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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

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Foreign Trade: Commodity-wise, the increase in Canada's domestic exports to the end of November last year was due largely to substantial gains in primary and semi-processed metals and minerals. Forest products and chemicals also made significant advances ... Securities trade with other countries to the end of November resulted in a net capital outflow of \$13,000,000 compared to an inflow of \$63,000,000 in the same 1954 period.

(Pages 2 to 4)

...

Manufacturing: Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles totalled 453,623 units last year, well above the 1954 total but short of the record of 480,959 units in 1953. Passenger car shipments, however, set a new record at 374,761 ... Year totals show increases over 1954 in shipments of such building materials as mineral wool, rigid insulating board, asphalt and vinyl-asbestos floor tiles, and in sales of electric storage batteries.

(Pages 4 & 5)

...

Housing: New dwelling units completed rose an estimated 27% in the first eleven months last year over 1954, starts were up 23%, and the number of units under construction to the end of November was 16% greater than a year earlier.

(Page 7)

...

Transportation: Net deliveries of oil through Canadian pipe lines were some 29% greater in the January-November period last year than in 1954. (Page 7)

...

Labour: Initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance and benefit payments rose in December from November but were substantially lower than a year earlier.

(Page 9)

...

Agriculture: Canada's total wheat exports, including flour in terms of wheat, amounted to 79,500,000 bushels during the first four months of the current crop year, as compared to 97,500,000 bushels in the same period of the 1954-55 year ... Estimated farm cattle population at December 1 last year was larger than a year earlier, milk cows showing an increase of 2% ... Total milk production in 1955 is estimated at 17,300,000,000 pounds, up from about 16,884,000,000 in 1954 ... Egg production was down slightly last year.

(Pages 11 to 13)

...

Prices: Canada's general wholesale price index rose 0.3% in December over the preceding month to reach a level 2.8% above a year earlier ... Residential building material prices averaged over 3% higher in December than twelve months before, and non-residential building material prices were close to 4% higher.

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...

Domestic Exports Up 6% In
November, 12% in 11 Months

Mainly due to substantial gains in primary and semi-processed metals and minerals and to a lesser but still large extent to increases in forest products and chemicals, the value of Canada's domestic exports rose 6% in November to \$386,300,000 from \$365,100,000 in the corresponding month of 1954 and 12% in the January-November period to \$3,906,000,000 from \$3,496,000,000.

Among main geographic areas there were sharp increases in exports both in November and the January-November period to the United States and European countries. Exports to the United Kingdom and the rest of the Commonwealth declined in value in November but rose in the 11-month period. Lower totals were recorded for both periods in exports to Latin American countries and all other foreign countries.

Commodity-wise there were increased values in the month and 11 months in iron ore, primary and semi-finished steel, aluminum, copper, nickel, zinc, asbestos, crude petroleum, wood pulp, newsprint, alcoholic beverages, and flaxseed. Wheat, wheat flour and other grains were among the larger declines.

Larger exports of wood and paper, iron and its products, non-ferrous metals and products, non-metallic minerals, and chemicals more than offset smaller totals for agricultural and vegetable products, animals and products, and fibres and textiles, to raise total domestic exports to the United States to \$235,573,000 in November from \$209,150,000 and to \$2,333,454,000 in the 11 months from \$2,102,055,000.

Exports to the United Kingdom dropped to \$63,671,000 in November from \$70,984,000, decreases in agricultural and vegetable products, and wood and paper products more than offsetting increases centred mainly in non-ferrous metals and products. In the January-November period there was a substantial rise in value to \$707,476,000 from \$576,297,000, mainly due to increases in agricultural and vegetable products, wood and paper, iron and products, non-ferrous metals, non-metallic minerals, and chemicals.

November exports to the rest of the Commonwealth declined to \$16,988,000 from \$17,515,000, but 11-month shipments rose to \$219,015,000 from \$178,702,000. In November there were larger exports to India and Australia but reduced exports to the Union of South Africa and New Zealand. In the 11 months exports were larger in value to all four countries.

Exports to the Latin American countries as a group fell to \$12,261,000 in November from \$14,878,000 and to \$146,167,000 in the January-November period from \$168,009,000. There were larger export values both in November and the 11 months for Mexico and Venezuela but smaller totals for Brazil.

Exports to European countries as a group rose to \$44,126,000 in November from \$38,484,000 and to \$348,893,000 in the January-November period from \$306,956,000. Increased values were recorded both in November and the cumulative period for France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, and Switzerland. Exports to all other foreign countries declined to \$12,724,000 in November from \$13,307,000 and to \$136,857,000 in the 11 months from \$152,627,000.

MORE

January-November group values were: agricultural and vegetable products, \$683.7 (\$716.2); animals and animal products, \$232.0 (\$242.5); fibres, textiles and products, \$20.3 (\$18.8); wood, wood products and paper, \$1,395.9 (\$1,248.5); iron and products, \$372.6 (\$280.9); non-ferrous metals and products, \$753.4 (\$633.4); non-metallic minerals and products, \$183.1 (\$130.3); chemicals and allied products, \$190.6 (\$142.6); and miscellaneous commodities, \$74.3 (\$82.8). (1)

The following table shows the values of leading commodity exports in November and the January-November period of 1955, together with comparative figures for 1954, ranked according to value for 1955's 11-month period.

	November		January-November	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
	(in thousands)			
Newsprint paper	\$54,701	\$59,049	\$574,014	\$608,142
Planks and boards	32,300	26,695	296,026	359,044
Wheat	46,412	28,958	339,871	313,733
Wood pulp	24,282	27,267	248,845	273,021
Nickel	13,599	16,131	164,216	196,328
Aluminum products	10,062	16,483	162,815	195,612
Copper & products	12,185	18,825	121,351	156,845
Fish & fishery products	14,836	11,271	119,833	114,474
Iron ore	7,278	13,722	38,401	97,714
Grains other than wheat	21,088	11,677	115,915	94,344
Asbestos	7,331	9,065	74,479	86,031
Farm machinery & implements	2,134	2,868	73,757	71,678
Flour of wheat	6,402	5,848	81,371	68,539
Zinc & products	4,991	6,661	50,891	65,242
Alcoholic beverages	9,555	9,909	55,053	57,943
Fertilizers	2,921	3,721	38,602	50,695
Pulpwood	3,167	3,674	41,940	45,405
Precious metals (except gold) ..	4,312	4,810	44,292	44,110
Seeds	3,077	9,369	25,569	38,525
Lead & products	3,350	2,820	36,072	34,679
Petroleum & products	1,024	5,468	7,106	34,250

Sales And Purchases Of Securities Between
Canada And Other Countries In November

remained at the same level as the previous month, but the sales balance was larger and resulted in a net capital inflow of \$10,600,000. Canadian re-purchased outstanding Canadian bonds and debentures in contrast to the sales balances of the two previous months, but were again, on balance, sellers of Canadian common and preference stocks as has been the case for each month since the end of 1953, with the exception of October.

The volume of trading in out-standing securities between Canada and other countries in November

MORE

Trade with the United States during the month resulted in a sales balance or capital import of \$6,200,000, which is the largest recorded since April 1955. Net sales of Government of Canada and municipal issues more than offset net repurchases recorded for provincial and corporation issues, to leave a sales balance of \$500,000. Transactions in Canadian common and preference stocks resulted in a sales balance of \$1,400,000. The largest part of the capital import came from the net sale of \$4,300,000 of foreign securities, of which \$3,900,000 represented United States common and preference stocks. This development may have been related to the sharp recovery which occurred in stock prices in the United States and the reduced discount on the United States dollar.

Trading with the United Kingdom resulted in a sales balance of \$2,900,000, representing mainly Canadian securities. A sales balance of \$1,400,000 was also recorded for other overseas countries and, although there were net repurchases of Canadian bonds and debentures, these were not sufficient to offset net sales of more than \$5,000,000 of Canadian common and preference stocks.

During the eleven months ending November, the net capital outflow amounted to \$18,000,000 in contrast to the inflow of \$63,000,000 recorded for the same period of 1954. Net sales of outstanding Canadian stocks continued to increase, amounting to more than \$140,000,000 compared with \$121,000,000 recorded for the whole of 1954. Net repurchases of Canadian bonds and debentures, mainly Government of Canada direct and provincial issues, reached almost \$180,000,000, a significant amount when compared to the \$66,000,000 repurchase balance recorded for the whole of 1954. (2)

MANUFACTURING

Shipments Of Motor Vehicles Up 27% From 1954, But Slightly Under 1953's Peak

Factory shipments of Canadian-made motor vehicles jumped more than 27% in 1955 over the preceding year but fell short of the all-time high record set in 1953. The year's shipments totalled 453,623 units versus 357,083 in 1954 and 480,959 in 1953. In December, 28,185 units were shipped versus 26,280 in December, 1954.

Production followed a similar pattern with the year's output rising to 454,182 units from 352,109 in 1954 but dropping from 1953's all-time high of 486,049 units. The output in 1955 was slightly under the preliminary figure of 454,376 units announced earlier. Output of passenger cars in 1955 totalled 374,945 units versus 283,945 in 1954 and 364,970 in 1953. Production of commercial vehicles totalled 79,237 units versus 68,164 in 1954 and 121,079 in 1953.

Shipments of Canadian-made passenger cars for the domestic market in the full year 1955 rose to 349,042 units from 266,970 in 1954 and commercial vehicles advanced to 69,487 units from 60,076. Passenger cars shipped for export increased to 25,719 units from 19,037 but commercial vehicles declined to 9,375 units from 9,703.

Manufacturers' shipments of passenger cars imported from the United States increased to 29,793 units from 18,779 in 1954 and commercial vehicles to 6,175 units from 4,239. (3)

Shipments of Mineral Wool Larger In 1955 Shipments of mineral wool were larger in 1955 than in the preceding year. DBS reports the year's shipments of batts at 211,458,118 square feet versus 195,653,464 in 1954, and the shipments of granulated, bulk or loose wool at 12,807,439 cubic feet versus 10,461,163. (4)

Production, Shipments of Rigid Insulating Board Up In 1955 Larger quantities of rigid insulating board were produced and shipped in 1955 than in the preceding year. DBS reports the year's output at 338,731,037 square feet versus 294,746,182 in 1954 and the year's shipments at 301,761,364 square feet versus 280,842,868. In December 30,006,630 square feet were produced (23,370,559 a year earlier) and 27,519,020 square feet were shipped (18,380,109). (5)

Production And Shipments Of Floor Tiles Up In 1955 Both production and domestic shipments of asphalt and vinyl-asbestos floor tiles were substantially larger in the year 1955, DBS reports. Production of asphalt floor tiles rose to 17,304,207 square feet from 16,395,294 and the output of vinyl-asbestos types advanced more sharply to 10,711,774 square feet from 6,773,997. Domestic shipments of asphalt tiles rose to 16,504,681 square feet from 15,524,947 and vinyl-asbestos to 10,064,888 square feet from 5,771,063. (6)

Both Production And Shipments Of Veneers And Plywoods Increased In November, 11 Months Production and shipments of veneers and plywoods both were larger in November and the first 11 months of 1955 than in the preceding year. Month-end stocks of veneers were smaller than in 1954 but the stocks of plywoods were larger.

In November, 72,147,000 square feet of veneers were produced (60,509,000 a year earlier) and 75,238,000 square feet were shipped (66,192,000). Month-end stocks were 22,194,000 square feet (29,316,000). In the January-November period 926,441,000 square feet were produced (673,888,000) and 931,689,000 square feet were shipped (688,190,000).

November production of plywoods amounted to 96,806,000 square feet (81,288,000 a year earlier), bringing the 11-month total to 1,036,684,000 square feet (831,810,000). Shipments amounted to 93,400,000 square feet in November (78,817,000) and to 1,042,932,000 square feet in the 11 months (841,481,000). End-of-November stocks were 38,688,000 square feet (37,930,000). (7)

Shipments Of Primary Steel Shapes Up Sharply In October Shipments of primary shapes by Canadian steel mills, exclusive of producers' interchange, soared to 341,181 net tons in October from 211,310 a year earlier and to 2,992,988 tons in the January-October period from 2,151,569. Producers' interchange rose to 133,088 tons in October from 103,817 and to 1,363,906 tons in the ten months from 1,067,619. (8)

Battery Sales Larger In 1955 Factory sales of electric storage batteries in 1955 were valued at \$27,096,000, nearly one-fifth larger than the preceding year's \$22,800,000, DBS reports. Sales were as follows by types: for starting and ignition of internal combustion engines, \$21,918,000 (\$17,387,000 in 1954); for farm lighting plants, \$298,000 (\$312,000); for railway service, \$890,000 (\$1,201,000); for all other purposes, \$3,289,000 (\$3,348,000). Parts and supplies were worth \$702,000 (\$551,000). (9)

Production Of Clothing In 3rd Quarter Canada's garment industry made fewer one-pant suits but larger numbers of two-pant suits for men and youths in the third quarter of 1955 than a year earlier, according to the Bureau's quarterly report. At the same time larger numbers of dresses for women and misses were made.

Among garments for men and youths, production of all-wool one-pant suits declined to 242,116 from 249,370 all-wool pants and slacks to 166,435 from 169,793, and nylon dress shirts to 8,345 dozen from 8,650. Production of men's and youth's all-wool two-pant suits increased to 78,869 from 76,652 and fine cotton dress shirts to 136,035 dozen from 129,156.

Among garments for women and misses, output of dresses increased to 2,648,965 from 2,448,010 and cotton blouses to 54,349 dozen from 50,935. Manufacture of all-wool coats declined to 451,710 from 457,051. (10)

Petroleum Product Sales In August Net sales of petroleum products in August totalled 18,691,004 barrels, 13.5% larger than July's 16,458,087 barrels. Net sales of motor gasoline amounted to 8,367,460 barrels (7,450,053 in July); heavy fuel oil, 3,519,613 barrels (3,475,077); diesel fuel oil, 1,634,465 barrels (1,377,967); and light furnace oil, 1,603,116 barrels (1,041,058). (11)

Production Of Printing Inks At New High In 1954 Production of printing inks rose to an all-time high total of 26,854,000 pounds in 1954 from 25,735,000 in the preceding year and the value advanced to \$11,649,000 from \$11,126,000, according to the Bureau's annual report on the inks industry. Total value of all products shipped by the industry also reached a new peak of \$13,396,000 versus \$12,823,000 in 1953.

Value of printers' rollers and composition shipped by the industry in 1954 rose to \$676,912 from \$669,111, writing inks to \$375,616 from \$305,895, and mucilage and paste to \$116,662 from \$115,003. All other products, including carbon paper, typewriter ribbons, rubber stamp pads, stains and colours were shipped to the value of \$578,510 versus \$597,471.

There were 33 establishments in the industry in both years. They employed 964 persons (891 in 1953), paid \$3,166,802 in salaries and wages (\$2,891,130), and paid \$5,144,564 for materials and supplies (\$5,198,173). (12)

Non-Ferrous Metal Products Industries Gross factory value of output of six industries classified in the non-ferrous metal products group rose in 1953 to \$1,242,011,000 from the preceding year's \$1,215,118,000. On the basis of the standard industrial classification, the group embraces aluminum products, brass and copper products, jewellery and silverware, white metal products, miscellaneous non-ferrous metal products, and non-ferrous smelting and refining.

Four of the six industries had larger production values as compared with 1952: aluminum products, up 3% to \$92,724,000; jewellery and silverware, up 13% to \$51,421,000; non-ferrous metal smelting and refining, up 4% to \$870,918,000; and miscellaneous non-ferrous metal products, up 10% to \$5,750,000. Value for the brass and copper products group fell 8% to \$170,692,000, and white metal products declined 6% to \$50,505,000. (13)

Starts And Completions Of Housing
Units Reached New Records In 11 Months

Canadian builders completed a record 115,423 new dwellings units in the first 11 months of 1955, an increase of 27% over the preceding year's 90,573 units. At the same time starts jumped 23% to a new high of 132,041 units versus 107,188.

In November the completions increased 26% to 14,181 units from 11,246 and the starts rose 12% to 10,923 units from 9,764. At the end of November there were 85,777 units under construction, 12,031 units or 16% more than on the same date in 1954.

The number of housing units completed was larger in the January-November period in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan. Starts increased in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Proportionally, the gains in completions ranged from 5% in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Alberta to 89% in New Brunswick. In starts the gains ranged from 17% for Ontario to 67% for British Columbia. All provinces except Saskatchewan and Alberta had more dwellings under construction at the end of November, the increases ranging from 3% for Newfoundland to 72% for Prince Edward Island.

Completions for the January-November period were as follows by provinces: Newfoundland, 1,124 (1,069 in 1954); Prince Edward Island, 92 (165); Nova Scotia, 2,369 (2,255); New Brunswick, 2,406 (1,273); Quebec, 31,551 (23,067); Ontario, 46,609 (36,493); Manitoba, 5,254 (4,557); Saskatchewan, 3,933 (4,321); Alberta, 9,729 (9,245); and British Columbia, 12,356 (8,128).

Starts in the 11-month period were: Newfoundland, 1,554 (1,285); Prince Edward Island, 181 (185); Nova Scotia, 2,858 (2,204); New Brunswick, 2,943 (2,163); Quebec, 37,956 (28,590); Ontario, 50,582 (43,322); Manitoba, 6,508 (4,900); Saskatchewan, 4,286 (4,625); Alberta, 10,277 (10,976); and British Columbia, 14,896 (8,938).

Dwellings under construction at the end of November were as follows: Newfoundland, 3,159 (3,078 a year earlier); Prince Edward Island, 167 (97); Nova Scotia 1,823 (1,696); New Brunswick, 1,870 (1,446); Quebec, 23,267 (18,472); Ontario, 31,926 (29,333); Manitoba, 3,988 (3,003); Saskatchewan, 2,583 (2,867); Alberta, 6,882 (6,966); and British Columbia, 10,112 (6,788). (14)

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

Pipe-Line Deliveries Of Oil
Reached New Peak In November

Net deliveries of oil through Canadian pipe lines jumped 41% in November to reach an all-time high for the month of 20,548,841 barrels as compared with 14,525,465 in the corresponding month of 1954. This boosted January-November deliveries 29% to 201,988,984 barrels from 156,570,797 a year earlier.

Provincial deliveries for the January-November period were as follows: British Columbia, 27,200,557 barrels (12,628,072 in 1954); Alberta, 16,790,576 (14,948,232); Saskatchewan, 14,055,876 (13,256,597); Manitoba, 48,236,720 (37,732,733); Ontario, 34,074,105 (29,308,371); Quebec, 61,631,150 (48,696,792). (15)

Heavier Movement Of Railway Freight Freight originated on Canadian railways in September increased 20% to 16,443,002 tons from 13,675,415 tons in the corresponding month of 1954. Loadings in Canada in September amounted to 13,292,830 tons (10,912,822 a year earlier), receipts from connections destined to Canadian points totalled 1,752,160 tons (1,614,204), and in transit freight amounted to 1,398,012 tons (1,148,389). (16)

LABOUR

Industrial Employment & Payrolls Industrial employment eased slightly at the beginning of November, DBS reports. At 118.2 (a new high for November 1), the index was 0.3% below October but 5.1% above a year earlier. Labour-management disputes continued to affect the situation, directly involving more workers than a month or year earlier.

The general contraction in employment at the beginning of November was the first indicated since March 1, 1955. Since that time the index has risen by nearly 12%, an advance twice as large as in the corresponding period in 1954 or 1953. The gain was also greater than that recorded between March 1 and November 1 in any earlier post-war year except 1950.

Weekly wages and salaries disbursed by the co-operating establishments rose 0.7% from October 1, continuing the steady upward movement followed since April. At 171.6, the November index was the highest in the record, 9.4% above the November 1, 1954, figure. The latest average of weekly earnings was \$62.07, also a new peak, 58¢ higher than at October 1, and \$2.29 above the November 1, 1954 per capita figure.

Industrial employment rose moderately at the beginning of November in Prince Edward Island and Quebec, and in 14 of the 32 metropolitan areas in the Bureau's monthly survey, including Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg. The declines in the other provinces and cities were small.

Industrially, the moderate fluctuations in employment largely followed the seasonal pattern. The losses recorded in manufacturing and public utilities were about average for the time of year; those in transportation, storage and communications and the services industries were somewhat less than usual. The decline of 2.5% in construction was the smallest at November 1 since 1951.

There was no change on the whole in mining; the trend in the late autumn of recent years has usually been upward. Except for November 1, 1952, however, the latest index in the industry is the highest on record for the time of year. There was a rise of 10.1% in the staffs of logging camps as compared with a month earlier, approximated the post-war average. Although the increase of 1.3% in trade was not equal to the gain in the late autumn of recently preceding years, the latest index established a new all-time peak. Employment in each of the main industrial divisions and in most of their components was at a higher level than at November 1, 1954. (17)

Claims For Unemployment Insurance Benefits In December

Initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance benefits in December totalled 276,454, substantially above the preceding month's 159,757 but well below December, 1954's total of 310,490. At the end of the month 388,129 claimants had their unemployment registers in the live file, up from 219,786 a month earlier but down from 479,259 a year earlier. New beneficiaries in December numbered 107,597 versus 65,061 in November and 164,660 in December, 1954.

Benefit payments in December amounted to \$11,942,873, paid in respect of 702,642 weeks (and 4,532 days of unemployment occurring prior to October 2), compared with \$8,661,628, paid in respect of 514,456 weeks and 14,982 days in November, and \$19,428,206 paid in respect of 6,190,206 days in December, 1954.

An estimated 162,600 beneficiaries received weekly benefit payments during December as compared with 118,000 in November. During the week of December 25 to 31, 1954, the number of beneficiaries was estimated at 271,800.

Initial and renewal claims in December were as follows, by provinces: Newfoundland, 8,286 (7,708 in December, 1954); Prince Edward Island, 1,927 (1,795); Nova Scotia, 11,517 (13,028); New Brunswick, 13,006 (12,201); Quebec, 89,983 (99,837); Ontario, 85,823 (99,886); Manitoba, 13,292 (14,859); Saskatchewan, 9,134 (10,135); Alberta, 13,249 (15,143); and British Columbia, 30,237 (35,898). (18)

M I N E R A L S

Shipments Of Iron Ore Up Sharply In 1955

Shipments of iron ore from Canadian mines were up sharply in 1955 at 16,445,411 tons, more than doubling the preceding year's 7,361,598 tons. Ore for export jumped to 14,985,382 tons from 6,485,000 and shipments to Canadian consumers climbed to 1,460,029 tons from 876,598. Stocks at the end of the year were larger at 2,147,956 tons versus 1,075,780.

Shipments from Ontario mines rose to 4,416,258 tons from 2,416,911 a year earlier, of which 3,929,386 tons were for export (2,167,073 in 1954) and 486,872 tons were for consumption in Canada (249,838 in 1954). Year-end stocks were 710,349 tons versus 505,047. Total shipments from other provinces jumped to 12,029,153 tons from 4,944,687, comprising 11,055,996 tons for export (4,317,927 in 1954) and 973,157 tons for use in Canada (626,760). Stocks at the end of the year were 1,437,607 tons versus 570,733. (19)

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

Department Store Sales Increased 11.3% In Week

Department store sales rose 11.3% in the third week of January as compared with the corresponding week last year. All provinces except Saskatchewan shared in the rise. The increase in the Atlantic Provinces was 6.8%, Quebec, 18%, Ontario, 10%, Manitoba 5.9%, Alberta 21.7%, and British Columbia 9.7%. The decline in Saskatchewan was 1.2%.

Retail Chain Store Sales
Reached New Peak In 1954

Retail chain store sales rose to an all-time peak total of \$2,146,635,000 in 1954, about 5% above the preceding year's \$2,048,228,000. The number of chains in operation during the year rose to 491 from 466 and the average number of stores increased to 8,136 from 7,835. Average sales per store advanced to \$263,800 from \$261,200.

Salaries and wages paid to store employees rose over 10 million dollars in 1954 to \$181,509,000 from the preceding year's \$171,167,000. Customers' accounts outstanding at year's end valued at \$102,747,000 were 12.2% greater than the \$91,538,000 reported a year earlier. The increase was largest in the durable goods classification where credit buying is heavier. At the end of 1954, chain store inventories, both store and warehouse, with a cost value of \$248,863,000, were slightly higher than the \$231,800,000 at the end of 1953.

In the major kind of business categories, the hardware, grocery and combination, and women's apparel and accessories stores had the largest percentage increase in sales in 1954 with 28.8%, 11.7% and 11.3%, respectively. Grocery and combination stores with 40.2% of all chain store business sales and a dollar volume of \$863,422,000 had the greatest dollar increase from a year earlier when sales were \$773,220,000.

Variety chain sales were valued at \$194,248,000 (\$188,475,000 in 1953); lumber and building material dealers, \$84,265,000 (\$91,288,000); household appliance, radio and music stores, \$58,995,000 (\$53,250,000); women's apparel and accessories stores, \$54,843,000 (\$49,257,000); shoe stores, \$45,385,000 (\$43,470,000); furniture stores, \$38,134,000 (\$43,892,000); drug stores, \$35,908,000 (\$34,805,000); restaurants, \$33,900,000 (\$34,443,000); family clothing stores, \$32,069,000 (\$36,241,000); men's and boys' clothing and furnishings (including custom tailors), \$25,350,000 (\$24,734,000); hardware stores, \$17,643,000 (\$13,702,000); tobacco stores and stands, \$15,642,000 (\$16,735,000); and meat markets, \$7,157,000 (\$6,448,000).

Ontario led the provinces with aggregate sales of \$999,571,000 versus \$942,017,000, followed by Quebec with \$447,238,000 versus \$422,586,000. British Columbia was next with \$209,202,000 (\$200,422,000 in 1953); Alberta, \$146,932,000 (\$143,518,000); Saskatchewan, \$96,280,000 (\$95,337,000); Manitoba, \$86,523,000 (\$87,232,000); Nova Scotia, \$73,234,000 (\$70,787,000); New Brunswick, \$63,077,000 (\$61,989,000); Newfoundland, \$13,865,000 (\$14,281,000); Yukon and Northwest Territories, \$5,788,000 (\$5,409,000); and Prince Edward Island, \$4,925,000 (\$4,652,000). (20)

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Visible Supplies Of
Wheat Up Slightly

Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on January 18 amounted to 361,969,000 bushels, slightly larger than last year's corresponding total of 358,709,000 bushels. Farmers' marketings in the Prairie Provinces during the week ending January 18 were up to 5,721,000 bushels versus 5,346,000 and the overseas export clearances rose to 4,266,000 bushels from 3,207,000. (21)

Supplies And Exports Of Wheat
In Major Producing Countries

Supplies of wheat remaining on or about December 1 in the four major exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,157,400,000 bushels, some 8% greater than the 1,997,900,000 bushels available a year earlier, DBS reports in its monthly wheat review.

December 1 supplies were held as follows, in millions: United States, 1,239.6 bushels (1,196.1 a year earlier); Canada, 748.3 (648.0); Australia, 91.6 (93.5); and the Argentine, 77.9 (60.3). Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial positions.

Supplies for December 1 in the two Southern Hemisphere countries consisted only of the carryover at the end of their crop years. Preliminary estimates of the new crops indicate that their combined total may amount to some 355.8 million bushels, down sharply from the combined total of 449.2 million for the previous year's crops.

Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from the four major exporting countries for the first four months of the current Canadian crop year (August-November) amounted to 223,900,000 bushels, down about 9% from the shipments of 244,800,000 during the comparable period of the 1954-55 crop year. Shipments from the United States declined to 71,300,000 bushels from 75,300,000, Canada to 79,500,000 bushels from 97,500,000, and Argentina to 43,400,000 bushels from 45,200,000, while those from Australia rose to 29,700,000 bushels from 26,800,000. (22)

More Cattle But Fewer Sheep,
Lambs And Horses On Farms

Estimated number of cattle and calves on Canadian farms was 2% larger on December 1, 1955 than a year earlier, according to the Bureau's semi-annual survey. The number of sheep and lambs showed a small decrease and horses showed a further substantial decline of 8%.

The total of all cattle and calves on December 1 was 9,666,000 versus 9,473,000 a year earlier. Milk cows increased 2% to 3,287,000 from 3,217,000 but yearling heifers being raised for milking purposes declined to 804,200 from 848,700. Beef cows rose to 1,522,600 from 1,486,200 but yearling heifers being raised for beef fell to 571,000 from 586,800. Number of steers increased to 848,800 from 782,600 and calves to 2,437,000 from 2,355,800.

Estimated number of sheep and lambs on Canadian farms was 1,131,000 versus 1,183,500. Horses totalled 871,400 versus 951,000. (23)

Creamery Butter Stocks
In 9 Cities Of Canada

Stocks of creamery butter in nine cities of Canada on January 26 totalled 60,495,000 pounds, down from 63,637,000 pounds on January 12. Holdings were as follows by cities, in thousands: Quebec, 4,818 pounds (4,964 on January 12); Montreal, 29,117 (31,102); Toronto, 7,007 (6,974); Winnipeg, 15,840 (16,572); Regina, 874 (904); Saskatoon, 617 (607); Edmonton, 1,154 (1,243); Calgary, 311 (337); and Vancouver, 757 (884).

Milk Production Higher In 1955 Production of milk in December amounted to an estimated 1,062,000,000 pounds, approximately 5.5% above the corresponding month of 1954. Total production for the full year 1955, including the milk equivalents of certain dairy products not reported by months, approximated 17,300,000,000 pounds versus 16,883,621,000 in 1954.

The number of cows being used in Canada for milk production is now estimated by the Bureau's semi-annual live stock survey of December 1, 1955 at 3,237,000, which compares with 3,217,000 at the same time in 1954. These figures confirm monthly indications previously reported representing a gain of slightly more than 2% as compared with cow holdings in 1954.

Total milk production in November amounted to 1,161,000,000 pounds, compared with 1,104,762,000 in the same month of 1954. The greatest percentage gains occurred in the province of Quebec, followed by Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and Ontario. Deliveries to factories increased 7%, milk used in farm homes almost 5%, fluid sales 3.2%, and dairy butter 2.5%, as compared with quantities utilized in November, 1954.

Farm cash income from dairy products amounted to \$31,051,000 in November, compared with \$29,971,000 in the same month of 1954. All provinces except British Columbia shared in the advance, and the gains were principally due to increased production. The price of milk (average for Canada) was \$3.10 per hundred as compared with \$3.15 a year earlier.

Domestic disappearance of butter -- creamery, dairy and whey -- amounted to 28,437,000 pounds in November compared with 29,262,000 in November, 1954, bringing January-November disappearance to 293,216,000 pounds as compared with 287,712,000. The gain kept pace with the increase in population and per capita disappearance was substantially the same at 18.9 pounds. The domestic disappearance of cheddar cheese at 8,634,000 pounds in November and 71,303,000 in the eleven-month period was substantially larger than a year earlier. On a per capita basis the January-November disappearance amounted to an average of 4.6 pounds as compared with 4.3 pounds in the same 1954 period. (24)

Fluid Milk Sales Increased
In November And 11 Months

Sales of fluid milk and cream, the latter expressed in terms of milk, rose 3% in November to 444,954,000 pounds and 4% in the January-November period to 4,860,335,000 pounds. Increases were shown for all provinces with the single exception of Prince Edward Island, both in November and the 11 months.

January-November sales were as follows, percentage increases over a year earlier being in brackets: Nova Scotia, 166,654,000 pounds (4%); New Brunswick, 139,780,000 (3%); Quebec, 1,825,942,000 (4%); Ontario, 1,641,898,000 (5%); Manitoba, 213,313,000 (6%); Saskatchewan, 233,136,000 (3%); Alberta, 260,638,000 (6%); and British Columbia, 353,716,000 (4%). Sales in Prince Edward Island were unchanged at 25,258,000 pounds. (25)

Production Of Oils & Fats In 1955 Larger quantities of margarine, lard and tallow were produced in 1955 than in the preceding year but decreases were shown for shortening, refined oils and grease, DBS reports. Production of margarine and spreads amounted to 125,094,000 pounds (115,868,000 in 1954; shortening, 153,745,000 pounds (156,714,000); refined oils, 36,036,000 pounds (41,826,000); lard, 104,826,000 pounds (89,577,000); tallow, 136,432,000 pounds (124,858,000); and grease, 8,189,000 pounds (9,548,000). (26)

Production of Eggs Slightly Lower In 1955 Production of eggs in Canada in 1955 amounted to an estimated 386,900,000 dozen, a small decrease from the preceding year's 392,400,000 dozen. In December, 37,100,000 dozen were produced versus 34,100,000 in November and 39,300,000 a year earlier. (27)

Production And Sales Of Sugar Larger In 1955 Production, manufacturers' sales and year-end stocks of refined cane and beet sugar were larger in 1955 than a year earlier. The year's receipts and meltings and sales of raw sugar also moved up but the stocks were down.

Production of refined cane and beet sugar in 1955 amounted to 1,591,148,000 pounds versus 1,436,575,000 in 1954, sales totalled 1,530,461,000 pounds versus 1,446,410,000, and year-end inventories amounted to 340,878,000 pounds versus 281,241,000.

Receipts of raw cane sugar in 1955 amounted to 1,329,355,000 pounds versus 1,253,071,000, meltings and sales aggregated 1,350,219,000 pounds versus 1,236,830,000, and year-end stocks were 152,572,000 pounds versus 173,436,000. (28)

Shipments Of Nursery Stock In 1953 Shipments of domestic and ornamental trees in the 12 months ending June, 1953 numbered 8,254,373, of which 6,096,636 were domestic and 2,157,737 were imported. Shipments of fruit trees totalled 3,404,750 (3,399,686 domestic and 5,064 imported), and shipments of ornamental shrubs and plants numbered 4,375,054 (3,513,816 domestic and 861,268 imported) (29)

POPULATION

Population At Start Of Year Was 15,818,000 Canada's population on January 1 totalled 15,818,000, according to a special estimate by the Bureau to meet a widespread demand for figures at the first of the year. During December the population increased 26,000 from the estimated 15,792,000 shown in the regular quarterly estimate for last December 1.

The total for January 1 shows an increase of 181,000 in the six months from July 1 last year, for which a similar extra estimate is made. This gain compares with increases of 198,000 in the first half of last year and 203,000 in the second half of 1954. During the calendar year 1955 the population thus increased by an estimated 379,000. Estimated increases for the two previous years were 404,000 in 1954 and 386,000 in 1953.

The estimate for January 1 does not include provincial figures, which are estimated only for the June 1 census anniversary date.

Proportion of Canada's Population
Married Increased Again In 1954

Canada's married population increased again, proportionately as well as numerically, in 1954 over 1953, continuing an upward trend that has been unbroken since 1941, according to the Bureau's annual estimate of population by marital status, age and sex, based on the June 1 census date.

Over the twelve months the population of marriageable age -- 15 years of age and over -- increased by 215,500 or 2.1% to an estimated 10,376,600 in 1954 from 10,161,100 in 1953. Over the same period the total number married increased by 186,200 or 2.8% to 6,820,700 from 6,634,500, representing 65.7% of the total over 14 years of age. The per cent of the population 15 years and over in 1941 married was only 57.0 against 64.2 in 1951 and 65.3 in 1953. The estimated number of widowed and divorced persons increased by 16,000 to 721,600 from 705,600, while the number of single persons 15 years of age and over rose 13,300 to 2,834,300 from 2,821,000.

Married males in 1954 increased to an estimated 3,423,100 from 3,329,700 a year earlier, representing 65.4% of all males 15 and over compared to 64.9%. In 1951 the proportion was 63.9%. The estimated number of married females increased slightly less to 3,397,600 from 3,304,800, accounting for 66.1% of all females 15 and over compared to 65.7% the previous year and 64.5% at the time of the 1951 Census.

Most of the increase in widowed and divorced persons was among women, their number rising to an estimated 518,400 from 503,400 and representing, as in 1953, 10% of all females 15 years and over, while the number of widowed and divorced men moved up only to 203,200 from 202,100, the proportion remaining unchanged at 3.9% of all males 15 and over.

Males accounted for most of the small increase in the single total 15 years of age and over. They were estimated at 1,609,700 or 30.7% of total males 15 and over against 1,596,900 or 31.1% the previous year. Single females increased slightly to 1,224,600 from 1,224,100, the proportion to total females 15 and over declining to 23.8% from 24.3%.

The rise in the percentage married since 1951 has been most marked in the age group of 15-24 years, where the percentage for males increased from 13.3 to 16.2 in 1954, and for females from 30.1 in 1951 to 34.7 in 1954. This change is reflected in a 27.6% increase over this period in the number of married males and of 17.1% in the number of married females in this age group.

In the age group 65 years and over the proportion of widowed women rose from 48% of the total at the 1951 Census to 51.8% in 1954. There was a slight fall over this period in the proportion of widowed males among total males 65 years and over.

Since death rates for both males and females over 65 years have fallen over the same period, it would appear that the increase in the extent of widowhood among women in this age group was due partly to relative changes in the age composition of males and females over 65 years of age since 1951. Widowed women 65 years and over showed an 18.3% increase between 1951 and 1954. (30)

General Wholesale Price
Index Higher In December

Canada's general wholesale price index advanced 0.3% in December to 221.4 from 220.7 in the preceding month and was 2.8% above 1954's December figure of 215.4. Seven of the eight major component groups contributed to the advance over November.

The vegetable products group rose 0.7% to 192.9 from 191.6 in November when increases in unmanufactured tobacco, raw rubber, live stock and poultry feeds, vegetable oils and their products, potatoes, fresh imported fruits, grains, onions and miscellaneous vegetable products were only partially offset by decreases in cocoa beans and cocoa butter, coffee beans, canned vegetables, milled cereal foods, and imported dried fruits.

Iron and its products as a group advanced 0.7% to 229.3 in response to higher prices for iron and steel scrap. Increases in cotton fabrics, imported and domestic raw wool, cotton knit goods, worsted and wool cloth, and some fibre products outweighed a decrease in raw cotton, moving fibres, textiles and textile products up 0.3% to 226.8. Wood, wood products and paper rose 0.2% to 303.7 as increases in B.C. fir and newprint overbalanced decreases in woodpulp and cedar lumber and shingles. In non-metallic minerals, increases in imported coal and sulphur combined with a seasonal increase in sand and gravel at Winnipeg moved the index up 0.2% to 176.8.

Chemicals and allied products rose 0.1% to 178.1, increases in explosives and paint materials outweighing decreases in drugs, pharmaceuticals and inorganic chemicals. Increases in tin, solder and lead outweighed decreases in silver and antimony and put non-ferrous metals up slightly to 200.6. Animal products, the only group to register a decline, fell 0.2% to 220.8. Decreases for fresh and cured meats, eggs, lard and tallow, live stock and boots and shoes slightly outweighed increases in fishery products, unmanufactured leather, hides and skins, and butter.

Canadian farm products at terminal markets were fractionally higher in December as increases in the field products group were only partially offset by net losses in animal products. The composite index advanced to 197.1 and 196.9 and field products to 155.2 from 153.2 between November and December, while animal products fell to 239.0 from 240.5.

Residential building material prices rose 0.3% to 287.5 from 286.7. Price increases were registered for fir and millwork items in the lumber component in addition to shale and sand. Over the past 12 months an increase in residential building materials of 3.1% has taken place due mainly to advances in electrical equipment and fixtures, plumbing and heating, paint and glass and lumber.

The index for non-residential building material prices was unchanged in December at 126.0. Scattered minor price changes were noted, including a decrease in plumbing and increases in lumber items and sand. When compared with a year ago prices have moved up 3.8%. (31)

Security Price Indexes

<u>Investors' Price Index</u>	<u>January 26</u>	<u>January 19</u> (1935-39=100)	<u>December 29</u>
Total Common Stocks	245.6	245.1	243.8
Industrials.....	253.6	252.7	253.1
Utilities.....	204.2	205.1	205.9
Banks.....	261.1	261.5	253.9

Mining Stock Price Index

Total Mining Stocks.....	123.9	123.7	125.0
Gold.....	75.8	75.7	74.9
Base Metals.....	234.1	233.6	239.6

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

- 1-Domestic Exports (Summary), November, 20¢
2-Sales & Purchases of Securities Between Canada & Other Countries, November, 10¢
3-Motor Vehicle Shipments, December, 10¢
4-M: Mineral Wool, December, 10¢ -- 5-M: Rigid Insulating Board Industry, December, 10¢
6-M: Asphalt & Vinyl-Asbestos Floor Tiles, December, 10¢
7-M: Peeler Logs, Veneers & Plywoods, November, 20¢
8-Primary Iron & Steel, October, 25¢
9-M: Factory Sales of Electric Storage Batteries, December, 10¢
10-Quarterly Production of Garments (Selected Items), Third Quarter, 1955, 25¢
11-M: Refined Petroleum Products, August, 10¢
12-Inks Industry, 1954, 25¢ -- 13-Non-Ferrous Metal Products, 1953 --General Review--25¢
14-New Residential Construction, November, 25¢
15-M: Pipe Lines(Oil)Statistics, November, 10¢ -- 16-M: Railway Freight Traffic, Sept. 10¢
17-Employment & Payrolls, November, 25¢
18-Statistical Report on the Operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, December, 25¢
19-M: Iron Ore, December, 10¢ -- 20-Retail Chain Stores, 1954, 50¢
21-M: Grain Statistics Weekly, January 18, 10¢ --22-The Wheat Review, December, 25¢
23-M: Report on the Live Stock Surveys: Cattle, Sheep, Horses, December 1, 1955, 10¢
24-The Dairy Review, December, 25¢ -- 25-M: Fluid Milk Sales, November, 10¢
26-M: Oils & Fats, December, 10¢ -- 27-M: Production of Eggs, December, 10¢
28-M: Sugar Situation, December, 10¢
29-M: Shipments of Fruit and Ornamental Nursery Stock, 1953, 25¢
30-Population Estimates by Marital Status, Age & Sex for Canada & Provinces, 1954, 10¢
31-Prices & Price Indexes, December, 20¢
M: Memorandum

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D.B.C. NEWS NOTES

Skis There were 44,926 pairs of skis made in Canada in 1954, down from 96,971 pairs the previous year but above the 1952 number of 43,316 pairs.

More Cigars, Cigarettes Production of cigars and cigarettes in Canada totalled 22,425,791,000 in 1954 and cigars 240,520,000, both larger than in any previous year. In contrast, the output of smoking tobacco at 25,124,638 pounds was lower than in any year since 1944.

Shipments Of Sporting Goods Factory value of shipments of sporting goods by all industries in 1954 declined to \$12,876,216 from \$13,859,945 the previous year. Shipments from establishments engaged solely in the manufacture of sporting goods accounted for \$12,034,703 of the total as against \$12,630,527.

Fewer Coal, More Oil Locomotives Number of coal-burning steam locomotives in service on Canada's railways was down to 2,871 at the end of 1954 from 3,553 at the end of 1951, while oil-burning steam locomotives increased to 715 from 555 and diesel electric units ("A" and "B" units combined) to 1152 from 574.

Tobacco Products Including excise duties and taxes, the factory selling value of all products shipped by tobacco manufacturers in 1954 amounted to \$389,750,071. Excise duties and taxes accounted for \$237,716,418 of this total, the value of the products (less duties and taxes) amounting to \$152,033,653.

Toboggan Output Production of toboggans in Canada slid down from 116,792 in 1951 to 82,441 in 1952, climbed to 110,468 in 1953 and dropped again to 62,247 in 1954.

Racquets Output of badminton and squash racquets in Canada increased to 22,807 in 1954 from 17,925 in 1953, while that of tennis racquets declined to 15,046 from 21,170.

Fishing Tackle Factory value of fishing tackle made in Canada declined to \$1,900,551 in 1954 from \$2,730,291 in 1953. Exports also fell in value to \$151,736 from \$628,188, and imports were down slightly to \$3,081,052 from \$3,129,302.

Ink Manufacturers There were 20 establishments in Canada mainly engaged in making printing inks in 1954, 8 making writing inks chiefly, and 5 making printers' rollers but no inks. Of the total, 19 were in Ontario, 9 in Quebec, 2 each in Manitoba and British Columbia and 1 in New Brunswick. The Ontario plants accounted for \$11,642,127 of the total factory selling value of \$13,396,490 for all plants.

Still Fewer Horses Number of horses on Canadian farms fell again to an estimated 371,400 at December 1, 1955, from 951,000 a year earlier. This is about two-thirds the number at the time of the 1951 Census, approximately one-fourth the peak for a Census year of 3,415,800 in 1921, and only about four-fifths of the total recorded as long ago as in the 1881 Census.

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