>May 24</u>
Total Common Stocks.....	267.9	264.6	260.6
Industrials.....	284.2	279.9	273.7
Utilities.....	199.5	199.9	200.4
Banks.....	261.3	259.9	267.7

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks.....	138.4	135.9	133.3
Gold.....	76.8	76.7	76.5
Base Metals.....	279.4	271.5	263.4

Canadian Labour Income Up In April Canadian labour income rose to \$1,121,000,000 in April from the preceding month's \$1,093,000,000 and last year's corresponding total of \$1,011,000,000. This boosted the January-April total to \$4,381,000,000 from \$3,980,000,000 in the like 1955 period. Increases over a year earlier were posted for all major industrial divisions both in April and the four months.

The April total for manufacturing rose to \$371,000,000 from \$333,000,000 last year; utilities, transportation, communication, storage and trade to \$291,000,000 from \$268,000,000; finance, services (including government) to \$277,000,000 from \$249,000,000; construction to \$74,000,000 from \$64,000,000; agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping and mining to \$68,000,000 from \$61,000,000; and supplementary labour income to \$40,000,000 from \$36,000,000.

January-April totals by main divisions: manufacturing, \$1,443,000,000 (\$1,302,000,000 a year earlier); utilities, transportation, communication, storage, trade, \$1,137,000,000 (\$1,044,000,000); finance, services, including government, \$1,070,000,000 (\$989,000,000); agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping, mining, \$292,000,000 (\$266,000,000); construction, \$283,000,000 (\$238,000,000); and supplementary labour income, \$156,000,000 (\$141,000,000). (4)

## MANUFACTURING

Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories And Orders Manufacturers' shipments were valued at an estimated \$1,782,700,000 in April, \$21,000,000 or 1.2% higher than the revised March value and \$200,000,000 or 12.7% higher than in April last year, DBS reports in an advance statement. The cumulative value for the first quarter was \$6,733,400,000, 11.8% higher than for the same period of 1955.

Total value of inventory owned by manufacturers was \$3,883,400,000 in April, \$9,000,000 or 0.2% lower than in March but \$392,000,000 or 10% higher than in April 1955. Inventory held under progress payments arrangements amounted to \$529,936,000, a rise of \$14,000,000 during the month.

Total value of new orders in April at \$1,795,300,000 was higher than shipments during the month and resulted in an increase in unfilled orders of \$12,600,000. The latter amounted to \$2,779,000,000, which is 0.5% higher than at the end of March and 10.5% higher than in April last year.

Refrigeration Equipment Value of factory shipments of refrigeration equipment by Canadian manufacturers amounted to \$69,341,000 in 1955, up 2.5% from 1954's \$67,622,000, according to the Bureau's annual preliminary report.

Household mechanical refrigerators (electric and gas), valued at \$43,954,000 accounted for 63.4% of the 1955 total versus \$44,033,000 or 65.1% of the previous year's value. Shipments of self-contained units (ice-cream cabinets, beverage coolers, freezers, milk cooling equipment, etc.,) increased to \$8,302,000 from \$7,170,000; fixtures (display cases, low temperature refrigerators, reach-in refrigerators, etc.,) to \$4,481,000 from \$3,731,000; evaporators to \$1,393,000 from \$1,094,000; evaporative condensers to \$475,000 from \$207,000; and all "other" refrigeration equipment to \$7,792,000 from \$7,396,000. Compressors and condensing units fell in value to \$2,769,000 from \$3,816,000. (5)



TV-Set Sales Lower Again In April,  
But Radio Sales Continued Higher

Producers' sales of television sets showed a further decline in April as compared with a year earlier but radio-set sales continued above last year. TV-set sales have been lower than a year earlier since December last year, while radio sales have been higher since the beginning of 1955.

The month's sales of television sets declined to 24,300 units from 30,665 a year earlier and were steeply below monthly peak sales reached last year of 118,400 in September, 108,800 in October and 112,100 in November. In the first four months of this year sales dropped to 166,253 sets from 195,831 a year earlier.

The decline in television-set sales occurred in table models, sales of which fell to 9,052 in April from 16,559 and to 78,258 in the four months from 116,272. Sales of consoles rose to 14,743 in April from 13,772 and to 83,890 in the January-April period from 77,308. Sales of three-way combinations were up to 500 in April from 334 and to 4,105 in the four months from 2,251.

Sales of radio receiving sets rose to 66,775 units in April from 44,678 a year earlier and to 195,931 in the January-April period from 160,057. April sales comprised 26,905 home sets (16,743 a year earlier), 36,806 portable and automobile sets (25,734), and 3,064 combination sets (2,201). In the four-month period sales of home sets totalled 99,880 (73,732 a year ago); portable and automobile, 85,760 (74,772); and combinations, 10,291 (11,553). (6)

Production And Shipments Of Floor Tiles,  
Hard Board And Insulating Board Increased

Larger quantities of asphalt and vinyl-asbestos floor tiles, hard board, and rigid insulating board were produced and shipped in May and the first five months of this year than last.

Floor Tiles: Output of asphalt floor tiles increased 13% in May to 1,744,000 square feet from 1,546,000 a year ago and 16% in the January-May period to 8,593,000 square feet from 7,400,000. Production of vinyl-asbestos floor tiles rose 11% in the month to 1,174,000 square feet from 1,055,000 and 20% in the five months to 5,656,000 square feet from 4,702,000.

Domestic shipments of asphalt floor tiles rose to 1,427,000 square feet in May from 1,110,000 and to 7,751,000 square feet in the five months from 6,662,000. Shipments of vinyl-asbestos tiles increased to 966,000 square feet in May from 899,000 and to 4,833,000 in the five months from 3,811,000. (7)

Hard Board: Production of hard board rose to 21,656,000 square feet in May from 15,580,000, domestic shipments to 13,864,000 from 10,476,000, and export shipments to 8,086,000 from 6,541,000. January-May totals were: production, 102,811,000 square feet (74,057,000 a year ago); domestic shipments, 62,192,000 (45,580,000); and export shipments, 39,140,000 (28,842,000). (8)

Rigid Insulating Board: Output of rigid insulating board increased 23% in May to 33,162,000 square feet from last year's 27,003,000 and 32% in the five-month period to 161,225,000 square feet from 122,444,000. Domestic shipments advanced to 29,443,000 square feet in May from 25,532,000 and to 133,684,000 square feet in the five-month period from 98,627,000. (9)

Leather Footwear Production  
Higher In March And Quarter

Production of leather footwear by Canadian manufacturers in March amounted to 3,959,658 pairs, up over 6% from 3,730,251 pairs a year earlier and above the recent 1953 record output for the month. With sharper earlier gains, January-March production rose 15.5% to 11,171,150 pairs from 9,675,627 in the corresponding 1955 period, and also exceeded the recent 1953 high for the first quarter. (10)

Net Sales Of Refined Petroleum  
Products Declined % In January

Net sales of refined petroleum products in January amounted to 20,743,269 barrels, a decrease of about 9% from the preceeding month's 22,844,978 barrels. Net sales of some major products were: light fuel oil, 6,891,369 barrels (7,027,223 in December); motor gasoline, 5,061,732 (5,510,623); heavy fuel oil, 3,709,106 (4,824,271); kerosene and stove oil, 2,214,713 (2,416,831); and diesel fuel oil, 1,152,750 (1,295,179). (11)

Petroleum & Coal Products

Value of production in the petroleum and coal industries increased 6% in 1953 to \$823,489,000 versus \$780,436,000 in 1952, according to the Bureau's annual general review of the industries. Number of plants decreased by one to 100, but employees rose to 17,112 from 16,905, salaries and wages to \$66,565,000 from \$63,573,000, cost of materials to \$576,311,000 from \$519,629,000, and costs of fuel and electricity to \$35,226,000 from \$34,981,000.

Petroleum products rose in value to \$694,989,000 in 1953 as compared with \$660,357,000 a year earlier, and comprised products worth \$670,285,000 made for sale as against \$635,159,000 in 1952, and \$24,704,000 made for producers' own use versus \$25,197,000. In the coke and gas section all components increased with gas sold or used rising to \$43,972,000 from \$42,812,000, coke to \$64,172,000 from \$58,701,000 and "other" products to \$122,721,000 from \$113,990,000. Miscellaneous products of petroleum and coal declined in value to \$5,780,000 from \$6,089,000. (12)

Non-Metallic Mineral Products

Gross value of production of non-metallic mineral products by all industries in the group increased 17% to \$409,912,000 in 1953 from \$350,052,000 in 1952, according to the Bureau's annual general review of the group. Establishments increased to 1,094 from 1,057, employees to 34,352 from 31,422, salary and wage payments to \$107,275,000 from \$92,819,000, cost of materials to \$134,119,000 from \$115,218,000, and costs of fuel and electricity to \$34,974,000 from \$31,141,000.

Increased value of production was recorded by 11 of the 13 industries in the group in 1953 with abrasive products rising to \$46,254,000 (\$36,717,000 a year earlier); asbestos products, \$22,031,000 (\$19,639,000); cement, \$62,228,000 (\$51,030,000); concrete products, \$77,881,000 (\$67,757,000); glass and glass products, \$72,910,000 (\$58,780,000); gypsum products, \$22,666,000 (\$18,356,000); lime, \$15,209,000 (\$14,219,000); miscellaneous, \$13,228,000 (\$12,111,000); products from domestic clays, \$29,778,000 (\$24,962,000); sand-lime brick, \$1,754,000 (\$1,653,000); and stone products, \$22,696,000 (\$20,106,000). The two industries reporting decreased production were: products from imported clays, \$14,872,000 (\$15,668,000); and salt, \$8,406,000 (\$9,056,000). (13)



Miscellaneous Paper Goods Industry Value of factory shipments in the miscellaneous paper goods industry established a new record in 1954 at \$155,430,000, up 5.5% over the previous high of \$147,271,000. reached in 1953, according to the Bureau's annual report on the industry. Establishments increased to 212 in 1954 from 210 in 1953, employees to 10,001 from 9,723, salaries and wage payments to \$29,880,000. from \$27,810,000. cost of materials used to \$89,823,000. from \$82,195,000. and costs of fuel and electricity to \$1,383,000. from \$1,303,000.

Values of some of the major items shipped in 1954 (1953 figures in brackets) were: paper or cellophane bags, \$8,684,000. (\$7,795,000.); blue print and photostat paper, \$2,326,000 (\$2,129,000); envelopes, \$11,549,000. (\$10,499,000); gummed paper labels, \$1,078,000. (\$939,000.); paper napkins, \$2,661,000. (\$2,894,000.); scribblers, note and exercise books, \$2,962,000. (\$2,753,000); gummed sealing tape rolls, \$3,332,000. (\$3,331,000.); toilet paper, \$13,192,000 (\$11,840,000); printed wrappers (except bread wrappers), \$2,398,000. (\$2,217,000.); waxed paper, including printed bread wrappers, \$15,881,000. (\$15,595,000.); and all "other" products, \$79,332,000. (\$75,223,000). (14)

## E L E C T R I C P O W E R

Domestic Electricity Costs Average cost of electricity for household purposes  
Little Changed In 1955 in Canada eased slightly in 1955 as compared with the preceding year. Costs were slightly higher in Quebec and Ontario, lower in Saskatchewan, but unchanged in the other provinces. The national index of the cost of electricity for domestic service, based on rates in effect at year's end and on the 1935-39 base, stood at 99.28 versus 99.48 a year earlier. In 1939 it was 103.25.

Few rates changes were reported during 1955. In Prince Edward Island decreased light and power rates were registered by Charlottetown. In Quebec the town of Megantic increased its rates. In Ontario increases were reported by North Bay and Barrie, while Owen Sound reported a decrease in power rates and Alexandria showed a decrease in rates for all services. In Saskatchewan a decrease in both light and power rates was reported by Saskatoon.

Indexes of electricity bills for domestic service were unchanged from 1954 for the following provinces: Prince Edward Island, 91.82, Nova Scotia, 91.01, New Brunswick, 88.73, Manitoba, 97.28, Alberta 71.11, and British Columbia, 147.86. Quebec's index rose to 85.55 from 85.49 and Ontario's to 100.89 from 100.81. The Saskatchewan index dropped to 92.75 from 98.15. (15)

## E D U C A T I O N

Biennial Survey of Elementary And Secondary Education In 1948-1950 The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has issued its biennial survey of elementary and secondary education in Canada for the two years, 1948-1950. The survey contains extensive statistical data for public, private and Indian schools on enrolment and attendance, teachers' salaries, certificates and experience, and school finance. A section is devoted to statistics of special schools - those for the blind, deaf and handicapped children. The report also contains a 1955 directory of Canadian organizations concerned with elementary and secondary education. (16)

Railway Car Loadings Continue to Increase Railway car loadings in the second week of June increased 11% to 93,862 cars from last year's corresponding total of 84,523 and 12.1% from the beginning of the year to 1,889,522 cars versus 1,686,222. Receipts from connections rose 2.9% in the week to 32,995 cars from 32,076 and 10.6% in the cumulative period to 814,599 cars from 736,857.

Commodities carried in increased volume in the week included: grain, 12,087 cars (versus 8,098 in 1955); coal, 4,015 (3,585); iron ore, 7,881 (5,172); crude petroleum, 1,114 (538); and miscellaneous carload commodities, 6,307 (5,540). Shipped in fewer cars were: lumber, timber and plywood, 4,904 cars (5,524); and pulpwood, 3,230 (3,823). (17)

Fewer Passengers Carried By Urban Transit Systems But Revenues Up Fewer passengers were carried by urban transit systems in April and the first four months of this year than last but revenues increased.

Number of passengers was 98,412,953 in April versus 102,821,750 a year earlier and 407,582,234 in the four months versus 420,578,286. Revenues rose to \$10,365,121. in April from \$9,998,242. and to \$42,612,497. in the four months from \$40,778,819. (18)

## M I N I N G

April Output of Zinc Higher Both Lead and Silver Lower Canadian production of zinc was slightly higher in April and the first four months of this year than last but both lead and silver declined. Output of zinc amounted to 34,790 tons in April (34,719 a year earlier) and to 143,950 tons in the four months (139,949). Lead production totalled 11,573 tons in April (17,889) and 58,776 tons in the four months (70,979). Silver output amounted to 1,823,215 fine ounces in April (2,304,287) and to 8,494,529 fine ounces in the January-April period (8,860,770). (19)

Production Of Crude Petroleum Increased in March & Quarter Production of crude petroleum rose 49% in March to 14,296,928 barrels from 9,576,910 a year ago, boosting the first quarter's total 44% to 41,438,095 barrels as compared with 28,687,840 in the corresponding period last year.

Sales of natural gas rose 24% in March to 15,761,320,000 cubic feet from 12,737,373,000 a year ago and 35% in the quarter to 50,327,932,000 cubic feet from last year's 37,404,003,000. Manufactured gas sales advanced 2.1% in the month to 1,834,876,000 cubic feet from 1,797,629,000 and 4.6% in the quarter to 5,593,666,000 cubic feet versus 5,348,549,000. (20)

## M E R C H A N D I S I N G

Department Store Sales Increased 11.5% In Week Department store sales increased 11.5% during the week ending June 16 as compared with a year earlier. All provinces shared in the rise: Ontario, 17.7%; Alberta, 14.8%; Atlantic Provinces, 11.8%; Saskatchewan, 10.6%; Quebec, 9.7% Manitoba, 7.9%; and British Columbia 0.8%.



Crop Conditions Across Canada

Rains during the last two weeks have materially improved crop prospects, with minor exceptions, throughout the Prairie Provinces, according to the Bureau's telegraphic crop report issued on June 27. Warm weather has promoted growth, with cereal and special crops making good progress. Pastures and hay crops are generally excellent in Manitoba, mostly satisfactory in Saskatchewan, but light in many parts of Alberta. Except in a few local areas, hail and insect damage has been very minor. No rust has been reported so far.

Throughout Ontario all crops are making rapid growth, but rain is needed in some south and central parts of the province. Farmers have started to make grass silage and in many cases begun haying operations. Pastures have made excellent growth in most cases the past week and the milk flow is approaching its peak. More buckwheat than usual is being sown and seed is in extremely short supply. Fall rye is in head, wheat is just heading out, and prospects are for a near-normal crop. Fodder corn is still being sown in Eastern Ontario where the acreage will be larger than last year.

Fine weather in Quebec during the last two weeks has enabled farmers to complete their seeding. The season is about two weeks later than normal, but cereals are now germinating and growing well. Truck gardens are late but have a good appearance; pastures are in excellent condition. Fruit trees have bloomed heavily and the berry season promises to be excellent.

Cool, wet weather has continued throughout the Maritimes and has retarded crop development, although seeding is practically completed. Pasture and hay crops are satisfactory in Prince Edward Island but warmer weather is needed. Crop development is about two weeks later in Nova Scotia due to the backward weather. Haying will be delayed but the crop is promising. The set of apples in the Annapolis Valley is good. Grass crops in New Brunswick are reported generally good, although more sunshine would be welcome. Potatoes and grain are generally just emerging.

In British Columbia temperatures during the past two weeks have been generally below normal with showers. Reports indicate that hay crops on Vancouver Island and in the Lower Fraser Valley will be light. In these areas cutting has started and should be general as soon as the weather permits. Much of the crop at present is being used for silage making. Elsewhere in the province hay and alfalfa crops should be close to normal with cutting underway in most districts. (21)

Overseas Wheat Exports  
Again Up At Mid-June

Continuing the sharp rise of recent weeks, overseas export clearances of wheat jumped to 10,960,000 bushels in the week ended June 13 from 4,821,000 in the corresponding week last year. Cumulative total for the crop year was up to 214,044,000 bushels compared to 179,976,000 for the same period of the previous crop year.

Marketings of wheat by Prairie farmers during the week increased to 14,781,000 bushels compared to 13,679,000 the previous week and 13,642,000 for the corresponding 1955 week. Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North American positions amounted at June 13 to 333,319,000 bushels, up from 331,361,000 a week earlier and 13,642,000 a year earlier. (22)

Stocks Of Creamery Butter Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on June 21 amounted to 54,736,000 pounds, up slightly from 54,678,000 pounds recorded on the corresponding date last year. Stocks were as follows by cities (in thousands): Quebec, 4,927 pounds (3,296 a year earlier); Montreal, 28,903 (26,326); Toronto, 5,820 (8,898); Winnipeg, 12,782 (12,592); Regina, 459 (971); Saskatoon, 369 (562); Edmonton, 537 (984); Calgary, 380 (290); and Vancouver, 559 (759).

Stocks Of Canned Meats Slightly Smaller On April 30 Stocks of canned meats held by manufacturers and wholesalers at the end of April amounted to 24,400,086 pounds, a small decrease (1%) from the preceding year's 24,588,120 pounds, according to a special statement by DBS. Holdings were as follows by kinds: beef products -- ready dinners, stews, etc., 8,665,054 pounds (7,070,135 a year earlier); roast beef, 387,277 pounds (323,844); corned beef, 1,958,456 (1,697,311); and other beef products, 2,608,387 (2,071,397). Pork products -- spiced pork and ham, 3,657,078 pounds (6,856,723); roast pork and ham, 1,032,438 (2,457,203); and other pork products, 2,807,220 (1,578,260). Other canned meats -- canned fowl, 1,237,290 pounds (913,781); meat paste, 1,239,044 (831,000); and all other kinds, 807,842 (788,466).

Storage Stocks Of Fish Larger Cold storage holdings of fish on May 31 amounted to 38,336,000 pounds as compared with 34,363,000 a month earlier and 28,065,000 a year ago. Stocks of haddock were 5,797,000 pounds (4,000,000 a year ago); halibut, 2,914,000 (7,682,000); salmon, 1,050,000 (1,816,000); sea herring, 1,113,000 (471,000); other sea fish, 16,383,000 (3,733,000); and inland fish, 3,101,000 (2,888,000). (23)

Milk Production Lower In May Milk production in May amounted to an estimated 1,647,000,000 pounds, a decrease of 7% from a year earlier. This was the first decline from a year earlier since July 1955. Cool, backward weather, poor pastures and depleted feed reserves were mainly responsible for the decrease.

In April, for which complete figures are now available, production of milk amounted to 1,375,447,000 pounds, an increase of 17,000,000 pounds or 1.3% over a year earlier. During the January-April period production amounted to 4,440,000,000 pounds an increase of 202,000,000 over last year.

Sales of fluid milk and cream, the latter expressed as milk, amounted to 456,361,000 pounds in April, an increase of about 9,000,000 pounds or 1.9% over April last year. During the four-month period fluid sales totalled 1,854,559,000 pounds, about 94,000,000 pounds or 5.3% larger than in 1955. Cash income from the sale of dairy products in April amounted to \$34,702,000, an increase of \$710,000 or 2.1% over a year earlier. (24)

Shipments Of Prepared Stock And Poultry Feeds Increased In April Shipments of prepared stock and poultry feeds were larger in April and in the January-April period this year than a year earlier. April shipments of concentrated feeds increased to 28,430 tons versus 22,553 a year earlier, complete feeds to 178,925 tons from 147,513, and all "other" animal feeds to 49,651 tons from 44,356. January-April shipments were: concentrated feeds, 108,471 tons (92,204 a year ago); complete feeds, 660,281 tons (567,283); and all "other" animal feeds, 200,930 tons (167,208). (25)



Production And Sales Of Refined Sugar Up In May      Larger quantities of refined cane and beet sugar were manufactured in May than in the corresponding month last year. Sales and month-end stocks were also larger. Both receipts and meltings and sales of raw cane sugar were up from a year earlier but stocks were down from last year.

Refined beet and cane sugar manufactured in May amounted to 139,823,000 pounds versus 132,047,000 a year earlier, sales totalled 133,339,000 pounds versus 118,370,000, and month-end factory stocks were 236,255,000 pounds versus 201,700,000. Receipts of raw cane sugar in May amounted to 154,882,000 pounds versus 152,864,000 a year earlier, meltings and sales totalled 147,987,000 pounds versus 138,854,000, and end-of-May refinery stocks were 75,916,000 pounds versus 79,130,000. (26)

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

- 1-National Accounts - Income & Expenditure - First Quarter 1956, 25¢
- 2-Corporation Profits, First Quarter 1956, 25¢
- 3-M: Volume of Highway Traffic Entering Canada on Travellers' Vehicle Permits, May, 10¢
- 4-Estimates of Labour Income, April, 10¢
- 5-M: Refrigeration Equipment, 1955, 10¢
- 6-Radio & Television Receiving Sets, April, 10¢
- 7-M: Asphalt & Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tiles, May, 10¢
- 8-M: Hard Board, May, 10¢
- 9-M: Rigid Insulating Board, May, 10¢
- 10-M: Production of Leather Footwear, March, 10¢
- 11-M: Refined Petroleum Products (Preliminary Report), January, 10¢
- 12-Products of Petroleum & Coal - General Review - 1953, 25¢
- 13-Non-Metallic Mineral Products - General Review - 1953, 25¢
- 14-Miscellaneous Paper Goods Industry, 1954, 25¢
- 15-Cost of Electricity for Domestic Service & Monthly Bills for Domestic Service,  
Commercial Light & Small Power, 1955, 25¢
- 16-Survey of Elementary & Secondary Education, 1948-50, 75¢  
(Part 1 of the Biennial Survey of Education in Canada, 1948-50).
- 17-M: Carloadings on Canadian Railways, June 14, 10¢
- 18-M: Urban Transit Statistics, April, 10¢
- 19-M: Silver, Lead & Zinc Production, April, 10¢
- 20-M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, March, 15¢
- 21--Telegraphic Crop Report : Canada, June 27, 10¢
- 22-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, June 13, 10¢
- 23-M: Cold Storage Holdings of Fish, May, 20¢
- 24-Dairy Review, May, 25¢
- 25-Shipments of Prepared Stock & Poultry Feeds, April, 25¢
- 26-M: Sugar Situation, May, 10¢
- Man-Hours & Hourly Earnings With Average Weekly Wages, April, 20¢
- Labour Force, May, 20¢ (Summarized in Weekly Bulletin dated June 22)
- New Residential Construction, February, 20¢ (Summarized in Weekly Bulletin dated June 1)
- M: Railway Freight Traffic, February, 10¢
- M: Memorandum

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Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.,  
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## NEWS NOTES

Blankets Cotton textile manufacturers shipped 867,925 pairs of crib blankets and 1,647,651 pairs of other blankets in 1954.

Wine Output Production of new wine by Canadian wineries rose to 5,684,088 imperial gallons in 1955 from 5,055,164 in 1954 and shipments of matured wines to 4,687,848 from 4,546,411 gallons.

Furniture For Breakfast Rooms Canada's furniture industry in 1954 turned out \$8,724,-000 worth of breakfast-room furniture made of metal compared to \$938,-000 worth made of wood.

Two-Fifths In Ontario Ontario had over two-fifths of all motor vehicles registered in Canada in 1955 with 1,617,853 and this number was nearly equal to total Canadian registrations nine years earlier.

Family Incomes Average income of Canadian non-farm families and unattached individuals living by themselves in 1954 is estimated at \$3,654. About one-fifth had incomes of \$5,000 or more, over half had \$2,000 to \$5,000, and just over one-fourth had incomes below \$2,000.

More Footwear Canadian factories turned out 11,171,150 pairs of boots, shoes and other footwear in the first three months this year, 1,495,400 pairs more than in 1955. Women's and growing girls' footwear accounted for about 610,000 of the increase, men's for 526,000 and babies' and infants' for nearly 90,000.

Mattresses Spring-filled mattresses accounted for 730,782 out of a total of 1,138,000 mattresses made by the Canadian furniture industry in 1954.

Natural Gas Production of natural gas in Canada was nearly 16% greater in 1955 than 1954 and 20% greater in the first quarter this year than in 1955.

Peak Income Ages According to a Bureau survey, male incomes are highest, on average, in the 40-49 age group, and female incomes in the 30-39 group.

Fruits For Wine Canada's wine industry in 1955 used 45,340,780 pounds of domestic grapes and 1,528,541 of imported grapes, 282,302 of loganberries and 470,820 pounds of other fruits.

Less Nails And Tacks Factory sales of iron and steel wire nails and spikes amounted to 1,505,837 kegs (of 100 lb.) in 1954 compared to 1,726,156 in 1950, iron and steel cut nails to 13,634 kegs against 20,889, iron and steel wire staples to 28,124 kegs against 35,382, and wire and cut tacks to 20,051,754 pounds against 3,343,778.

Wage-Earners Better Off Among People 65 & Over Wage-earners of 65 years or over had larger incomes in 1954 than all income recipients over 65, according to a Bureau survey. Estimated average for wage-earners was \$2,836 versus \$1,676 for all income recipients, in the case of males; and \$1,492 versus \$736, in the case of females.



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