



# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Merchandising: May sales and financing of new motor vehicles hit new peaks for the month of May this year, both in numbers of vehicles sold and financed and in values of sales and financing. January-May cumulative totals of sales and financing were also substantially above last year's totals ... Wholesale sales were a sharp 18% higher in value in May than a year ago, bringing the cumulative gain for the year over 16% over last year. Automotive parts and accessories led in rate of gain ... Retail sales were also up 10% in May, over 7% in five months; department stores in June had a 10% sales gain. (Pages 2 & 3)

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Mining: Iron ore shipments were 65% larger in May, 78% from January to May, than last year; increases being sharp to Canadian consumers as well as for export ... Crude petroleum output continued its steep climb with a rise of 56% in April, 47% in the four months ending April. (Pages 4 & 5)

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Housing: Number of dwelling units completed in the first five months this year continued the past advance over the previous year, but preliminary figures show fewer started than in 1955. (Page 6)

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Manufacturing: Estimated value of manufacturers' shipments in May was 6% greater than in April, 11% greater than in May last year. Cumulative value to the end of May was up a slightly larger 11.5%. New orders in May were nearly 5% larger in value than a year ago, and total unfilled orders some 9% larger. (Page 9)

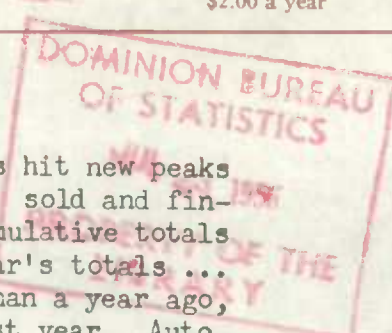
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Transportation: Railway car loadings in the first six months this year were over 11% greater than last year, setting a new record for the half-year at 2,101,962 cars. Commodity gains were fairly wide-spread, with major increases in grain, iron ore, coal, crude petroleum, fuel oil, manufactured iron and steel products ... Freight traffic through Canada's canals in May was some 5% heavier than last year, increases being above the total gain for the Welland and the St. Lawrence system. (Pages 11 & 12)

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Food and Agriculture: Creamery butter stocks on July 1 this year were smaller than a year earlier, the first such decline in a long time. Less creamery butter was made in the preceding month and the half-year, while domestic disappearance in the six months was larger ... Wheat exports overseas were still climbing in the week ending July 4, when the crop year total reached 240,605,000 bushels or more than a fourth more than in the last crop year. Through May of this crop year, the four major exporting countries had shipped 9% more wheat and flour. (Pages 12 to 14)

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Sales And Financing Of Sales Of New Motor Vehicles At New High In May

Sales and financing of sales of new motor vehicles in May reached new peaks for this month. Number of units sold rose to 65,342 from 61,049 in May last year and the retail value to \$138,928,000 from \$159,987,000. The number of units financed jumped to 26,762 from 21,765 and the financed value to \$61,727,000 from \$43,216,000.

In the January-May period new motor vehicle sales rose to 216,839 units from 198,266 a year earlier and the retail value to \$635,793,000 from \$523,696,000. At the same time financing of sales advanced in number to 81,808 from 67,468 and in value to \$187,843,000 from \$132,517,000.

New passenger car sales advanced to a record 53,790 units for May from last year's 52,279 and the retail value to \$147,838,000 from \$135,745,000. Sales in the five months rose to 180,167 units from 169,112 and the value to \$502,856,000 from \$440,760,000. Number of commercial vehicles sold in May climbed more sharply to 11,552 from 8,770 and the value to \$41,090,000 from \$24,242,000, boosting the number of units sold in the five months to 36,722 from 29,154 and the value to \$132,937,000 from \$82,936,000.

May financing of 48,893 used motor vehicles amounted to \$43,638,000 as compared with 45,394 units financed for \$37,677,000 a year earlier. In the January-May period the sales of 170,952 units were financed for \$151,512,000 as compared with 160,814 financed for \$133,617,000 in the same period last year. (1)

Wholesale Sales Up 18% In May, 16% In Five Months

Sales of Canadian wholesale establishments rose 17.9% in May to \$718,391,000 from \$609,293,000 in the corresponding month last year, boosting January-May sales 16.4% to \$3,012,039,000 from \$2,587,132,000 a year earlier.

Largest percentage increases among individual trades in May were registered for automotive parts and accessories (154.4%); industrial and transportation equipment and supplies (45%); and coal and coke (30.2%). Declines of 1.9% and 9.7% were registered for meat and dairy products and for the "all other" group. In the five-month period the largest percentage increases were: automotive parts and accessories, 94.2%; industrial equipment and supplies, 57.2%; and farm machinery, 34.6%.

January-May sales by kind of business were as follows (in thousands of dollars): fresh fruits and vegetables, \$87,511 (\$86,084 a year earlier); groceries and food specialties, \$467,153 (\$426,975); meat and dairy products, \$57,907 (\$57,029); clothing and furnishings, \$33,804 (\$31,582); footwear, \$10,556 (\$10,165); other textile and clothing accessories, \$76,935 (\$67,778); drugs and drug sundries, \$71,427 (\$65,081); household electrical appliances, \$59,629 (\$55,831); farm machinery, \$28,754 (\$21,370); coal and coke, \$75,324 (\$66,889); hardware, \$113,602 (\$97,690); construction materials and supplies, including lumber, \$262,162 (\$210,289); industrial and transportation equipment and supplies, \$315,035 (\$200,363); commercial, institutional and service equipment and supplies, \$45,187 (\$39,135); automotive parts and accessories, \$252,421 (\$129,952); news-print paper and paper products, \$116,906 (\$105,750); tobacco, confectionery and soft drinks, \$216,633 (\$195,835); and all other trades, \$721,143 (\$719,334). (2)



Retail Sales Rose In May Sales of Canadian retailers advanced 10.1% in May to an estimated \$1,237,014,000 from \$1,123,962,000 a year ago, raising January-May sales 7.4% to \$5,133,484,000 from \$4,779,481,000 in last year's corresponding period.

All regions registered increased dollar sales this year over last in May and the five months. May sales increased 11.5% in the Atlantic Provinces, 9.1% in Quebec, 7% in Ontario, 9.1% in Manitoba, 16.1% in Saskatchewan, 13.6% in Alberta and 16.7% in British Columbia. January-May sales increases were: Atlantic Provinces, 5.9%; Quebec, 9.5%; Ontario, 5.9%; Manitoba, 2.4%; Saskatchewan, 6.1%; Alberta, 9.8%; and British Columbia, 11.1%.

All 18 specified trades and the miscellaneous category reported increased sales in the month and five months over a year earlier. Largest sales gains percentage-wise in May (5-month figures in brackets) were: fuel dealers, 36.1% (17.1%); lumber and building materials, 14.9% (16.2%); miscellaneous, 14.3% (10.4%); jewellery, 13% (8.2%); and furniture, appliance and radio, 12.4% (7.8%). (3)

Department Store Sales Department store sales across Canada increased 10.3% in June over a year ago, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau. All regions reported increases sales, Alberta leading in rate of gain with 17.2%, followed by British Columbia with 11.5%, Ontario 10.2%, Manitoba 10%, Atlantic Provinces 9.5%, Saskatchewan 7.8% and Quebec with 6.8%.

Department store sales declined 7.2% during the week ending July 7 as compared with a year earlier, this year's sales being reduced by the Dominion Day holiday falling within the week. Lower sales were recorded in all provinces except Alberta where the increase was 1.7%. Sales declines in the other provinces were: Atlantic Provinces, 8.6%; Quebec, 7%; Ontario, 9%; Manitoba, 14.9%; Saskatchewan, 10.8%; and British Columbia, 3.4%.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Few Births, More Marriages Fewer babies were born in Canada in June and the first half of this year than in the corresponding periods of 1955, according to preliminary totals  
And Deaths In June, Half Year of registrations in provincial vital statistics offices. Deaths and marriages, on the other hand, were more numerous in both periods.

Total births in June fell off to 35,509 from 38,980 a year ago, lowering the half-year total to 218,821 as against last year's 219,469. Number of births in June was lower in all provinces except the three Maritime Provinces and British Columbia, but in the half-year was lower in all except Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia.

Deaths rose in June to 11,576 from 10,548 a year ago and in the half-year to 68,952 from 65,391. The number was larger in both June and the half-year in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba, and in June in Alberta as well.

Marriages increased slightly in June to 11,548 compared to 11,456 and for the six months were up to 48,933 against 46,840 last year. Increases in the half-year were confined to Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, while in June the number was larger in Newfoundland, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta. (4)

Government Liquor Revenues  
Slightly Lower In 1955

Liquor revenue of government in Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1955, declined by more than six million dollars to \$337,897,000 from the preceding year's \$343,645,000, according to the Bureau's annual report on the control and sale of alcoholic beverages.

As consumption and sales remained at approximately the same levels the decline in revenue may be attributed almost entirely to a federal government change in the taxation of beer. The tax previously levied on malt was dropped early in the year and that previously applicable to "other than malt beer" was levied against all beer produced. Collection of excise tax on beer fell by \$9,706,000 but was offset in part by increases of \$2,540,000 in other federal levies and of \$1,417,000 in provincial and territorial revenues. Revenue and sales were up slightly in some provinces, down slightly in others.

Estimated consumer expenditures for alcoholic beverages for the calendar year 1954 were \$867,000,000, down two million from 1953. Published estimates back to 1935 record no previous decline in their climb from \$102,000,000 in 1935 to \$869,000,000 in 1954. Largest yearly increase was from the 1951 estimate of \$732,000,000 to \$833,000,000 for 1952.

Production of spirits in Canada in the 1955 fiscal year increased to 27,-330,433 proof gallons from 24,710,625 in the preceding year, but beer output fell to 211,748,879 gallons from 212,761,546. Wine production rose to 5,055,164 gallons from 4,135,190.

In 1954-55 there were slight declines in both imports and exports of spirits, these being in part offset by small increases in imports and exports of wine and beer. Value of imported spirits decreased to \$15,555,000 from \$16,200,000 in the preceding year, but the value of imported wines rose to \$3,888,000 from \$3,444,000. Beer imports were up slightly to \$276,000 from \$274,500. Exports of domestic spirits declined \$3,024,000 to \$58,355,000, but wine exports rose from \$4,508 to \$10,499, and beer from \$3,097,000 to \$3,254,000. (5)

## MINING

Iron Ore Shipments  
Increased 65% In May

Shipments of iron ore by Canadian mines increased 65% in May to 2,440,242 tons from 1,474,369 a year ago, and 78% in January-May to 3,480,617 tons from 1,959,671. Stocks at month-end were down slightly to 2,061,787 tons from 2,093,915 last year.

Shipments for export rose in the month to 2,163,765 tons compared to 1,-393,998 last year and in the five months totalled 2,840,602 against 1,743,033 tons. Ore to Canadian consumers rose more than three times to 276,477 tons in May from 80,371 last year and to 640,015 tons from 216,638 in the five months. (6)

Salt Production  
Rose 39% In May

Production of dry common salt by Canadian producers increased 39% in May to 59,002 tons from 42,400 a year ago and 64% in January-May to 350,029 tons from last year's corresponding total of 212,905. Shipments rose 37% in the month to 56,848 tons from 41,527 and 64% in the five months to 336,543 tons from 204,592. Producers' stocks at the end of May amounted to 30,213 tons, up 41% compared with 21,483 last year. (7)



Production Of Crude Petroleum Up In April      Production of crude petroleum increased 56% in April to 11,877,648 barrels from 7,629,713 a year ago, boosting January-April output 47% to 53,315,751 barrels from 36,317,553 in the corresponding 1955 period.

Sales of natural gas climbed 21% in April to 13,053,096 M cubic feet from last year's 10,792,748 M cubic feet and sales of manufactured gas rose 2.6% to 1,653,715 M cubic feet from 1,612,352 M cubic feet. Natural gas sales in the four months increased 32% to 63,381,028 M cubic feet versus 48,196,751 M cubic feet and sales of manufactured gas rose 4.1% to 7,247,381 M cubic feet as compared with 6,960,901 M cubic feet. (8)

Production Of Coal Fell Again In 1955      Canadian production of coal declined in quantity in 1955 for the fifth successive year to 14,818,880 tons from 14,913,579 in 1954, while the value of output dropped for the third straight year to \$93,579,471 from \$96,600,266, according to the Bureau's preliminary annual report. Landed imports, including briquettes, increased 5.1% to 19,490,013 tons compared to 18,551,002 but exports soared to 592,782 tons, up 170% from the preceding year's 219,346.

Output from Alberta mines in the year declined to 4,455,279 tons from 4,859,049 in 1954 and in Nova Scotia to 5,731,026 tons from 5,843,896. These decreases more than offset increases in British Columbia and the Yukon to 1,460,921 tons versus 1,313,623, New Brunswick to 877,838 tons versus 781,271 and Saskatchewan to 2,293,816 tons versus 2,116,740.

Production for the year comprised 10,184,857 tons of bituminous (10,341,616 tons in 1954); sub-bituminous, 2,340,207 (2,456,223); and lignite, 2,293,816 (2,116,740). (9)

## F I S H E R I E S

Landings Of Sea-Fish Smaller In May But Larger In 5 Months      Canadian landings of sea-fish were smaller in May but substantially larger in the January-May period as compared with a year earlier. Value of the catch was up in both periods. May landings fell 12% to 144,328,000 pounds from 164,147,000 but the value was 2% higher at \$9,441,000 compared to \$9,219,000. In the five months landings increased to 673,319,000 pounds versus 482,167,000 and the value rose 20% to \$24,107,000 versus \$20,062,000.

Atlantic coast landings dropped to 131,933,000 pounds in May from 149,790,000, but increased slightly in value to \$7,771,000 from \$7,744,000. Catch in the five months declined to 327,737,000 pounds from 336,002,000 but rose in value to \$16,867,000 from \$16,228,000. On the Pacific coast landings in the month fell to 12,395,000 pounds from 14,357,000 but the five-month total was up to 345,582,000 pounds from 146,165,000. Value increased to \$1,670,000 in May from \$1,475,000 and to \$7,240,000 in January-May from \$3,834,000. (10)

Starts Of New Dwelling Units Down,  
Completions Up In January-May Period

Starts on the construction of new dwelling units declined slightly in the January-May period from last year, but larger numbers

were completed, according to an advance statement by DBS. Number of units in various stages of construction at May 31 was up from last year. Five-month starts numbered 38,007 units versus 36,976, completions totalled 44,441 units versus 41,239, and units under construction numbered 71,242 versus 65,543.

The following table shows the number of starts and completions, by provinces, during the period and the number of units under construction at May 31 for 1955 and 1956.

	<u>Started - Jan. - May</u>		<u>Completed - Jan. - May</u>		<u>Under Construction at May 31</u>	
	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Canada	39,663	38,007	41,239	44,441	68,230	71,242
Nfld. ...	237	409	229	433	2,894	2,990
P.E.I. ...	19	-	13	36	93	92
N.S. ....	739	848	922	711	1,312	1,725
N.B. ....	612	549	404	318	1,494	1,859
Que. ....	11,203	11,712	10,692	14,177	17,701	18,857
Ont. ....	15,817	15,029	18,396	18,361	25,325	25,620
Man. ....	1,294	1,199	1,455	1,551	2,553	3,213
Sask. ...	1,034	710	1,479	1,025	1,822	1,880
Alta. ...	2,464	2,519	3,770	3,450	5,050	5,295
B.C. ....	6,244	5,032	3,879	4,379	9,986	9,711

Note: On the basis of data obtained from the June survey, the number of starts shown above are subject to upward revision. The 1955 figures for "starts" and "under construction" are revisions of those previously published.

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

Output Of Electric Energy  
Increased Slightly In May

Output of electric energy by central electric stations increased in May to 6,895,602,000 kilowatt hours from 6,640,382,000 a year ago, raising January-May production to 32,415,858,000 kilowatt hours compared with 32,157,852,000 in the corresponding period a year earlier. Production was larger in May in all provinces except Quebec, and in the five months in all except New Brunswick and Quebec.

Total production by provinces for May (last year's figures in brackets) in thousands of kilowatt hours were: Newfoundland, 90,037 (24,112); Prince Edward Island, 4,195 (3,488); Nova Scotia, 105,938 (94,070); New Brunswick, 80,178 (72,627); Quebec, 3,100,359 (3,225,520); Ontario, 2,443,038 (2,234,513); Manitoba, 283,267 (252,082); Saskatchewan, 122,490 (111,992); Alberta, 149,250 (129,766); and British Columbia, 509,518 (484,963). (11)



Consumer Price Indexes For Regional Cities

Consumer price indexes were higher in all ten regional cities between May and June 1956, with advances ranging from 0.4% in Winnipeg to 1.3% in Montreal. Substantially higher food indexes in all cities were responsible for most of the upward movement in the total indexes.

A rise of 0.7% in the Vancouver food series was the smallest in the ten cities; increases exceeded 3% in Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto and amounted to 4% in Toronto. Prices for fresh fruits and vegetables were higher with potatoes showing a particularly sharp seasonal movement in all cities. Price increases were also general for most meats and coffee.

The shelter index was higher in six cities and unchanged in four. Clothing indexes reflected mixed results as three cities were up slightly, four declined and the other three were unchanged. Household operation indexes moved to higher levels in six cities and decreased in four. Floor coverings and furniture were up in a number of cities. Price increases for laundry, dry cleaning and shoe repairs were fairly general. Other commodities and services indexes were unchanged in seven cities and up in three. Men's haircuts were up in Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Total indexes for June and May, and June 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 June 1956  
(Base 1949 = 100)

	Total Indexes		Group Indexes - June 1956				
	May 1956	June 1956	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
St. John's*	106.6	107.6	106.1	109.8	100.8	104.4	114.5
Halifax	114.7	115.6	106.9	125.8	114.5	120.4	120.3
Saint John	117.5	118.2	110.1	129.9	116.8	117.6	124.8
Montreal	116.6	118.1	114.7	137.5	107.8	114.8	120.6
Ottawa	117.7	118.8	111.1	137.3	111.4	115.9	124.2
Toronto	119.1	120.4	112.0	148.7	111.1	116.4	120.9
Winnipeg	116.1	116.6	110.8	127.6	112.8	113.5	121.6
Saskatoon - Regina	114.6	115.2	111.6	118.1	114.7	116.6	116.5
Edmonton - Calgary	114.3	114.9	108.1	121.2	113.9	117.0	119.7
Vancouver	117.7	118.4	111.9	128.4	113.7	125.0	120.7

\* Index on the base June 1951 = 100.

Farm Prices Of Agricultural Products

Canada's index of farm prices for May was estimated at 225.2, up 4.4 points from the revised April figure of 220.8. Higher average prices for grains, livestock, potatoes, and poultry and eggs more than counter-balanced slightly lower prices for dairy products. (12)

Security Price Indexes

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>July 12</u>	<u>July 5</u> 1935-39 = 100	<u>June 14</u>
Total Common Stocks .....	281.8	277.4	264.6
Industrials .....	298.5	294.4	279.9
Utilities .....	206.9	203.0	199.9
Banks .....	286.5	278.7	259.9

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks .....	143.0	140.4	135.9
Golds .....	79.8	77.7	76.7
Base Metals .....	287.8	283.9	271.5

## I N T E R N A T I O N A L    T R A D E

Capital Inflow Nearly \$20,000,000 In April Trade in outstanding issues of securities between Canada and other countries in April resulted in a sales balance or capital inflow of nearly \$20,000,000, down sharply from the March sales balance of \$39,000,000. With this exception, the sales balance for April was the largest recorded for any month since June 1954. After a period of net sales of both Canadian funded debt and equities, Canadians in the month were again, on balance, purchasers of Canadian bonds and debentures and sellers of Canadian common and preference stocks. Turnover rose considerably and exceeded \$250,000,000 to set the highest level recorded in the Bureau's series.

Trading with the United States in April led to a sales balance of \$4,200,000 compared with \$32,400,000 in the previous month. There were net repurchases of \$9,300,000 of Canadian bonds and debentures from United States residents. This purchase balance is in contrast to the sales balance recorded for each of the preceding six months. In the month Canadians repurchased from the United States \$4,600,000 of Government of Canada issues, \$2,500,000 of Canadian provincial and municipal issues and \$2,100,000 of corporate bonds. Transactions in Canadian common and preferred stocks produced a sales balance or capital import of \$11,800,000, while there was a sales balance of \$600,000 recorded from trade in foreign securities.

Trading with the United Kingdom and other foreign countries led to a sales balance of \$5,400,000 and \$10,100,000, respectively. United Kingdom residents increased their holdings of Canadian common and preference stocks by \$4,700,000, while residents of other foreign countries purchased, on balance, \$5,800,000 Canadian bonds and debentures, mainly Government of Canada direct and corporate issues, and \$4,100,000 Canadian common and preference stocks.

For the first four months of the year, the net capital inflow on account of trading in outstanding securities reached \$81,600,000, in contrast to the outflow of \$1,100,000 recorded for the same period of the previous year. Net sales to all countries of Canadian bonds and debentures amounted to \$42,100,000 with net sales of Government of Canada direct issues representing a major part of the total. Transactions in Canadian common and preference stocks led to a capital inflow of \$52,000,000. Canadians bought, on balance, \$16,600,000 of United States stocks during the period. (13)



Manufacturers' Shipments,  
Inventories And Orders

Value of manufacturers' shipments in May was \$1,-867,400,000, according to preliminary figures released by the DBS. This was 6% larger than the preceding month's revised value of \$1,763,500,000 and 11% larger than last year's May total of \$1,685,100,000. Cumulative shipments for the first five months of 1956 were valued at \$8,595,500,000, up 11.5% from last year's \$7,-710,100,000.

Manufacturers' inventories continued to rise in May. Inventory owned at the end of the month rose to \$3,930,800,000 from \$3,900,100,000 a month earlier and \$3,543,100,000 last year. Inventory held but not owned (held under progress payments arrangements) rose to \$529,600,000 from \$521,500,000 a month earlier but declined from last year's \$538,900,000. Total inventory held amounted in value to \$4,460,400,000 versus \$4,421,600,000 a month earlier and \$4,082,000,000 a year ago.

New orders received during May were valued at \$1,833,800,000, slightly below the preceding month's \$1,839,600,000 but 4.9% higher than last year's May total of \$1,748,900,000. Since shipments were higher during the month than new orders, total unfilled orders declined 1% to \$2,811,000,000 from the preceding month's \$2,844,600,000. They were 9% higher than last year's \$2,579,100,000.

Leather Production In May

Wettings of all types of hides and skins with the exception of calf and kip skins increased in May from a year earlier. Production of sole leather rose to 1,194,437 pounds in the month from 1,173,927 a year ago, upper leather to 5,542,402 square feet from 4,381,319, and glove and garment leather - cattle and horse - to 1,-059,611 square feet from 934,292, but output of calf and kip skin upper leather fell to 702,088 square feet from 1,003,816.

Stocks of raw hides and skins held by tanners, packers and dealers were larger on May 31 this year than last. Holdings of cattle hides increased to 537,644 versus 520,397, calf and kip skins to 625,429 versus 364,255, goat and kid skins to 39,655 versus 29,806 and sheep and lamb skins to 34,713 versus 25,274. Number of horse hides in stock declined to 10,140 from 27,855. (14)

Portland Cement Shipments  
And Production Up In May

Shipments of Portland cement by Canadian manufacturers rose nearly 17% in May to 3,366,788 barrels from 2,888,632 a year ago, and 27% in January-May to 9,939,338 barrels from last year's corresponding total of 7,800,615. Production rose 22% in the month to 2,685,612 barrels from 2,206,370, raising the five-month total 21% to 11,028,760 barrels from 9,104,431. (15)

Production And Shipments Of Iron Castings  
And Cast Iron Pipe And Fittings Up In May

Production and shipments of iron castings and cast iron pipe and fittings increased in May and January-May as compared with a year earlier. Production rose to 93,054 tons in May from 83,528 a year ago, and to 454,971 tons in the five months from 364,-091 in the like period last year. Shipments increased 21% in May to 69,496 tons versus 57,563 and 25% in the five months to 304,119 tons versus 244,159. (16)

Production And Shipments Of Electric Refrigerators & Home Freezers in May

Production of domestic electric refrigerators and individual home and farm freezers increased in May and in January-May as

compared with a year earlier. Shipments of refrigerators fell in the month but rose in the five months, but shipments of home and farm freezers declined in both periods.

Output of domestic electric refrigerators rose in May to 37,376 units from 33,982 a year ago and to 149,239 units in January-May from 126,375. Shipments in the month declined to 30,655 units from 34,034, but increased in the five-month period to 134,716 units from 128,638.

Production of home and farm freezers climbed to 1,157 units in May from 927 and to 4,749 units in the January-May period from 4,368. However, shipments declined to 1,109 units in the month from 1,191 a year ago and to 5,011 units in the five months from 5,059. (17)

Production And Shipments Of Washing Machines Up In May

Production of domestic electric and gasoline washing machines increased in May to 24,602 units from 23,087 a year ago and to 126,246 units in the

January-May period from last year's 101,953. Shipments advanced to 25,009 units in the month from 23,217 and to 119,081 units in the five months from 101,718. (18)

Production Of Refined Petroleum Products Increased In March

Canadian output of refined petroleum products in March totalled 17,288,116 barrels, 18.5%

larger than last year's corresponding total of 14,588,549. Some of the major products responsible for this increase were: motor gasoline, 5,980,453 barrels (5,781,244 a year ago); heavy fuel oil, 3,587,063 (3,287,902); diesel fuel, 1,530,316 (984,541); light fuel oil, 2,680,593 (2,186,797); kerosene and stove oil, 1,254,443 (1,050,581).

Refineries used 16,783,062 barrels of crude petroleum in March versus 14,348,224 a year ago. Receipts of crude oil increased to 16,986,636 barrels from 14,175,094. Supplies from domestic sources rose to 10,188,364 barrels from 7,270,022, but imported crude declined to 6,798,272 barrels from 6,905,072. Inventories of crude at the end of the month were larger at 20,030,399 barrels versus 18,021,389. (19)

Motor Vehicle Parts Industry In 1954

Value of factory shipments in the motor vehicle parts industry declined 22% in

1954 to \$239,108,000 from 1953's peak total of \$307,677,000, according to the Bureau's annual report on the industry. Number of establishments rose to 180 from 179, but employees fell to 18,363 from 23,335, salary and wage payments to \$65,540,000 from \$81,187,000, cost of materials to \$122,692,000 from \$162,324,000 and costs of fuel and electricity to \$3,811,000 from \$4,101,000.

Value of factory shipments for major items were lower in 1954 than in 1953 with the following exceptions: automobile hardware, \$4,405,000 in 1954 (\$3,459,000 in 1953); spark plugs, \$7,532,000 (\$6,931,000); and value of custom work and repairs, \$4,972,000 (\$4,157,000). Values of some of the other main items were: axles and axle shafts, \$7,846,000 (\$14,489,000); bodies and cabs, \$11,266,000 (\$13,891,000); bumpers and bumperettes, \$6,055,000 (\$7,118,000); heaters (car and engine block), \$3,439,000 (\$5,401,000); auto chassis springs (coil and flat), \$7,552,000 (\$10,042,000); and trailers, \$13,291,000 (\$16,948,000). (20)



Small Decrease In Fatalities Resulting From Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents In May

in May from 140 in the corresponding month last year, DBS reports in a special statement. Fatalities in Ontario fell to 65 from 86 in May last year. In Newfoundland the number rose to 5 from 3, in Saskatchewan to 7 from 3, in Alberta to 19 from 13, and in British Columbia to 19 from 12. No changes were reported in Nova Scotia (6), New Brunswick (11) and Manitoba (6). No fatalities were recorded in the Yukon and Northwest Territories in May this year or last.

Fatalities resulting from motor vehicle traffic accidents in Canada (excluding Quebec) declined to 138

Province	Number of			Accidents		Persons Killed	Persons Injured	Property Damage		
	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage Only	Total	Total					
									(1)	(2)
	1	9	5	6	1955	1956	1956	1956		
								\$		
Nfld. ....	4	45	128	177	137	5	52	66,550		
P.E.I. ....	-	5	27	32	53	-	6	9,362		
N.S. ....	6	146	402	554	774	6	193	184,720		
N.B. ....	10	97	208	315	289	11	115	122,752		
Que. ....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Ont. ....	..	..	..	..	4,403	65*	..	..		
Man. ....	5	198	436	639	803	6	275	153,325		
Sask. ....	6	174	425	605	481	7	269	225,142		
Alta. ....	15	247	900	1,162	975	19	396	447,134		
B.C. ....	16	441	955	1,412	1,321	19	650	595,911		
Yukon & N.W.T..	-	3	15	18	21	-	3	11,188		
TOTAL 1956 (1)	62	1,356	3,496	4,914		138(2)	1,959	1,816,084		
TOTAL 1955 (2)	126	2,682	6,449		9,257	140	3,854	2,936,154		

(1) excluding Quebec and Ontario; (2) excluding Quebec only; (3) reportable minimum property damage; .. not available; - nil; \* subject to adjustment.

TRANSPORTATION

Canal Freight Traffic  
5.2% Heavier In May

Freight transported through Canadian canals in May totalled 4,852,494 tons, an increase of 241,933 tons or 5.2% over last year's 4,610,561 tons. Increased freight traffic was reported by the St. Lawrence and Welland Ship canals, while a decrease was registered at the Canadian lock of the Sault Ste. Marie and four of the smaller systems. Commodities responsible for the overall advance over May last year included bituminous coal and iron ore.

The volume of freight transported through the Canadian lock of the Sault Ste. Marie canal declined this May to 270,295 tons from 316,041, but the total shipped through the combined system rose to 17,015,501 tons from 16,206,360, an advance of 5%. The increase was due mainly to increased eastbound shipments of iron ore and crude oil and westbound cargoes of bituminous coal.

Freight cleared through the Welland Ship canal rose this May to 2,834,742 tons, a gain of 153,380 tons or 5.7% over last year's 2,681,362 tons. The volume of freight transported through the St. Lawrence system amounted to 1,695,203 tons, a rise of 9.1% over last year's 1,553,845 tons. (21)

Railway Car Loadings Reached  
All-Time High Record In Half Year

Car loadings on Canadian railways in the first six months of this year jumped 11.1% to an all-time high record total of 2,101,962 cars from last year's 1,892,182 cars. Loadings in June rose about 6% to 398,005 cars from 375,597, and the total for the last 9 days of June rose 0.7% to 119,451 cars from 118,611.

Receipts from connections climbed 10.3% in the half year to 893,999 cars from 810,518 last year, 6.1% in June to 144,675 cars from 136,254, and 7.5% in the 9-day period to 45,212 cars from 42,040.

Commodities carried in larger volume in the half-year period included: grain, 227,062 (166,419 a year ago); coal, 128,430 (112,483); iron ore, 65,588 (45,635); manufactured iron and steel products, 40,598 (30,757); crude petroleum, 24,169 (13,290); fuel oil, 66,781 (56,057); "other" mine products, 62,788 (52,611); miscellaneous carload commodities, 144,269 (125,385); and L.C.L. merchandise 361,169 (352,190).

June loadings showed increases in the following: grain, 45,172 cars (32,243 a year earlier); iron ore, 32,591 (25,280); non-ferrous ores and concentrates, 16,102 (14,842); crude petroleum, 4,501 (2,580); fuel oil, 7,635 (6,337); "other" mine products 13,576 (12,632); and miscellaneous carload commodities, 26,117 (24,262). (22)

## FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Stocks Of Creamery Butter, Cheddar  
Cheese And Eggs Smaller On July 1

Showing the first decline from a year earlier in a lengthy period, stocks of creamery butter were slightly smaller on

July 1 this year than last. Holdings of cheddar cheese and eggs were also smaller than last year but the stocks of evaporated whole milk, skim milk powder and poultry meat were larger.

July 1 stocks of creamery butter were 89,729,000 pounds (90,280,000 a year earlier); cheddar cheese, 32,444,000 pounds (37,229,000); evaporated whole milk, 40,505,000 pounds (39,020,000); skim milk powder, 14,688,000 pounds (9,689,000); eggs, 290,000 cases (555,000); and poultry meat, 11,210,000 pounds (9,404,000). (23)

9 Cities Butter Stocks Down

Stocks of creamery butter in 9 cities of Canada declined to 63,833,000 pounds at July 12 from

65,405,000 on the corresponding date last year. Stocks in the 9 cities (in thousand pounds) were: Quebec, 5,016 (4,536 a year ago); Montreal, 34,758 (31,338); Toronto, 6,210 (9,650); Winnipeg, 14,314 (15,252); Regina, 688 (1,109); Saskatoon, 728, (602); Edmonton, 885 (1,757); Calgary, 506, (429); and Vancouver, 728 (732).

Production Of Process  
Cheese In June, Half Year

Production of process cheese in the first half of this year totalled 22,317,000 pounds, showing a small decline from last year's 22,495,000 pounds, according

to a special statement by DBS. June's output at 3,427,000 pounds was 20% larger than May's 2,848,000 pounds but 10% smaller than last year's June total of 3,803,000 pounds. Stocks held by manufacturers at the end of June were 1,482,000 pounds versus 1,495,000 a month earlier and 1,364,000 last year.



Less Creamery Butter, Cheddar Cheese Made In June, Half Year Smaller quantities of creamery butter and cheddar cheese were produced in Canada in June and the first six months of this year than last. Output of ice cream was smaller in June but larger in the half-year, while production of concentrated milk products increased in both periods.

Output of creamery butter in June amounted to 45,788,000 pounds versus 47,652,000 a year earlier, bringing the half-year to 136,765,000 pounds versus 140,328,000. Domestic disappearance remained virtually unchanged in June at 25,448,000 pounds but 3% larger in the six months at 145,569,000 pounds versus 140,992,000.

Production of cheddar cheese in June amounted to 12,746,000 pounds compared with 13,092,000, bringing the six-month total to 32,295,000 pounds versus 33,691,000. June output of ice cream amounted to 4,263,000 gallons versus 4,362,000, bringing the January-June make to 15,299,000 gallons versus 14,921,000.

Output of concentrated milk products in June totalled 64,607,000 pounds versus 61,569,000 a year earlier, bringing half-year production to 234,810,000 pounds versus 225,518,000. (24)

Output Of Margarine Slightly Lower In First Half Of 1956 Slightly less margarine was produced in Canada in the first half of this year than last, small increases in February, March and April being more than offset by declines in January, May and June. The half-year output amounted to 63,780,000 pounds versus 64,429,000 a year earlier and the June output to 8,706,000 pounds versus 8,708,000. Stocks of margarine on July 1 were 4,266,000 pounds, up from 4,112,000 a month earlier but down from 5,223,000 a year ago. (25)

Stocks Of Frozen Fruits And Vegetables At July 1 Stocks of fruit, frozen and in preservatives, increased to 24,069,000 pounds at July 1 from 23,260,000 pounds a month earlier and 22,609,000 pounds a year earlier. Holdings of vegetables, frozen and in brine, totalled 12,524,000 pounds compared with 15,007,000 a month ago and 11,601,000 a year ago. (26)

More Meat & Lard In Cold Storage Stocks of meat in cold storage increased 11.3% to 81,145,000 pounds at July 1 from 72,912,000 a year ago. Holdings of frozen meat climbed 25% to 59,826,000 pounds from 40,505,000, but fresh meat fell to 16,728,000 pounds from 18,539,000 and cured meats to 13,591,000 pounds from 13,868,000. Lard stocks increased to 8,513,000 pounds from 7,374,000 and tallow to 6,033,000 pounds from 4,889,000. (27)

Wheat Exports Continue Larger Continuing the trend begun during the first week of March, overseas export clearances of wheat in the week ending July 4 climbed to 6,668,000 bushels, more than double the 3,102,000 bushels recorded in last year's corresponding period. Exports in the August 1-July 4 period totalled 240,605,000 bushels, up 26% from last year's 191,479,000 bushels.

Marketings by Prairie farmers rose during the week to 9,571,000 bushels compared to 9,237,000 a year ago and in the cumulative period to 270,645,000 compared to 249,217,000 bushels. Visible supplies in store or in transit in North America on July 4 at 336,751,000 bushels were up slightly from 335,582,000 a week earlier but below last year's 353,312,000. (28)

Supplies And Export Of Wheat  
In Major Producing Countries

Supplies of wheat remaining on or about June 1 this year in the four major exporting countries for export and carryover at the end of their respective crop years totalled 1,887,900,000 bushels, about 1% greater than the 1,868,500,000 available a year ago.

June 1 supplies were held as follows: United States, 1,057,600,000 bushels (1,049,100,000 a year earlier); Canada, 599,800,000 (541,800,000); Australia, 160,800,000 (133,800,000); and Argentina, 69,700,000 (143,800,000). Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial positions.

Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from the four major exporting countries for the first ten months (August-May) of the current Canadian crop year increased 9% to 686,300,000 bushels from 629,900,000 during last year's comparable period and exceed those of all five previous crop years except 1951-52.

August-May shipments of wheat flour from Canada, the United States and Australia were larger than last year, in each case exceeding also those of 1953-54, while Argentina's shipments were down from the 1954-55 level but above 1953-54. Shipments from Canada amounted to 234,000,000 bushels (209,700,000 last year); the United States, 269,700,000 (226,400,000); Australia, 84,000,000 (81,800,000); and Argentina, 98,000,000 (112,000,000). (29)

Fewer Hogs On Canadian Farms

Number of hogs on Canadian farms (except Newfoundland) at the beginning of June was 5,680,000, a decrease of 6.5% from last year's 6,075,000, according to the Bureau's semi-annual sample survey. The decrease was general across the country, varying from 1.5% in Ontario to 16% in Manitoba and Prince Edward Island. The decline was less marked in eastern Canada where it amounted to less than 3% whereas in the West the decrease was almost 11%. Hogs under six months dropped to 4,221,000 from 4,654,000 a year earlier but those over six months increased 2.7% to 1,459,000.

Pigs saved from the spring pig crop amounted to an estimated 4,300,000, a decrease of 11% from the preceding year's 4,827,000. The number of spring litters this year totalled 572,800, 9% fewer than in 1955. Farrowings in eastern Canada were down 4.5% (330,200 versus 345,700) but the decline was greater (14%) in the West where 242,600 sows farrowed this spring compared to 282,100 in 1955.

According to farmers' intentions reported at June 1 this year, 7% fewer sows are expected to have litters before December 1 than farrowed during the summer and fall of 1955. June-November farrowings are estimated at 503,700, the decrease being general across the country. (30).

Prepared Stock & Poultry  
Feed Shipments Up In May

Shipments of prepared stock and poultry feeds increased in May and the January-May period over a year earlier. May shipments of primary or concentrated feeds rose to 26,498 tons from 21,012 a year ago, secondary or complete feeds to 181,301 tons from 143,137 and all "other" animal feeds to 45,857 tons from 42,429. January-May shipments were: Primary or concentrated feeds, 134,969 tons (113,216 tons a year earlier); secondary or complete feeds, 841,582 (710,420); and all "other" animal feeds, 246,787 (209,637). (31)



Prairie Crop Conditions Crop prospects, with few exceptions, were well maintained during the past week throughout the Prairie Provinces, according to the Bureau's telegraphic crop report released on July 18. A good proportion of the crop is now headed or coming into head and moisture reserves are adequate for present needs in nearly all districts. Apart from moderate hail damage, crop losses have been low to date. Frequent showers have delayed haying, particularly in Manitoba and Alberta, and the first cut of hay is light in much of Alberta and western Saskatchewan. Pastures are in good to excellent condition.

Crops generally made excellent growth during the past week in Saskatchewan. Across the southern districts 50% of the wheat is headed, in the central districts about 40% and in the northern about 25%. In Manitoba all crops continued to make excellent progress under ideal conditions; much of the wheat is now headed and coarse grains are starting to head. Crop prospects remain generally satisfactory in Alberta. A high proportion of the cereal crops is headed in the south but in central and northern areas there is a wide variation in advancement. Canning crops are in good condition. (32)

Farm Wages Up At Mid-May Farm wages averaged higher at mid-May this year than last. Average annual wages for all Canada rose to \$1,110 with board provided from \$995 a year ago and without board to \$1,520 versus \$1,445. Average monthly wages for all Canada increased to \$108 versus \$103 with board and to \$142 from \$133 without board.

Eastern Canada annual wages with board averaged out to \$1,045 from \$925 and without board to \$1,465 versus \$1,425. Western Canada totals were also higher for both categories with wages with board rising to \$1,200 from \$1,100 and without board to \$1,590 from \$1,480.

Monthly wages were higher both with and without board in the Maritimes as well as Quebec, Ontario and the four Western provinces. Highest average in both cases was in Alberta at \$122 with board and \$160 without board.

The daily rate with board for all Canada advanced to \$5.30 from \$4.90 and to \$6.40 from \$6.10 without board. Hourly rates rose to 0.70¢ with board from 0.63¢ and to 0.86¢ without board from 0.79¢. (33)

Shipments Of Fruit And Ornamental Nursery Stock Ninety-seven Canadian nurseries reporting to the Bureau shipped 3,227,464 fruit trees, shrubs and plants in the year ending June 30, 1954. They also shipped 660,209 rose bushes, 1,907,644 other ornamental shrubs, 280,912 deciduous and 456,785 evergreen ornamental trees, 52,641 climbers, 1,304,401 bulbs and tubers, and 545,114 herbaceous perennials. These nurseries had 660.6 acres planted to fruit stock in 1954 and 1,840.5 acres planted to ornamental species. Ontario accounted for a large part of both shipments and acreages. (34)

1954-55 Report On Grain Trade The Bureau of Statistics has released its report on the grain trade of Canada for the 1954-55 crop year. Containing 117 pages, it provides detailed statistics on such items as acreage, yield and production, inspections, elevators, rail and lake shipments, supplies, exports and prices. Copies are available at the price of \$1.00. (35)

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

- 1-New Motor Vehicle Sales & Motor Vehicle Financing, May, 20¢
  - 2-Wholesale Trade, May, 10¢
  - 3-Retail Trade, May, 10¢
  - 4-Vital Statistics, June, 10¢
  - 5-Control & Sale of Alcoholic Beverages in Canada, Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 1955, 50¢
  - 6-M: Iron Ore, May, 10¢
  - 7-M: Salt, May, 10¢
  - 8-M: Crude Petroleum, Natural Gas & Manufactured Gas, April, 15¢
  - 9-Preliminary Report on Coal & Coke Statistics, 1955, 25¢
  - 10-Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, May, 25¢
  - 11-M: Central Electric Stations, May, 10¢
  - 12-M: Index Numbers of Farm Prices of Agricultural Products, May, 10¢
  - 13-Sales & Purchases of Securities Between Canada & Other Countries, April, 10¢
  - 14-M: Statistics of Hides, Skins & Leather, May, 10¢
  - 15-M: Cement & Cement Products, May, 10¢
  - 16-M: Iron Castings & Cast Iron Pipes & Fittings, May, 10¢
  - 17-M: Domestic Electric Refrigerators, May, 10¢
  - 18-M: Domestic Washing Machines, May, 10¢
  - 19-Refined Petroleum Products, March, 25¢
  - 20-Motor Vehicle Parts Industry, 1954, 25¢
  - 21-M: Summary of Canal Statistics, May, 10¢
  - 22-M: Car Loadings on Canadian Railways, June 30, 10¢
  - 23-M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products, July 1, 10¢
  - 24-Dairy Factory Production, June, 10¢
  - 25-M: Margarine Statistics, June, 10¢
  - 26-M: Stocks of Fruit & Vegetables, July, 10¢
  - 27-M: Stocks of Meat & Lard, July, 20¢
  - 28-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, July 4, 10¢
  - 29-Wheat Review, June, 20¢
  - 30-M: Livestock Survey - Hogs, June 1, 10¢
  - 31-Shipments of Prepared Stock & Poultry Feeds, May, 25¢
  - 32-Telegraphic Crop Report - Prairie Provinces, July 18, 10¢
  - 33-M: Farm Wages in Canada, May, 10¢ for series of 3 reports.
  - 34-M: Shipments of Fruit & Ornamental Nursery Stock, 1954, 25¢
  - 35-Grain Trade of Canada, 1954-55, \$1.00.
  - New Residential Construction, March, 20¢ (Summarized in Weekly Bulletin of June 15)
  - Trade of Canada - Exports, May & Five Months Ended May, 50¢
- M: Memorandum

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## NEWS NOTES

Storage Batteries More than 1,780,000 automobile storage batteries were produced in Canada in 1954. These were valued at \$16,685,000.

Pop Drinks Production of carbonated beverages in the first half of 1956 increased to 56,172,000 gallons compared to 52,576,000 and 48,539,000 in the same periods of 1955 and 1954 respectively.

Auto Parts Canada's motor vehicle parts industry is centred in Ontario. Plants in that province accounted for all but about \$10,000,000 of the total value of the industry's shipments of \$239,000,000 in 1954.

Pulp & Paper Pulp and paper, Canada's leading industry for many years, increased the value of shipments almost two and one-half times since 1946 to a record-breaking total of \$1,241,558,000 in 1954.

Plants In Auto Parts Industry One hundred and eighty plants were engaged in the manufacture of parts for motor vehicles in Canada in 1954, of which 104 were located in Ontario. Quebec had 21, British Columbia 18, and Alberta 16.

Manufacturing Canada's manufacturing industries account for about 29% of the value of all goods and services produced in the country. In 1954, 1,268,000 persons working in manufacturing plants earned \$3,881,000,000 and were responsible for a gross value of factory shipments amounting to \$17,498,000,000.

Consumption Of Fish Per capita consumption of fish in Canada averages less than 14 pounds a year, comparing with a 1935-39 average of 11.9 pounds.

Auto Radios Shipments and value of automobile radios from Canadian factories was down in 1954 to 141,006 valued at \$5,311,000 from 201,941 valued at \$7,494,000 the previous year.

Less Potatoes Canadians are consuming fewer potatoes now than in pre-war years, 1954's apparent per capita disappearance working out at 146.2 pounds versus the 1935-39 average of 192.9 pounds.

House Trailers There were 1,127 cabin or house-type trailers valued at \$2,986,000 shipped from Canadian factories in 1954 compared to 842 valued at \$2,085,000 shipped in 1953.

More Lignite Production of lignite coal in Canada amounted to 2,293,816 short tons, up from 2,116,740 tons in 1954 and above each of the three previous years. Output of both bituminous and sub-bituminous coal in 1955 was smaller than in the four preceding years.

Canadian Coal Exported In 1955 A total of 592,782 short tons of coal from Canadian mines, valued at \$4,870,598, was exported in 1955, the United States receiving 336,759 short tons valued at \$2,655,106; Great Britain, 233,770 valued at \$2,007,945; West Germany, 11,203 valued at \$84,583; St. Pierre, 10,656 valued at \$117,055 and Alaska, 394 valued at \$5,909.

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