



# D.B.S. WEEKLY BULLETIN

*Dominion Bureau of Statistics*

OTTAWA - CANADA

Vol. 24 - No. 37

Friday, September 14, 1956

\$2.00 a year

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

Foreign Trade: Canada's commodity exports were nearly 22% higher in value in July than a year earlier, and commodity imports 30% higher. For the seven months ending July, commodity exports were up 13%, and commodity imports 29%. The sharper gain in imports than exports resulted in an import balance of \$597,200,000, more than three times as great as last year's July-end balance of \$161,800,000 ... The rise in July domestic exports extended to all main geographic areas and to a very wide range of commodities, with biggest increases in wheat, wood pulp, newsprint, iron ore, aluminum, copper, zinc and petroleum. (Pages 2 to 4)

...

Manufacturing: Pig iron and steel ingot production reached new peaks in August and the first eight months this year ... Number of motor vehicles made in Canada was down a fourth from last year in August and slightly lower in the cumulative period, the drop occurring in passenger cars ... Seven-month figures show substantial gains in shipments of domestic washing machines and electric refrigerators, smaller shipments of most kinds of roofing materials in the seven months and of veneers in the half-year. (Pages 6 & 7)

...

Fisheries: Total sea fish landings on both coasts were 14% greater in weight and 34% in value in July than last year. For the seven months, weight was up 28% and value 26%. (Page 9)

...

Food & Agriculture: The Bureau's second estimate of commercial fruit production indicates that total Canadian crops of all important fruit crops will be smaller than last year's generally good crops ... Overseas export clearances of wheat from August 1 to 29 were about 4,500,000 bushels greater at 24,118,000 bushels than for the same period last year ... Wheat flour output in the crop year ended July 1 was just over 1% smaller than the previous year ... Total stocks of creamery butter on September 1 were again down from a year earlier. (Page 10)

...

Merchandising: Department store sales showed further gains in each of the weeks ending August 25 and September 1 ... Chain store sales rose a bit over 3% in July as compared to an increase of nearly 9% for the first seven months. (Page 11)

...

Lumber: Sawn lumber production in the first half of this year was down a slight 0.5% from 1955 in British Columbia and slightly more than 4% in the eight provinces (Newfoundland excluded) east of the Rockies. (Page 12)

...

Foreign Commodity Trade      Canada's commodity exports in July rose 21.6% in value  
Climber Again In July      over July last year, the sharpest monthly increase this  
year, comparing with an average increase of 13% for the  
seven months. Commodity imports in the month, however, continued to outpace the  
gain in exports with a rise of 30% that left the cumulative increase for the year  
practically unchanged at 29% over last year. The result was another import  
surplus in July, although smaller than in the previous four months.

Total exports in July - swelled by sharply larger shipments of wheat, marked  
gains in iron ore, copper, petroleum, newsprint, and smaller increases in many  
primary and manufactured products - rose to \$430,300,000 from \$356,900,000 in  
1954, raising the cumulative total to the end of July this year to \$2,734,500,000  
compared to \$2,420,200,000 last year. Nearly half of the July increase was in  
shipments to the United States, but there were gains as well to the United King-  
dom, other Commonwealth countries and other foreign countries. In the seven  
months, over half of the rise was in sales to the United States, the remainder  
being to other Commonwealth and foreign countries with a slight decline to the  
United Kingdom.

Commodity imports in July rose to an estimated \$484,500,000 from \$372,600,-  
000, and for the seven months amounted to an estimated \$3,331,700,000 compared  
to \$2,582,000,000 in 1955. Purchases were larger both in the month and seven  
months from the United States, United Kingdom, other Commonwealth and other for-  
eign countries.

The import balance in July amounted to an estimated \$54,200,000, smallest  
since February, compared to \$15,700,000 a year ago. For the seven months it was  
up sharply to \$597,200,000 from \$161,800,000 last year.

Total exports to the United States rose 17.5% in July to \$237,500,000 from  
\$202,100,000 a year ago, and for the seven months were up 12.6% to \$1,611,100,000  
from \$1,430,900,000. Purchases from the United States increased more sharply,  
rising 25.2% to an estimated \$343,700,000 in July from \$274,400,000 and bringing  
the seven month total to an estimated \$2,463,500,000, up 28% from \$1,923,600,000  
last year. The import balance for the month thus rose to \$106,200,000 against  
last year's \$72,200,000, and to the end of July to a record \$852,400,000 compared  
to \$492,700,000.

Shipments to the United Kingdom in July showed the largest gain this year  
with a rise to \$75,900,000 from \$63,800,000, but the cumulative total for the  
seven months was still under last year at \$447,400,000 against \$450,400,000. Im-  
ports from the United Kingdom in the month rose about the same dollar value as  
exports to an estimated \$45,800,000 from \$33,500,000, raising the estimated  
seven-month total to \$284,600,000 from \$216,400,000. The export balance for the  
month was thus practically unchanged from last year at \$30,100,000 against \$30,-  
300,000, but for the seven months was down to \$162,800,000 from \$234,000,000.

Total exports in July to other Commonwealth countries increased to \$20,700,-  
000 from \$17,700,000 and to other foreign countries to \$96,200,000 from \$73,300,-  
000. Gains in the seven months were to \$149,400,000 from \$130,300,000, and to  
\$526,600,000 from \$408,600,000, respectively. Estimated imports from other  
Commonwealth countries rose in the month to \$22,500,000 from \$16,300,000, and  
from other foreign countries to \$72,500,000 from \$48,400,000; and for the seven  
months amounted to \$120,500,000 against \$111,300,000 from other Commonwealth  
countries and to \$463,100,000 against \$330,700,000 from other foreign countries.

The table below gives export totals and preliminary import totals for July and the seven months ending July. Detailed export figures will be released shortly, but final import figures will not be ready for several weeks.

	July		January-July	
	1955	1956	1955	1956
	Millions of Dollars			
<u>Exports (domestic &amp; foreign):</u>				
United Kingdom .....	63.8	75.9	450.4	447.4
Other Commonwealth countries.	17.7	20.7	130.3	149.4
United States .....	202.1	237.5	1,430.9	1,611.1
Other Foreign countries .....	<u>73.3</u>	<u>96.2</u>	<u>408.6</u>	<u>526.6</u>
Totals .....	356.9	430.3	2,420.2	2,734.5
<u>Imports:*</u>				
United Kingdom .....	33.5	45.8	216.4	284.6
Other Commonwealth countries.	16.3	22.5	111.3	120.5
United States .....	274.4	343.7	1,923.6	2,463.5
Other Foreign countries .....	<u>48.4</u>	<u>72.5</u>	<u>330.7</u>	<u>463.1</u>
Totals .....	372.6	484.5	2,582.0	3,331.7

\* Estimate only for July and 7 months of 1956: subject to revision.

Value Of Domestic Exports At      Featured by large increases in the movement abroad of  
Near-Record Level In July      wheat, wood pulp, newsprint paper, iron ore, aluminum,  
    copper, zinc, and petroleum, the value of Canada's  
 domestic exports in July reached a level second only to the record monthly peak set  
 in May this year. Exports were higher in value to all main geographic areas, chief  
 increases being shown for the United States, the United Kingdom and Europe.

At \$424,300,000 the month's value was nearly 22% above the year-ago figure of \$348,100,000 and only slightly below the all-time top monthly total of \$428,500,000 for May this year. For the seven months, January through July, the value was 13.2% larger at \$2,694,400,000 versus \$2,380,000,000. Volume of exports in July was also second only to this year's May high, rising 18.3% in the month and 9.6% in the January-July period. Prices averaged 3.1% higher in July and 3.3% in the cumulative period.

Domestic exports to the United States rose 17.5% in July to \$232,400,000 from \$197,800,000 a year earlier, raising the January-July value 12.7% to \$1,578,000,000 from \$1,401,000,000. Gains were general among the main commodity groups both in the month and seven months.

Exports to the United Kingdom rose to \$75,615,000 in July from \$63,134,000 a year earlier but declined slightly to \$444,577,000 in the January-July period from \$447,759,000. All main commodity groups except non-ferrous metals and fibres and textiles were higher in value in July, and seven-month totals were slightly larger for four groups but smaller for wood products and four other groups.

MORE

Shipments to the rest of the Commonwealth rose in value in July to \$20,562,000 from \$17,582,000 a year earlier and to \$148,276,000 in the seven months from \$129,520,000. Values were larger both in July and the January-July period for Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, larger in the month but smaller in the seven months for Australia and New Zealand, and smaller in the month but larger in the seven months for the Union of South Africa and India.

Exports to European countries were up sharply in value to \$63,053,000 in July from \$38,013,000 a year ago and to \$318,893,000 in the seven-month period from \$208,624,000. Increased values for both July and the January-July period were posted for Belgium and Luxembourg, Czechoslovakia, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Switzerland and the U.S.S.R.

Exports to Latin American countries were moderately higher in July at \$15,648,000 versus \$15,480,000 a year ago and at \$96,215,000 in the January-July period versus \$93,270,000. Shipments were larger in value to Peru but smaller to Colombia in both periods. Exports to all other foreign countries rose in value to \$15,683,000 in July from \$14,658,000 a year ago and to \$97,408,000 in the January-July period from \$90,564,000. Exports to Japan -- which account for approximately three-fifths of the area value -- were lower in July but higher in the seven months. (1)

The following table shows the value of 24 leading commodity exports in July and the January-July period, ranked according to size in the seven months, with comparative date for 1955:

	July		January-July	
	1955	1956	1955	1956
	(In thousand of dollars)			
Newsprint paper	\$56,529	\$62,414	\$378,403	\$407,403
Wheat	35,649	58,872	201,203	317,122
Planks & boards	32,844	30,991	222,215	192,983
Wood pulp	22,169	25,101	167,334	177,528
Nickel	17,360	13,380	126,669	127,392
Aluminum & products	19,188	21,344	125,424	120,758
Copper & products	13,448	18,116	88,042	118,984
Fish & fishery products	10,046	12,068	67,184	69,867
Grains, other	13,127	14,978	64,429	59,760
Petroleum & products	2,718	8,003	16,248	59,705
Asbestos & products	7,201	8,830	51,828	57,018
Farm implements & machinery	5,579	5,791	55,919	55,249
Iron ore	8,260	18,899	30,369	51,180
Flour of wheat	4,290	6,638	43,874	42,570
Zinc & products	5,298	8,056	40,588	39,502
Alcoholic beverages	4,438	4,876	30,907	33,408
Precious metals (except gold)	2,868	3,496	25,265	33,198
Seeds	2,681	2,410	23,778	32,438
Aircraft & parts	1,759	4,676	12,615	30,648
Fertilizers	1,931	1,802	35,344	28,964
Machinery (except farm)	2,736	3,298	20,392	23,259
Pulpwood	5,212	4,572	23,063	23,246
Engines & boilers	4,127	1,437	17,122	20,332
Lead & products	3,362	5,243	21,537	18,573

Imports in May The monthly summary of final, detailed statistics of Canada's commodity imports for May, show the total value of imports in the month at \$550,039,000, slightly under the estimate issued some weeks ago, as compared to \$434,400,000 in May 1955, an increase of 26.7%. Total for the five months ending May was \$2,354,700,000 as against \$1,807,300,000 last year. Preliminary figures indicate that import prices on average were about 3% above a year earlier and that volume was about 23% greater.

Imports were higher in value in May than a year earlier from the United States, United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries as a group - as indicated in the earlier estimates - and from the Latin American countries, European countries and from the remaining foreign countries as a group.

Purchases from the United States rose to \$397,666,000 from last year's May value of \$318,515,000, increases being recorded for all main commodity groups except fibres, textiles and products and miscellaneous commodities. Major rise was in iron and products to \$195,209,000 from \$136,524,000.

Imports from the United Kingdom moved up to \$49,523,000 from \$37,069,000, with higher values for all main commodity groups and the largest gain also in iron and products. Those from other Commonwealth countries amounted to \$26,433,000 against \$20,604,000, with larger increases from Australia, New Zealand, India, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

Imports from Latin America rose to \$32,295,000 from \$28,624,000, largest gains being from Brazil and Mexico. Increase for European countries was to \$29,240,000 from \$18,236,000, with larger increases from Belgium and Luxembourg, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland. Imports from the remaining foreign countries rose to \$14,460,000 from \$10,113,000, large increases being recorded for Japan, the Netherlands Antilles, Arabia and Lebanon.

Commodity-wise, all main groups were higher in value except miscellaneous commodities, the largest increase being for iron and products to \$227,300,000 from \$154,500,000. Among individual commodities, outstanding increases were in rolling-mill products, pipes, tubes and fittings, farm implements and machinery, mining and other non-farm machinery, and automobiles in the iron and products group. (2 & 3)

## ELECTRIC POWER

Production Of Electric Energy Up 13% In July Production of electric energy by central electric stations rose 13% in July to 6,672,710,000 kilowatt hours from last year's corresponding total of 5,903,332,000 kilowatt hours, January-July output was up about 4% to 45,811,459,000 kilowatt hours from 44,151,464,000 a year earlier. All provinces except Manitoba and the Yukon and Northwest Territories had production gains in July and all except New Brunswick and Quebec in the seven-month period.

July production totals were as follows by provinces (in thousands): Newfoundland, 81,183 kilowatt hours (71,299 a year earlier); Prince Edward Island, 4,325 (3,995); Nova Scotia, 100,534 (93,382); New Brunswick, 79,409 (67,960); Quebec, 3,074,294 (2,820,866); Ontario, 2,374,258 (1,920,027); Manitoba, 216,815 (216,231); Saskatchewan, 116,445 (109,802); Alberta, 150,136 (128,514); British Columbia, 469,557 (464,764); and the Yukon and Northwest Territories, 6,384 (6,492). (4)

Shipments Of Domestic Washing Machines Up In July, 7 Months

to 166,488 units from 145,068

Factory shipments of domestic washing machines increased 22% in July to 23,275 units from 19,047 a year ago and nearly 15% in the January-July period to 166,488 units from 145,068 in the corresponding period a year earlier.

Shipments of all types of washing machines were higher in July and in the January-July period this year than last, with automatic electric machines rising to 3,150 units in the month from 1,725 a year ago, conventional electric types to 19,635 from 16,861, and gasoline-powered types to 490 from 461. Seven-month shipments of automatic machines amounted to 27,537 units compared to 15,770, conventional types to 136,054 versus 126,495, and gasoline-powered types to 2,897 versus 2,803.

Stocks of automatic electric machines fell to 9,826 units at July 31 from 10,514 a year ago and gasoline-powered types to 222 from 484, but holdings of conventional electric models rose to 17,403 from 14,149. (5)

Shipments Of Domestic Electric Refrigerators Up 11.5% In July

200,062 units from 190,610 a year earlier. Shipments of individual electric home and farm freezers decreased less than 1% in the month to 1,209 units from 1,219 and 3.1% in the seven months to 7,361 units from 7,594.

Shipments of domestic electric refrigerators increased 11.5% in July to 30,394 units from 27,266 a year ago, raising January-July shipments 5% to 200,062 units from 190,610 a year earlier. Shipments of individual electric home and farm freezers decreased less than 1% in the month to 1,209 units from 1,219 and 3.1% in the seven months to 7,361 units from 7,594.

End-of-July stocks of refrigerators were higher at 29,389 units compared to 26,906 a year ago, but those of individual electric home and farm freezers were substantially smaller at 619 units versus 1,170. (6)

Shipments Of Asphalt Shingles Down In July

in the seven months.

Shipments of asphalt shingles, smooth-surfaced roll roofing, mineral-surfaced roll roofing, roll-type sidings and tar and asphalt felts were lower in July and the January-July period than a year earlier, except those of tar and asphalt felts which were larger in the seven months.

Shipments of asphalt shingles fell to 313,697 squares in July from 387,100 a year ago, smooth-surfaced roll roofing to 98,269 squares from 102,587, mineral-surfaced roll roofing to 87,951 squares from 91,124, roll-type sidings to 23,402 squares from 29,062, and tar and asphalt felts to 5,868 tons from 6,407.

January-July shipments of asphalt shingles decreased to 1,641,687 squares from 1,796,558 in the preceding year's like period, smooth-surfaced roll roofing to 572,236 squares from 577,802, mineral-surfaced roll roofing to 415,500 squares from 462,965, and roll-type sidings to 100,906 squares from 134,043. Tar and asphalt felt shipments increased in the period to 32,300 tons from 30,494. (7)

Net Sales Of Refined Petroleum Products Increased 22% In May

to preliminary DBS figures.

Net sales of refined petroleum products by Canadian refineries increased nearly 22% in May to 20,362,013 barrels from 16,753,925 in April, according to preliminary DBS figures. Net sales of some of the principal products in May were: motor gasoline, 8,007,524 barrels (5,482,714 barrels in April); kerosene and stove oil, 761,784 (968,681); diesel fuel oil, 1,569,964 (1,214,018); light fuel oil, 2,643,878 (3,715,610); and heavy fuel oil, 4,840,906 (3,447,651). (8)

Fewer Motor Vehicles Produced  
In August & 8 Months This Year

Continuing the downward trend begun in May this year, production of motor vehicles fell 25% in August to 18,198 units from 24,100 in the corresponding month last year, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Output in the January-August period declined 2.6% to 344,246 units from last year's 353,526.

Production of passenger cars declined 33% in the month to 12,506 units from 18,693 and 5.4% in the eight months to 273,730 from 289,189. Output of commercial vehicles, on the other hand, rose 5.3% in the month to 5,692 units from 5,407 and 9.6% in the eight-month period to 70,516 units from 64,337. (9)

Output Of Pig Iron And Steel Ingots  
At New Peaks In August And 8 Months

Canadian production of both pig iron and steel ingots reached new all-time peaks in August and the January-August period. Output of pig iron rose 9.9% in August to 317,525 tons from 288,864 a year ago and 13.2% in the eight months to 2,352,851 tons from 2,077,139. Production of steel ingots was up more sharply, rising 15.5% in August to 438,509 tons from 379,678 and 20.5% in the January-August period to 3,427,395 tons from 2,843,796. The rated ingot capacity of Canada's steel furnaces was 5,192,000 net tons per annum at the beginning of this year. (10).

Production of pig iron rose 15.3% in July to 307,642 tons from 266,795 a year ago, according to revised figures. Preliminary figures were released earlier. Output rose 13.3% in the January-July period to 2,035,326 tons from last year's 1,788,375 tons for the like period. Production of steel ingots increased nearly 22% in the month to 432,440 tons from 355,190 and 21% in the seven months to 2,988,886 tons from 2,464,118. (11)

Sales Of Electric Storage  
Batteries Up 13.6% In July

Sales of electric storage batteries increased 13.6% to \$2,083,900 in July from \$1,834,200 a year ago and 12.4% to \$15,022,800 in the January-July period from \$13,361,800 a year earlier. Increased sales were reported in the month for batteries used for starting or ignition of internal combustion engines to \$1,637,200 from \$1,536,000, for railway service to \$78,800 from \$24,100, and for all other purposes to \$303,700 from \$200,300. Sales of batteries for farm lighting plants fell to \$19,500 from \$25,100 and parts and supplies to \$44,700 from \$48,700. (12)

Shipments Of Veneers And  
Plywood In First Half

Smaller quantities of veneers were shipped by Canadian producers in the first six months of this year than last but shipments of plywood were larger. June shipments were smaller than last year for both veneers and plywood. Month-end stocks were larger for veneers but smaller for plywood.

Half-year shipments of veneers were 479,014,000 square feet versus 509,325,000 a year earlier and the period's shipments of plywood were 650,925,000 square feet versus 560,856,000. June shipments of veneers amounted to 53,265,000 square feet versus 88,592,000 a year ago and plywood totalled 112,246,000 square feet versus 114,379,000.

Month-end stocks of veneers stood at 41,865,000 square feet as compared with 31,809,000 a year ago and of plywood at 46,402,000 square feet versus 47,300,000. (13)

More Lime Shipped Or Used Last Year Canadian producers shipped or used 1,331,120 tons of lime valued at \$15,811,000 in 1955 compared to 1,214,840 tons worth \$14,742,000 in 1954, according to the Bureau's annual report on the lime industry. Number of establishments fell to 39 from 40 a year earlier, but employees rose to 1,099 from 1,012, salary and wage payments to \$3,776,000 from \$3,350,000, and cost of supplies and containers to \$1,309,000 from \$1,296,000.

Total quicklime used or shipped in the year amounted to 995,640 tons valued at \$12,222,000 as against 894,110 tons worth \$11,262,000 in the preceding year, and hydrated lime totalled 335,480 tons worth \$3,589,000 versus 320,730 tons valued at \$3,480,000.

Quicklime shipped or used for chemical and industrial purposes jumped to 904,600 tons from 810,400 in the preceding year and that shipped or used for building or other non-industrial purposes to 91,000 tons from 83,700. Hydrated lime shipped or used for chemical and industrial purposes climbed to 216,600 tons from 188,900, but that shipped or used for building or other non-industrial purposes fell to 118,900 tons from 131,800. (14)

Manufacturing Industries Of Ontario In Year 1954 For the manufacturing industries of Ontario 1954 was a year of recession from the preceding year's all-time peaks. The selling value of factory shipments declined 3.9%, employment 5.6%, salary and wage payments 3.1%, cost of materials and supplies 3.3%, and value added by manufacture 4.8%.

The factory value of products shipped by Ontario manufacturers in 1954 was \$8,533,167,000 versus \$8,376,505,000, employees numbered 598,900 versus 634,600, salaries and wages totalled \$1,954,767,000 versus \$2,017,982,000, supplies and materials used cost \$4,412,537,000 versus \$4,560,135,000, and \$3,930,730,000 was added by manufacturing processes versus \$4,130,126,000. The number of establishments rose to 13,178 from 13,114.

The decline in manufacturing activity was greater in Ontario than in any other major industrial province. This is indicated by a decrease of only 4.5% in employment, 1.5% in salaries and wages paid, and 1.3% in the selling value of factory shipments for Canada as a whole. As the decline in manufacturing production for Canada was the result of a drop of 8.1% in the physical output of durable goods such as transportation equipment, iron and steel products, and electrical apparatus and supplies, of which Ontario is the major producer, the effects were, therefore, more severely felt by Ontario manufacturers. In contrast to the large decline in the production of durable goods, non-durable goods dropped only 1.1%. The other major industrial provinces producing mainly non-durable goods were, therefore, not as severely affected as Ontario.

Factory value of shipments of Ontario's top ten manufacturing industries in 1954 was as follows, in thousands of dollars: motor vehicles, \$655,663 (\$824,581 in 1953); non-ferrous metal smelting and refining, \$403,152 (\$376,501); pulp and paper, \$364,994 (\$352,414); slaughtering and meat packing, \$323,544 (\$327,326); primary iron and steel, \$295,912 (\$352,408); petroleum products, \$276,000 (\$193,595); motor vehicle parts, \$229,314 (\$297,766); aircraft and parts, \$224,911 (\$233,670); rubber products, \$214,047 (\$237,746); and heavy electrical machinery, \$187,528 (\$229,605). (15)

Miscellaneous Non-Metallic Mineral Products Industry

Factory shipments in the miscellaneous non-metallic mineral products industry increased 7.8% in value to \$14,264,000 in 1954 from \$13,228,000 in 1953, states the Bureau's annual report on the industry. Number of establishments rose to 54 from 52 in 1953, employees to 875 from 855, salaries and wages to \$2,804,000 from \$2,603,000, cost of materials used to \$6,734,000 from \$6,594,000, and value added by manufacture to \$7,474,000 from \$6,130,000.

Values of factory sales in 1954 were: foundry facings and partings, \$306,000 (\$365,000 in the preceding year); core oil and core compounds, \$106,000 (\$129,000); oil gas (pintsch), \$485,000 (\$554,000); refractories, \$4,883,000 (\$4,600,000); expanded vermiculite (insulation, concrete aggregates), \$1,419,000 (\$1,467,000); and all other products, \$7,064,000 (\$6,113,000). (16)

Miscellaneous Products Of Petroleum & Coal Industry

Due to increased production of asphalt road emulsions and asphalt and bituminous coatings, value of shipments from factories comprising the miscellaneous products of petroleum and coal industry rose 16.5% to a record high total of \$6,732,000 in 1954 from \$5,780,000 in 1953, according to the Bureau's annual review of the industry. Number of establishments was unchanged at 17 in 1954, but employees increased to 324 from 299, salary and wage payments to \$1,069,000 from \$1,044,000, cost of materials to \$2,850,000 from \$2,520,000, and value added by manufacture to \$3,707,000 from \$3,132,000.

Value of factory shipments of asphalt road emulsions rose to \$2,184,000 in the year from \$2,088,000 in the previous year, asphalt and bituminous coatings to \$1,433,000 from \$1,117,000, and all other products (including wood preserver, furnace cement, asphalt tile, coal briquettes, paving asphalt, etc.,) to \$3,116,000 from \$2,575,000. (17)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Landings Of Sea Fish Larger In July, 7 Months

Landings of sea fish increased 14% in July to 343,446,000 pounds from 300,936,000 a year ago and the value jumped 34% to \$17,082,000 from \$12,784,000 a year earlier. Weight of January-July landings was up 28% to 1,240,699,000 pounds from 966,177,000 in last year's like period and the value rose 26% to \$53,134,000 from \$42,228,000.

Atlantic coast fishermen caught 292,274,000 pounds of fish in July, 7% more than last year's landings of 273,041,000 pounds and the value rose 6% to \$8,189,000 from \$7,714,000. Landings in the January-July period weighed 820,732,000 pounds, 5% more than last year's 778,947,000, and the value of the catch was up 7% to \$33,838,000 from \$31,508,000.

Canada's west coast fisheries yielded 51,172,000 pounds of fish in July, 84% more than last year's 27,895,000. The increased landings were accompanied by a 75% increase in landed value to \$8,893,000 from \$5,070,000. The large increases can be attributed almost wholly to heavier salmon landings coupled with generally stronger unit prices prevailing in most of the major species. In the January-July period the landings were up 124% to 419,967,000 pounds from 187,230,000 and the value 80% to \$19,296,000 from \$10,720,000. (18)

Smaller Crops Of All Fruits This Year Smaller crops of all fruits this year than last are indicated in the Bureau's second estimate of commercial production of fruits. A backward spring followed by unfavourable summer weather is largely responsible for the indicated reduction in tree fruit crops in central and eastern Canada, while in British Columbia severe low temperature damage last winter cut production this season.

Fruit crops were generally later than usual in the Maritimes, Ontario and Quebec but ahead of last year in British Columbia. Berry production was heavier in the Maritimes and Quebec this year than last. In Ontario strawberry production was down but the raspberry crop was up. However, the drastic reductions in British Columbia berry crops more than offset increases in the eastern provinces. The fact that almost all fruit crops were better than usual last year renders the difference between this year's crop and last year's somewhat greater than would have been the case had the 1955 harvest been more nearly average.

Estimated production of chief commercial fruit crops follow: apples, 11,614,000 bushels (19,142,000 in 1955); pears, 1,414,000 bushels (1,510,000); plums and prunes, 516,000 bushels (828,000); peaches, 1,933,000 bushels (2,883,000); apricots, 89,000 bushels (184,000); sweet cherries, 83,000 bushels (221,000); sour cherries, 352,000 bushels (542,000); strawberries, 17,505,000 quarts (22,674,000); raspberries, 5,339,000 quarts (12,099,000); loganberries, 344,000 pounds (1,237,000); and grapes, 79,110,000 pounds (94,752,000). (19)

Overseas Exports Of Canadian Wheat Larger Overseas export clearances of Canadian wheat advanced to 5,205,000 bushels in the week ending August 22 from 4,135,000 a year earlier, and during the week ended August 29 totalled 6,631,000 bushels, sharply above last year's corresponding total of 2,495,000, raising August 1 - August 29 clearances to 24,118,000 from 19,578,000 a year ago. Visible supplies of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at August 29 amounted to 351,174,000 bushels versus 355,180,000 a week earlier and 372,492,000 a year ago. (20)

Production Of Wheat Flour 1.1% Lower In Last Crop Year Canadian mills produced 40,158,888 cwt. of wheat flour in the crop year just ended, 1.1% below the preceding year's 40,606,599 cwt. and the smallest crop-year total since 1949-50's 39,708,032 cwt. July's production increased 25% to 3,497,943 cwt. from 2,795,048 a year ago. Wheat flour exports in the crop year were smaller at 16,898,583 cwt. as against 17,692,945 a year earlier. July's exports were 1,580,750 cwt., second only to the crop year's monthly peak of 1,584,790 cwt. in May and substantially above last year's July total of 1,070,381 cwt. (21)

Creamery Butter Stocks Smaller Total stocks of creamery butter, cheddar cheese and cold storage eggs in 9 cities of Canada were smaller on September 1 this year than last, DBS reports in an advance statement. Creamery butter stocks declined to 73,027,000 pounds from 76,353,000 a year ago, cheddar cheese to 18,626,000 pounds from 20,422,000, and cold storage eggs to 43,000 cases from 69,000.

Holdings of creamery butter in the 9 cities were (in thousand pounds): Quebec, 4,955 (5,094 a year earlier); Montreal, 38,758 (36,522); Toronto, 6,692 (9,863); Winnipeg, 16,347 (18,100); Regina, 1,040 (1,569); Saskatoon, 1,304 (856); Edmonton, 1,412 (2,515); Calgary, 1,009 (657); and Vancouver, 1,510 (1,177). (22)

Department Store Sales Higher Department store sales for all Canada increased 5.8% in the week ending September 1 over the corresponding week a year earlier, all provinces reporting increases. Percentage increases from a year earlier were: Atlantic Provinces 4.4%; Quebec 3.1%; Ontario 1.2%; Manitoba 0.2%; Saskatchewan 20%; Alberta 17.9%; and British Columbia 10%.

Sales increased 6.7% during the week ending August 25 as compared with a year earlier. All provinces except Quebec shared in the rise, Saskatchewan leading with an increase of 13.8%, Ontario and the Atlantic Provinces next with 9.9% each, British Columbia 8.9%, Manitoba 7.2% and Alberta 2.3%. The decline in Quebec was 2.8%.

Chain Store Sales Up 3.1% In July, 8.8% In 7 Months Chain store sales increased by a moderate 3.1% in July to \$198,588,000 from \$192,686,000 a year ago, but cumulative sales for the first seven months of this year were up a substantial 8.8% to \$1,330,161,000 from \$1,222,380,000. Stocks, at cost, at the beginning of July were up 7% in value to \$279,977,000 from \$261,615,000 last year.

Grocery and combination store chains had a 4.7% sales gain in the month to \$84,122,000 from \$80,353,000 a year ago. The group's seven-month sales were up 11.3% to \$600,048,000 from \$539,040,000. Nine of the other ten trades had sales increases in July, ranging from 3.9% for family clothing stores to 21.4% for hardware stores. Women's clothing chain store sales declined 1.3%.

July sales for the ten trades were as follows: variety, \$17,152,000 (\$15,907,000 in July last year); men's clothing, \$1,851,000 (\$1,765,000); family clothing, \$2,262,000 (\$2,177,000); women's clothing \$5,192,000 (\$5,258,000); shoe stores, \$4,149,000 (\$3,844,000); hardware stores, \$1,922,000 (\$1,583,000); lumber and building material chains, \$10,538,000 (\$8,991,000); furniture, radio and appliance, \$8,273,000 (\$7,418,000); drug stores, \$3,090,000 (\$2,866,000); and jewellery stores, \$2,733,000 (\$2,589,000). (23)

Operating Results Of Chain Variety Stores Gross profits and operating expenses of chain variety stores were higher in 1955 than in 1953, but net operating profits were lower, according to the Bureau's biennial report on the operating results of chain variety stores.

Gross profits advanced to an average of 38.30% of net sales in 1955 from 37.77% in 1953, but net operating profits, before income tax deductions, declined to 9.27% of net sales from 9.43%. Total operating expenses climbed to 29.03% from 28.34% with salaries rising to 17.86% from 17.53% and occupancy to 5.02% from 4.42%.

Variety chains in the under \$1,000,000 sales-size group had average gross profits of 32.93% of net sales in 1955, operating expenses of 30.91%, and net operating profits of 2.02%. The \$1,000,000 to \$15,000,000 sales-size group had average gross profits of 31.90% of net sales, operating expenses of 24.65%, and net operating profits of 7.25%. In the largest of the three sales-size groups (over \$15,000,000), gross profits averaged 39.62% of net sales, operating expenses averaged 29.84%, and net operating profits averaged 9.78% of net sales. (24)

Production Of Sawn Lumber In British Columbia Lower In June And Half-Year

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia was lower in June and the January-June period this year than last. Output in June

fell 2.9% to 416,964,000 feet from 429,622,000 a year ago and 0.5% in the half-year to 2,319,062,000 feet from 2,329,926,000 a year earlier. Output from coast mills declined 8.6% in the month, more than offsetting a 4.8% increase for interior mills.

Shipments declined 3% in the month to 419,947,000 feet board measure from 432,722,000, with coast mills down 8.1% to 238,858,000 feet from 259,854,000 but interior mills up 4.8% to 181,089,000 feet from 172,868,000. End-of-June stocks totalled 529,482,000 feet compared to 439,896,000 a month earlier and 480,005,000 a year ago. Stocks in coast mills amounted to 281,403,000 feet versus 285,157,000 and in interior mills totalled 248,079,000 feet versus 194,848,000. (25)

Production Of Sawn Lumber East Of The Rockies 4.1% Lower In Six Months

Production of sawn lumber East of the Rockies declined 4.1% in the first half of this year to 1,577,877,000 feet board measure from 1,645,-

757,000 a year earlier according to DBS estimates. June output was up 1.1% to 410,920,000 board feet from 406,439,000. Provincial totals were larger than last year in the half-year period for Quebec and New Brunswick but smaller for the other provinces, while June totals were larger for all provinces except Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan.

Output in Quebec rose 9.1% in the half-year to 599,778,000 board feet from 549,688,000 a year ago and 14.9% in New Brunswick to 154,320,000 feet from 134,283,000. Production fell 31.3% in Prince Edward Island to 3,947,000 board feet from 5,745,000, 25.8% in Nova Scotia to 149,833,000 from 201,843,000, 2.8% in Ontario to 326,382,000 from 335,666,000, 14.3% in Manitoba to 24,088,000 from 28,118,000, 43.3% in Saskatchewan to 32,540,000 from 57,397,000, and 13.8% in Alberta to 286,989,000 from 333,017,000.

June production for the provinces was as follows: Prince Edward Island, 1,659,000 board feet (1,533,000 a year earlier); Nova Scotia, 45,937,000 (57,874,000); New Brunswick, 31,982,000 (26,675,000); Quebec, 192,298,000 (186,172,000); Ontario, 115,075,000 (113,733,000); Manitoba, 9,454,000 (8,617,000); Saskatchewan, 1,914,000 (3,255,000); and Alberta, 12,601,000 (8,580,000). (26)

## P R I C E S

Security Price IndexesSeptember 6August 30  
1935-39 = 100August 9Investors' Price Index

Total common stocks .....	288.2	281.3	297.8
Industrials .....	304.9	296.6	315.9
Utilities .....	214.6	211.2	219.0
Banks .....	290.4	288.9	298.2

Mining Stock Price Index

Total mining stocks .....	143.7	142.4	149.4
Golds .....	77.8	78.0	80.1
Base Metals .....	294.7	289.9	308.2

Industrial Employment, Payrolls And  
Weekly Earnings At New Peaks At July 1

Industrial employment, weekly payrolls and per capita weekly earnings reached new peaks at the beginning of July,

according to the Bureau's monthly advance statement. On the 1949 base, the employment index rose to 123.9 from 115.3 a year earlier, weekly payrolls to 187.0 from 164.1, and average weekly wages and salaries to \$64.49 from \$60.87.

Employment indexes were at higher levels than a year earlier for all provinces except Prince Edward Island and were as follows: Newfoundland, 146.2 (138.4 at July 1, 1955); Prince Edward Island, 115.7 (118.2); Nova Scotia, 104.3 (98.6); New Brunswick, 114.9 (104.7); Quebec, 124.7 (114.2); Ontario 123.3 (115.7); Manitoba, 109.2 (107.4); Saskatchewan, 127.2 (122.7); Alberta, 155.0 (138.1); and British Columbia, 124.5 (115.1).

Payrolls indexes were at higher levels than a year earlier for all provinces: Newfoundland, 229.7 (204.8); Prince Edward Island, 164.9 (159.0); Nova Scotia, 148.9 (134.3); New Brunswick, 162.1 (140.2); Quebec, 186.1 (161.2); Ontario, 187.1 (166.1); Manitoba, 159.3 (147.7); Saskatchewan, 187.8 (173.3); Alberta, 233.8 (193.7); and British Columbia, 195.7 (167.8).

Weekly wages and salaries also averaged higher in all provinces than a year earlier: Newfoundland, \$58.97 (\$55.53); Prince Edward Island, \$48.06 (\$45.33); Nova Scotia, \$53.41 (\$50.96); New Brunswick, \$53.33 (\$50.65); Quebec, \$61.26 (\$57.92); Ontario, \$67.09 (\$63.48); Manitoba, \$61.49 (\$58.44); Saskatchewan, \$61.05 (\$58.41); Alberta, \$66.99 (\$62.26); and British Columbia, \$71.73 (\$66.51). (27)

## B U S I N E S S

Value Of Cheques Cashed  
Increased 25.5% In July

Value of cheques cashed in 52 clearing centres in July increased 25.5% to \$17,852,087,000 from \$14,222,090,000 a year ago, boosting the January-July total 21.3% to \$113,135,960,000 from \$93,266,232,000 a year earlier. Substantially higher debits were reported for all five economic areas both in the month and the seven months.

The Atlantic and Prairie regions had the largest rates of increase (30.8%) in July with the value of cheques cashed rising to \$502,069,000 from \$383,777,000 and to \$2,834,004,000 from \$2,167,323,000, respectively. British Columbia was next with a rise of 28.3% to \$1,383,892,000 from \$1,078,095,000, followed by Quebec with 26% to \$5,307,527,000 from \$4,211,312,000, and Ontario 22.6% to \$7,825,595,000 from \$6,381,584,000.

January-July rates of increase and values were: Atlantic Provinces, 16% to \$2,926,301,000 from \$2,522,671,000 a year ago; Quebec, 23.2% to \$33,862,424,000 from \$27,487,066,000; Ontario, 19.9% to \$50,706,132,000 from \$42,298,002,000; Prairie Provinces, 22.4% to \$17,047,320,000 from \$13,924,398,000; and British Columbia, 22.2% to \$8,593,782,000 from \$7,034,095,000. (28)

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

- 1-Trade of Canada - Domestic Exports, July, 20¢
  - 2-Trade of Canada - Monthly Summary of Foreign Trade, May, 10¢
  - 3-Trade of Canada - Imports for Consumption, May, 20¢
  - 4-M: Central Electric Stations, July, 10¢
  - 5-M: Domestic Washing Machines, July, 10¢
  - 6-M: Domestic Electric Refrigerators, July, 10¢
  - 7-M: Asphalt Roofing, July, 10¢
  - 8-M: Refined Petroleum Products (Preliminary Report), May, 10¢
  - 9-Preliminary Report on Motor Vehicle Production, August, 10¢
  - 10-Steel Ingots & Pig Iron, August, 10¢
  - 11-M: Production of Pig Iron & Steel, July, 10¢
  - 12-M: Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, July, 10¢
  - 13-M: Peeler Logs, Veneers & Plywoods, June, 20¢
  - 14-Lime Industry, 1955, 25¢
  - 15-Manufacturing Industries of Canada - Section D - Province of Ontario, 1954, 25¢
  - 16-Miscellaneous Products of Petroleum & Coal Industry, 1954, 25¢
  - 17-Miscellaneous Non-Metallic Mineral Products Industry, 1954, 25¢
  - 18-Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics, July, 25¢
  - 19-M: Second Estimate of the Commercial Production of Fruits, September 12, 10¢
  - 20-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, August 29, 10¢
  - 21-M: Grain Milling Statistics, July, 10¢
  - 22-M: Stocks of Dairy & Poultry Products in 9 Cities, Advance Statement, September 1, 10¢
  - 23-Chain Store Sales & Stocks, July, 10¢
  - 24-Operating Results of Chain Variety Stores, 1955, 25¢
  - 25-Production, Shipments & Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia, June, 25¢
  - 26-Production, Shipments & Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, June, 25¢
  - 27-Advance Statement of Employment & Weekly Payrolls, July 1, 10¢
  - 28-Cheques Cashed in Clearing Centres, July, 10¢
  - M: Railway Freight Traffic, April, 10¢
  - Railway Operating Statistics, April, 10¢
  - Canadian Statistical Review, August, 35¢
- M: Memorandum

Prepared in Press & Publicity Section, Information Services Division

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Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery, Ottawa, 1956

4502-503-96

## NEWS NOTES

Soda Straws The number of soda straws made in Canada in 1954 dropped to 689,033,000 valued at \$354,755 from 789,483,000 worth \$449,756 in 1953.

Less Cream Separators There were 3,227 cream separators valued at \$373,580 shipped from Canadian factories in 1954 against 3,426 worth \$389,292 the previous year.

Floor Polishers Canadian factory shipments of electric floor polishers (domestic and industrial) in 1954 amounted to 130,239 valued at \$4,595,004 compared to 123,822 valued at \$4,277,205 in 1953.

Less Asphalt Floor Tile The quantity of asphalt floor tile made in Canada in 1954 was down to 14,749,332 square feet from 16,800,373 the previous year, but the value rose slightly to \$1,980,756 from \$1,963,090.

Culvert Pipe Record amounts of sheet metal culvert pipe were shipped by Canadian producers in 1954. At 34,700 tons, the year's total was 14% larger than 1953's 30,348. The value also topped all other years at \$11,205,000 versus \$10,048,000.

Consumption Of Ground Feldspar Of the 1954 total of 11,273 tons of ground feldspar consumed in Canada, 5,291 tons were used in the production of clay products (pottery, tile, insulators, etc.); 4,037 tons in glass production; 933 tons in scouring powders and cleansers and 703 tons in enamelling.

More Envelopes There were 3,893,857,000 envelopes valued at \$15,145,478 made in Canada in 1954 compared to 3,543,021,000 valued at \$13,022,416 in 1953.

Bridge, Tunnel And Ferry Companies A total of 16,895,741 motor vehicles utilized facilities of international bridge, tunnel and ferry companies in 1955 compared to 15,912,562 in 1954.

Canada's Paper-Using Industries During the period 1923-54 the number of Canadian establishments in the paper-using industries rose from 152 to 444, the number of employees increased fourfold from 6,870 to 26,533 and their earnings tenfold from \$7,442,102 to \$78,957,643.

Principal Users Of Quicklime There were 995,639 tons of quicklime shipped by Canadian producers in 1955, of which 228,640 tons were used in pulp and paper mills, 98,507 in iron and steel furnaces, 65,633 as mason's lime, 20,156 in non-ferrous smelters, 19,850 as finishing lime and 19,068 in glass works.

War & Divorce Divorces in Canada rose sharply at the end of both World Wars. In 1913, the year before World War I, they numbered 60; in 1919, the first post-war year, they rose to 373, in 1920 to 468, and in 1921 to 558, never falling again under 500. In 1939, when World War II started, the total was 2,068; in 1946 it was up to 7,683 and in 1947 hit a post-war peak of 8,199, from which it fell to 5,922 in 1954.



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